

**PHOENIX THEATRE
DESIGN & ACCESS STATEMENT – 18.03.15.
FOSTER WILSON ARCHITECTS**

1.0 Design statement:

1.1 Requirement

The existing Orchestra Pit rail presents a barrier between the front stalls seating and the stage apron. The use of the pit depends on the production using the theatre. The orchestra pit is either of use for an orchestra, or as an unoccupied space, it can be an unwelcome void, separating actors and audience.

1.2 Existing approval

There is an existing approval for the removal and storage of the orchestra pit rail (LBC Approval dated 29.05.13. – Application Ref : 2013/0709/L)

This approval covers the existing production, which will shortly finish.

1.3 New Application

The new production using the theatre does not require an orchestra pit and so the new producers wish to keep the orchestra rail in storage at the theatre and a demountable floor over the pit. The storage and infill floor arrangements would remain the same as the previous production

The theatre owners would prefer any permission to give some flexibility as to whether the orchestra pit rail is stored at the theatre or used for an orchestra, with a time related condition rather than a production timed condition - if this is deemed appropriate.

2.0 Access statement:

2.1 The proposed temporary alterations do not impact on access to the auditorium.