

Question 8. Do you have any further comments about the project?

Theme no.	Theme/sub theme	Number of comments
11	Support the plans to remodel the theatre	49
11E	The plans will attract bigger acts/shows	7
11D	The plans will improve the town	4
11F	Need to increase the seating as much as possible	2
11A	Proposals offer more flexibility for events and usage	1
11B	The plans will bring lots of benefits to Oakengates	1
11C	The plans will attract more visitors	1
3	Improvements to seating	39
3B	More space between rows of seating to aid access and leg room	18
3A	Improve quality/comfort of seating	8
3C	Introduce a central aisle to seating	4
3D	More use of staggered seating to improve the view	4
3E	Larger seats	2
3F	Keep retractable seating	1
3G	Have fixed seating only	1
3H	Have stalls and circle seating	1
23	Access and facilities for people with disabilities	39
23A	Ensure good disabled access and space throughout the theatre Improve disabled facilities for all including those not in chairs i.e. lifts, comfortable and safe disabled seating, user friendly systems for deaf/hard of hearing, handrail system for blind/visually impaired	15
23H	visitors, changing room Consult with disabled people - Make disabled people feel supported and equal and ensure access and needs of disabled people are taken	10
23G	into account	4

23C	Position of disabled spaces - Ensure that there is a good view to the stage. Avoid putting them at the back so if people stand we can still see	3
23E	Position of disabled spaces - the current positions in the theatre mean that people are getting knocked	3
23B	Ensure easy access to disabled toilet facilities	2
23D	Position of disabled spaces - enable families to sit together	1
23F	Position of disabled spaces - keep it where it is as it is within the whole audience	1

7	Car parking	33
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7A	Concerns of lack of parking space / impact on car parking	18
7B	Need for parking to remain free of charge	4
7C	Introduce EV charging points	2
7D	Need to consider access into and out of the main car park	3
7E	Increase the number of disabled spaces	2
7F	Improve disabled access from the car park	1
7G	Concerns of public blocking roads outside residents homes	1
7H	Impact of rebuilding work on the car park	1
7I	no mention of parking/traffic management in the design proposals	1

10	Do not want the cafe to close	29
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15	Stage improvements	26
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15A	Need for a fly tower to accommodate larger productions	11
15B	Need for a bigger stage with more wing space to encourage larger productions	9
15C	Improved stage access and facilities including lift	4
15D	Need for stage door intercom system	1
15E	No information about the improvements to the stage and performance facilities	1

5	Food and drink offer	22
5A	Support pre/post show dining offer	8
5D	A dining offer will attract more people to visit the theatre	3
5E	Must serve hot drinks / cakes	2
5F	Do not support pre/post show dining offer	2
5G	A dining offer will negatively impact on / detract from local businesses	2
5H	Need for extended bar service serving snacks only	2
5C	Must be open all day / during performances	2
5B	Must be reasonably priced	1
16	Theatre programme	21
16A	Need to improve the quality, diversity and size of acts/shows	11
16F	Looking forward to see bigger better shows	3
16C	Introduce more concerts / live bands	2
16B	The standard of shows will increase footfall	1
16D	Introduce good plays	1
16E	Need to maintain cultural performance offer during theatre closure	1
16G	Ability to attract local amateur groups and touring theatre companies	1
16H	Concern that there won't be any performances	1
6	Improvement to toilet facilities	19
6A	More toilets required	10
6C	More good quality disabled / changing spaces toilets	7
6B	Locate toilet facilities in more than one location	2
12	Do not support the plans to remodel the theatre	19
12C	The plans / investment are not necessary	5
12E	Like existing theatre	3
12A	No target market	1
12B	The plans will not benefit Oakengates	1

	Investment should be spent on improving marketing and bringing more	
12D	tour shows to the area	1
12F	Project won't match up to competing theatres	1
12G	Do not like the design of the new building	1
12H	Too much money being spent	1
12I	Just remodel the current bar	1

2 Theatre should be relocated 18

2A	Should be located in Telford Town Centre or specifically Southwater	14
2B	Should be located in a more central location	2
2C	Location is not right	2

22 Comments about the local centre 16

22A	A need for a night time economy in Oakengates to keep people in the town before and after shows e.g. more places to eat and drink	4
22E	Improvements needed around the theatre to make it more welcoming and social	4
22D	Investment is needed to improve the whole of Oakengates and encourage more people to visit	3
22C	Need more and better shops to bring people to Oakengates	2
22B	Keep business local	1
22F	Entrance to main high street is unneccary	1
22G	Consideration needed into how to encourage visitors to the high street to benefit traders e.g. incentives	1

14 Auditorium size, facilities and technical systems 14

14E	Need for an orchestra/musicians pit	3
14A	Size of theatre is important to attract best acts/shows	2
14B	Space and easy access is important	2
14H	Sound system is too loud	2
14C	Need to have room for standing as well as seats	1

14D	Like existing size of auditorium	1
14F	Use computer controlled scene change facilities	1
14G	Too many shows are lost because of the lack of technical facilities	1
14I	Need to consult with theatre professionals to understand requirements for technical equipment and facilities	1
25	Length of theatre closure	12
25A	Disappointed with the length of theatre closure	9
25B	Concern about the negative impact the closure could have on community wellbeing	2
25C	Concern about loss of regular theatre visitors due to length of closure	1
4	Improvement to bar	11
	Support for larger bar / more than one bar	7
	Need for quicker / more efficient bar service	3
	Need more seating in bar area	1
21	Impact on local businesses	11
21A	Support needed for businesses affected by the proposals	2
21B	New main car park entrance won't encourage people to use the shops	2
21C	Concerns about impact on businesses whilst construction takes place	3
21D	The project / theatre will not increase trade for local businesses	3
	Allowing for community groups and conferences at the theatre would bring in greater trade for local businesses	1
17	Back stage Facilities	10
17B	Improve size and access to backstage facilities	4
17A	Improve access to and upgrade dressing rooms	3

17C	Better toilet/washing facilities	1
17D	Improve ventilation in the back stage area	1
17E	Introduce a green room	1

18	Theatre facilities	9
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18B	Improve layout and flow of theatre to avoid bottlenecks	2
18D	Have a cloakroom	2
18A	Provide bigger foyer and bar area	1
18C	Increase the number of entrances to the auditorium	1
18E	Have recycling bins in easy reach	1
18F	Introduce a new lift	1
18G	The creation of community space important Offer space for community led rehabilitation, mental health support for	1
18H	residents	1

9	Importance of keeping ticket prices affordable	9
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13	Good air conditioning needed throughout the theatre	7
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24	Atmosphere	6
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	The remodelled theatre needs to have the same friendly, safe and cosy atmosphere that the existing theatre provides	
24A		3
24B	Needs to rival Theatre Severn - both welcoming and comfortable	2
24C	Needs to be a space where people can meet socially for coffee/food	1

1	Change theatre Name - should be Oakengates Theatre	6
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28	Funding	6
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28A	Funding should be invested elsewhere in the town Improvements to parking/highways required before investment into	5
28B	the theatre	1

8	Lack of public transport	5
	Lack of public transport	2
	Need for evening bus service	2
	Need for better train service	1
32	Library	4
32A	Concern that the library is closing	1
32B	Unclear about the future of the library	3
33	Other	4
33A	Retaining opening plaque 1968	1
33B	More theatres required in Telford	1
33C	Plans not detailed enough to comment	1
33D	Need to support outdoor market in the square	1
19	Introduce wing space to studio theatre	2
20	Green design principles are important	2
26	Management of the project	2
27	Relocation of the nursery	2
	Need to provide support to find suitable premises for the relocation of	
27A	the nursery	1
27B	Concern about the impact of the relocation of the nursery	1
29	Look of the building	2
29A	A more grand entrance is required	1
29B	Need to design an iconic building	1
30	Customers	2
30A	Improvements to ticket purchasing systems	1

30B	Possible incentives for local visitors to the theatre - loyalty scheme	1
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31	Venue hire pricing being affordable	2
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TOTAL COMMENTS		458
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Telford Theatre @ Oakengates Remodelling Consultation Survey Report