Theatres fit for the **future**



Ref.: TC/411

30 October 2024

David Owen
Planning and City Regeneration
Directorate of Place
Civic Centre,
Oystermouth Road,
Swansea,
SA1 3SN

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

Application: 2024/1701/LBC

Site: The Palace Theatre High Street City Centre Swansea

Proposal: Installation of new signage at the Palace Theatre

Remit:

Theatres Trust is the National Advisory Body for Theatres and was established by The Theatres Trust Act 1976 'to promote the better protection of theatres'. The Trust is a statutory consultee in the planning system and local planning authorities in Wales are required to consult the Trust on planning applications for 'development involving any land on which there is a theatre', 'residential development within 50 metres of a theatre' as well as for proposed theatres. The definition of theatres within the Act defines a theatre as 'any building or part of a building constructed wholly or mainly for the public performance of plays', and therefore applies to theatres, playhouses, arts centres, ciné-varieties or buildings converted for theatre use, old and new, in other uses or disused.

Comment:

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

Telephone 020 7836 8591 **Email** info@theatrestrust.org.uk **Website** theatrestrust.org.uk **Twitter** @TheatresTrust **Facebook** @theatres.trust **Instagram** @TheatresTrust

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

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This application for listed building consent has come to the attention of Theatres Trust because it is seeking to install new signage to the former Palace Theatre. This has been a priority building for us having been on our UK-wide Theatres at Risk register for some time, and recently removed following successful progress on its restoration. We have been strongly supportive of the project for this important heritage asset which has safeguarded the building and brought it back into active use.

The proposed signage relates to the new use of the Palace as a co-working and community space. We consider it to be sensitively designed and located, and will not detract from the significance of the building. Furthermore, signage is in any case a common and recognisable feature of theatre buildings and the Palace would likely contain signage and posters if it were still within active theatre use.

We therefore support the granting of listed building consent.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you wish to discuss these comments further.

Tom Clarke MRTPI

National Planning Adviser