

April 2010

Christopher Shepley CBE is reappointed as a Trustee of The Theatres Trust.

Margaret Hodge, the Minister for Culture, announced today that Chris Shepley CBE has been reappointed as a Trustee of The Theatres Trust. His 2nd term of appointment will run from 15th September 2009 to 14th September 2012.

Biographical notes

Currently, he is Principal of Chris Shepley Planning Consultancy (2002 to date). A former Chief Planning Inspector and Chief Executive of the Planning Inspectorate Agency, he is Principal of his planning consultancy (2002 to date). He has pursued a career in planning, holding the posts of senior planning officer at Manchester City Council, Principal Planner and then Deputy County Planning officer for Greater Manchester (1966 to 1985). In 1985, he joined Plymouth City Council as City Planning Officer, and became Director of Development (1985 to 1994). He served as Visiting Professor of Department of Planning and Landscape at the University of Manchester (1990 to 1994). Currently, he is Hon Visiting Professor at the University of Westminster. Between 2003 and 2006, he was Chair of the Bath Festival. He has undertaken no party political activity during the past five years.

Background

The Theatres Trust is The National Advisory Public Body for Theatres. Established by The Theatres Trust Act 1976 its object is 'to promote the better protection of theatres for the benefit of the nation'. It has the powers to acquire or hold any theatre or land required for the benefit of any theatre, contribute to the acquisition of any theatre or land, and maintain or assist in the maintenance of any theatre. The Trust has a UK wide remit to provide leadership in the planning and protection of theatres with a focus on safeguarding theatre use, or the potential for theatre use. Local authorities are required to consult the Trust on planning applications affecting land on which there is a theatre. The Trust also advises on theatres at risk, capital projects, pre-applications, and provides information on theatres and performing arts buildings in relation to architecture and design, heritage and conservation, property and planning, regeneration and development and theatre use.

The Chair and Trustees of The Theatres Trust give their services on an honorary basis. However, reasonable expenses are paid.

This reappointment has been made in accordance with the OCPA Code of Practice. Appointments and reappointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process.