

FIRE STRATEGY APPROACH

Project:	You Me Bum Bum Train
Client / Agent:	You Me Bum Bum Train
Issue Date:	10/05/2024
Reference No.:	240510DN0F0 - P24-047
By:	Frances Radford MEng CEng MIFireE

You Me Bum Bum Train (YMBBT) is an immersive theatre production, to be staged within an existing building, 125 Shaftesbury Avenue. The existing building has a fire strategy which will need to be adapted to include the risks presented by the show. Once the show is developed, The Fire Surgery will work with the team to develop a specific fire strategy for the production, which will incorporate the features of the show into the existing building fire strategy. Audience members will travel through the space individually, with a high level of management included as part of the show design. The fire strategy will incorporate this management to address risks that are introduced, along with additional passive and active fire protection measures.

The focus of the work will be:

- 🌿 Alarm and detection – ensuring that a potential fire in the production space or other part of the building can be quickly identified and staff and audience can be effectively notified.
- 🌿 Means of escape – ensuring that there are sufficient exits available for all occupants, and that audience are made aware of where exits are located. Specific attention will be paid to occupants who may need assistance during evacuation.
- 🌿 Wall and ceiling linings, set decoration and furnishings – materials introduced by the show will be assessed to ensure that any additional risk is suitably mitigated. Fire retardant treatments will be applied where appropriate and fire load that could affect exit routes will be managed.
- 🌿 Compartmentation – compartmentation relied on as part of the existing building fire strategy will be maintained, and appropriate firestopping and dampers used where penetrations are required.
- 🌿 Fire Service facilities and access – the existing building strategy will be maintained, and the changed risks and other important information will be collated to provide to attending firefighters.

The fire strategy will be used to demonstrate that the fire life safety requirements of Building Regulations, the Fire Safety Act, and the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order are met.