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**Sent:** 06 December 2009 15:04  
**To:** Planning Policy  
**Subject:** Core Strategy Submission

Our Ref.: RF/2678

## **Core Strategy Submission**

Thank you for your letter of 29 October consulting The Theatres Trust on the Proposed Submission of the Core Strategy.

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 **Policy CF7** (Arts and Culture Uses) as it contains all the elements required for a thoughtful and solid framework for the current and future cultural needs of the Borough. Good quality arts and cultural facilities are essential components in the development of sustainable communities and it is important to provide, protect and promote cultural facilities for their leading role in the quality of cultural life in Kensington and Chelsea and for their valuable contribution to the character and function of London as a whole.

### **Observations**

- Policy CF3 is titled 'Diversity of uses within Town Centres' but only deals with shops. The wording of the policy should reflect the title. The policy protects shops but is entirely silent on any kind of diversity in town centres in spite of an excellent description of town centre uses in the Glossary on page 452. We therefore suggest the title of this policy be amended accordingly.
- Thank you for including a description of arts and cultural uses in the Glossary on page 440.
- The document is very long at over 450 pages and although it does not undermine the soundness of the CS (in our opinion) it obscures its key themes and entails repetition.

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