

Ref.: TC/2134

30 May 2025

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Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Planning Services
Town Hall
Tunbridge Wells
TN1 1RS

By e-mail: planning@tunbridgewells.gov.uk

Application: 25/01004/LBC

Site: Assembly Hall Theatre Crescent Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2LU

Proposal: Listed Building Consent - Alterations to kitchen servery area including new ventilation with louvres within existing external window, services, suspended ceiling, & wall and floor finishes. Enlargement of existing door opening with concrete lintel over opening & new door frame. Replacement of electrical & plumbing services

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'.

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

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Comment:

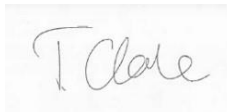
Thank you for consulting Theatres Trust on this application for listed building consent at the Assembly Halls Theatre.

This application is related to a previous application and works which were undertaken around 2022; we also commented on those plans. There was need for improved means of egress. This will now be completed, necessitating alterations within the theatre's kitchen servery area. Alongside this will be additional work to improve the kitchen's function and working conditions including new ventilation to meet current standards, wall and floor finishes and a suspended ceiling. Additional louvres will be installed and a doorway to the store will be enlarged for better access.

This is a less sensitive part of the building, much of which is equipped with more modern fittings as demonstrated by images contained within the Heritage Statement. These proposals are necessary to secure and support the safe and efficient operation of the theatre.

As such, we 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

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