

Ref.: TC/1746

8 May 2025

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Pending Applications
Development Planning
City of Westminster
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By e-mail: southplanningteam@westminster.gov.uk

Application: 25/02459/LBC

Site: Savoy Theatre Savoy Court London WC2R 0ET

Proposal: Replacement and enlargement of dock door to Carting Lane.

Remit:

Theatres Trust is the national advisory public body for theatres. We were established through the Theatres Trust Act 1976 'to promote the better protection of theatres' and provide statutory planning advice on theatre buildings and theatre use in England through The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015, requiring the Trust to be consulted by local authorities on planning applications which include 'development involving any land on which there is a theatre'.

Comment:

Thank you for consulting Theatres Trust on this application for listed building consent at the Savoy Theatre. It seeks to alter and enlarge the dock door to the Carting Lane elevation.

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

Telephone 020 7836 8591 **Email** info@theatrestrust.org.uk **Website** theatrestrust.org.uk

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Chair Dave Moutrey OBE

CEO Joshua McTaggart

Trustees Vicky Browning OBE, Anna Collins, James Dacre, Liam Evans-Ford, Stephanie Hall, Annie Hampson OBE, Tracy Ann Oberman, Lucy Osborne, Saratha Rajeswaran, Truda Spruyt, Michèle Taylor MBE, Katie Town

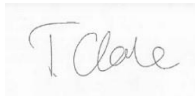
The Theatres Trust is the national advisory public body for theatres. The Theatres Trust Charitable Fund supports the work of The Theatres Trust, has the same Trustees and is registered as a charity under number 274697

This part of the Carting Lane elevation is less sensitive, being more utilitarian in character. There is evidence this is not the original location of the dock door as there appears to have been a large arched opening within adjacent brickwork. The principle of replacement and enlargement at this location is supported. There has also been a previous consent for alteration.

Furthermore the current doorway is restrictive in terms of the sets and equipment which can be brought in. This has an impact on what the theatre can programme and the efficiency of turning around productions. There are also some issues around safety and working conditions arising from different levels and obstructions within the building. Addressing these constitute public benefits, as they will help promote the theatre's competitiveness and maintain its conservation into the future. This is enhanced by improvements to thermal performance and acoustic insulation.

We therefore support the granting of listed building consent.

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance or should you wish to discuss these comments in further detail.



Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Adviser

Theatres Trust

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