

Ref.: TC/2977

25 September 2025

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**Application:** 25/01312/FLL

**Site:** Pitlochry Festival Theatre Pitlochry PH16 5DR

**Proposal:** Installation of outdoor play equipment

## **Remit:**

The Theatres Trust is the national advisory public body for theatres. We were established through the Theatres Trust Act 1978 'to promote the better protection of theatres' and provide statutory planning advice on theatre buildings and theatre use in Scotland through The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulation 2013, 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 planning permission. We have been notified because it seeks installation of external play equipment at Pitlochry Festival Theatre.

## **Theatres Trust**

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

**Telephone** 020 7836 8591 **Email** [info@theatrestrust.org.uk](mailto:info@theatrestrust.org.uk) **Website** [theatrestrust.org.uk](http://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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This theatre is a significant cultural asset and visitor attraction. Alongside the theatre itself it also has extensive grounds which include a garden/arboretum (Explorers Garden) to the south and lawns to its front on the northern side.

It is the grassed area to which this proposal relates. There is existing apparatus which was installed following a temporary consent in 2022. This was supported by Theatres Trust on the basis of helping to widen the reach and inclusivity of the theatre for families.

The theatre has special architectural interest and play equipment impacts on its setting and views towards the building from Port-Na-Craig Road and from across the river. In our previous comments we noted that any longer-term solutions needed appraisal of impact.

This proposal has responded to that, with the replacement equipment to be constructed of more sensitive and sustainable materials which better respond to the theatre and its location. Impact must also be considered within the context of the public benefits arising from helping to broaden the appeal of the theatre and increasing engagement with children and families. Ultimately this is also a reversible intervention.

We therefore support the granting of planning permission.

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance or should you wish to discuss this further.



Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Manager

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