

Ref.: TC/686

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Application: 25/01162/LBC

Site: Mayflower Theatre Commercial Road Southampton SO15 1AP

Proposal: Listed building consent sought to refurbish the existing public toilets in the main theatre and add two new female toilet suites

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 Mayflower Theatre. It seeks to undertake refurbishment within the theatre's WC blocks as well as to provide additional WCs at basement and first floor levels.

The current WC blocks are of more modern fit-out, illustrated by images within the Heritage Statement. Some retain elements of decorative features such as the surviving cornice within the fourth floor female WCs, but overwhelmingly these have been altered and previously redecorated over time. For the most part these spaces

Chair Dave Moutrey OBE

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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

are of low significance and their further redecoration is of neutral impact, although there is public and conservation benefit in investing in maintenance and upkeep to meet the expectations of audiences and minimise risk to fabric arising from defective goods.

Older theatres often have a lack of WCs. Therefore we welcome efforts to increase provision. In this case there is utilisation of spaces which are otherwise surplus to requirements. These areas are also of modern fit-out so impact is again neutral.

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