

Ref.: TC/2300

20 March 2026

Megan Harris
Planning Applications Team
Thanet District Council
PO Box 9
Cecil Street
Margate
CT9 1XZ

Application: L/TH/26/0078

Site: Theatre Royal Addington Street Margate Kent CT9 1PW

Proposal: Application for Listed Building Consent for proposed internal investigative works including creation of trail pits, opening of ceilings, floors and wall and inspection of building servicing routes

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 Theatre Royal Margate. It seeks to undertake investigative works in advance of the anticipated refurbishment and development project at the theatre for which we have been engaged.

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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Theatres fit for the **future**

This is a priority case for Theatres Trust, with this building being on our Theatres at Risk Register and also on Historic England's Heritage At Risk Register. We are keen to see its return to active use. A site visit was undertaken in July 2025.

This proposal consists of specific and targeted inspections, for example small areas of floor exposure, the lifting of balustrades, ceiling investigations and the creation of small pits to test structure and construction.

Although these interventions result in a degree of less than substantial harm within the specified locations, with reference to paragraph 215 of the NPPF (2024) this is considered necessary to support the delivery of the wider masterplan for the building. Bringing this theatre back to active use and securing its ongoing conservation constitutes a significant public benefit. Furthermore the areas of investigation will be made good upon completion.

Therefore we support the granting of listed building consent.

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



Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Manager

Theatres Trust

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