

Buxton Opera House Smoke Extract Design and Access Statement

Following a recent Fire Risk Assessment at Buxton Opera House, it has been identified that the existing arrangement for removal of smoke in the event of a fire, is not serviceable, and its capability even when fully serviceable is no longer adequate for current regulations. For this reason a replacement system is required. The system proposed has been designed to try to minimise any impact on the building, given its Grade 2 star listed status.

The proposed installation is a mechanical extraction system which uses a duct to expel any smoke to the outside. The duct for the most part will be concealed within the roof space of the Opera House. It will need to break through to the outside of the building at some point, in order for any smoke extracted to expel to the outside. To provide this a small grille is needed on the external roof. As can be seen on the attached drawings and photos, by bringing the grille out of the building on the lower section of roof, the grille opening will be concealed for the most part by the parapet wall surrounding the lower sections of the roof on Water Street. The grille will also be coloured to match the colour of the existing roof tiles, to further reduce any possible visual impact. The grille will not be visible from ground level on Water St at all, as it will be concealed by its low level roof placement behind the existing parapet wall. The photos supplied show the roof marked up with tape to outline the proposed position and dimension of the grille in order to assess any impact.