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Head of Planning, Brighton and Hove City Council

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FAO Michael Tucker

20th July, 2025

Planning application BH2025/01564: Installation of temporary ice rink Brighton Royal Pavilion

Thank you for notifying the Sussex Gardens Trust (SGT) of the above planning application. The Gardens Trust, (a statutory consultee), has also brought this application to the SGT's attention.

The Grade I listed Royal Pavilion and the Grade II Registered Park form an internationally significant historic site. In our comments on the previous application in 2017, the Trust expressed reservations about the use of the ornamental gardens of the Royal Pavilion for unrelated events which cause visual harm and physical damage to this heritage asset. Nevertheless, we accepted then that giving over part of the garden to the setting up of an ice rink, its operation and repair of the grounds following the dismantling, all during the quieter months of Mid-October to early March, could be a reasonable price to pay for the continued high-quality repair and maintenance and preservation of the gardens. Over the past 6 years it seems the operation of the ice rink and restoration of the gardens have avoided major damage to the gardens.

A major restoration of the gardens funded in part by a National Lottery Grant has been approved and is planned to be undertaken over the next few years. Amongst other things it is hoped this restoration will ensure the gardens are removed from the Historic England "At Risk" register. It is important that the ice rink does not delay the implementation of this programme.

Sussex Gardens Trust neither supports nor objects to this planning application.

Yours faithfully

Jim Stockwell

On behalf of the Sussex Gardens Trust.

CC: The Gardens Trust