

TMA

THEATRICAL MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

5 May 2006

Investing for Health Team (Tobacco Control)
DHSSPS
Room C4.22
Castle Buildings
Stormont
Belfast
BT4 3SQ

By post and email

Dear Sirs

Consultation on the Draft Smoking (Northern Ireland) Order 2006

I write on behalf of the Theatrical Management Association (TMA) and enclose our responses to questions 1, 2, 3 and 24 of the questionnaire on the Draft Smoking (Northern Ireland) Order 2006.

The TMA is the trade association representing the interests of those engaged in the production and presentation of medium to large-scale dramatic and lyric theatre in the UK. The TMA provides services, such as advice on legal matters and industrial relations, training courses, representation and a professional support network for the performing arts industry. Its membership is drawn from the subsidised and commercial theatre and includes repertory and producing theatres, arts centres and touring venues, major national companies and independent producers, opera and dance companies and associated individuals and businesses. Its members number around 360. Members range from the Royal National Theatre and the Royal Opera House to individual performing companies such as English National Ballet and Ballet Rambert, and the great majority of middle to large-scale producing theatres throughout the United Kingdom. It has five members in Northern Ireland:

Grand Opera House, Belfast
Lyric Theatre, Belfast
Macnaghten Productions Limited, County Antrim
Market Place, Armagh Theatre and Arts Centre, Armagh
Millennium Forum (Theatre & Conference Centre), Derry.

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The Theatrical Management Association Ltd was founded by Sir Henry Irving in 1894 and is registered in England and Wales at the above address.

Company No. 323204
VAT Registration No. 242 2801 94

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Whilst, in general terms, we support the aim to reduce smoking, we have concerns about the impact of any measure to restrict smoking in workplaces on the presentation of theatrical productions. In order to meet these concerns we seek a specific exemption for smoking on stage as part of a theatrical or other artistic production and in related rehearsals. Further details are given in our response to the questionnaire.

We are grateful for the opportunity to comment on the draft Order. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Louise Norman, the TMA's Legal Officer. We would also welcome an opportunity to speak to you about our concerns. If this would be helpful, please contact my PA, Pat Penson (020 7557 6702) to arrange a meeting.

Yours faithfully



Richard Pulford
Chief Executive

cc David Hanson MP, Minister of State, Northern Ireland Office