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Sent: 06 August 2009 18:29
To: John Hodson
Subject: Core Strategy Submission

Our Ref.: RF/2477

Core Strategy Submission

Thank you for your email of 30 June consulting The Theatres Trust on the submission of the Core Strategy Development Plan Document. Please note that we were not consulted by Limehouse.

The Theatres Trust is The National Advisory Public Body for Theatres. The Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995, Article 10, Para (v) requires the Trust to be consulted on planning applications which include '*development involving any land on which there is a theatre.*' It was established by The Theatres Trust Act 1976 '*to promote the better protection of theatres.*' This applies to all buildings that were either built as theatres or are used for theatre presentations, in current use, in other uses, or disused.

Due to the specific nature of the Trust's remit we are concerned with the protection and promotion of theatres and therefore anticipate policies relating to cultural facilities.

Test of Soundness

We **support** your Submission Core Strategy in respect of **Policies 13 and 15** although it is unclear how this Core Strategy or subsequent DPDs might provide existing cultural facilities any protection from closure, decline or enhancement.

Reasons

Apart from Core Policy 13 the content of all the other policies is weak and gives no clear guidance as to how development in the Borough will be managed. The document has a strong cultural content but no policy specifically addresses the provision of cultural facilities, Policy 1 being the only statement that Hackney Central is a growth location for civic and cultural infrastructure but with no details. There are few specifics as to the scale of development, the range and mix of uses and how they relate to each other.

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