Theatres fit for the **future**



Ref.: TC/1746

18 March 2025

Nikki Mitchell Development Planning City of Westminster PO Box 732 Redhill RH1 9FL

By e-mail: southplanningteam@westminster.gov.uk

Application: 25/00717/LBC

Site: Savoy Theatre Savoy Court London WC2R 0ET

Proposal: External works, including window part-replacement, removal and reinstatement, structural masonry repairs, render and brickwork repairs, works to a structural steel and its footing, installation of outlets to rainwater goods and, internally, installation of secondary glazing.

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

Theatres Trust

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0QL

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 Chair Dave Moutrey OBE
 Director Joshua McTaggart

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at the Savoy Theatre. It seeks to carry out repairs and maintenance to the building's façade, including elements of replacement.

The Savoy is a Grade II* listed designated heritage asset. We therefore welcome efforts to invest in the buildings maintenance and upkeep. Images supplied within the Heritage Statement clearly show damage and deterioration of some of the venue's window frames with corrosion. An itemised schedule of window repairs has also been submitted which explains individual actions. Largely this will consist of like-for-like repairs, although in some cases there will be replacement of panes which are broken or mismatched. We support this approach, which will conserve as much existing fabric as possible.

Secondary glazing will also be installed. This will improve the venue's energy efficiency and sustainability by minimising heat loss which constitutes a benefit mitigating what we consider to be a low level of harm from this change. It is also a reversible intervention.

Alongside this will be a number of repairs to brickwork and masonry. Again, evidence of deterioration has been provided which is resulting in issues such as water ingress and corrosion. These will be rectified with re-rendering and re-painting to match existing (and to paint in a single palette where currently there is mismatch). Ensuring the ongoing conservation of this building is a heritage benefit.

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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