

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

Report To: Leisure and Arts Services Committee - 20 February 2006

Report On: Dundee Repertory Theatre Main House, Revenue Support 2006-2007

Report By: Director of Leisure and Communities

Report No: 117-2006

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To submit to the Committee a request for renewal of revenue funding to Dundee Repertory Theatre Main House, 2006-2007.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That the Committee approves the level of grant funding amounting to £346,275 as set out in the Report.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The funding recommended is £346,275, which sum is provided for in the Department's Revenue Budget for 2006-2007, as shown in the Budget at Appendix 1.

3.2 The terms and conditions of grant will be contained within a Funding Agreement 2006-2007, between Dundee City Council and Dundee Repertory Theatre Main House.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The renewal of revenue funding to Dundee Repertory Theatre Main House will ensure the continued provision of a popular cultural service, that local needs are met locally, and that opportunities for culture, leisure and recreation are readily available to all.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The mission statement of Dundee Repertory Theatre is to provide the highest possible arts service to Dundee and to be central to the cultural life of Dundee by investing in opportunities for those communities who may not normally benefit from mainstream arts provision. The building provides full disabled access to all public areas. Access is further facilitated by the operation of a range of discount and concessionary ticket offers.

5.2 The Funding Agreement 2006-2007 will contain requirements that Dundee Repertory Theatre Main House practises equal opportunities policies in respect of its dealings with its public and staff.

6.0 MAIN TEXT

6.1 In 2005-2006 Dundee Rep continued to build its audience and reputation both with local audiences and further afield. The company produced a number of sell out

shows and received critical acclaim in both local and national press.

6.2 **Highlights of the Year:**

- A stage version of the award winning film *The Graduate* adapted by Terry Johnston, which played to 82% capacity audiences and gained good reviews.
- A co-production with leading touring company Paines Plough on a new play by Douglas Maxwell which toured to the Menier Chocolate Factory in London.
- The professional premiere of *Ubu the King* by Jarry adapted by leading Scottish writer David Greig. This was also a co-production with the Tron Theatre and The Barbican Theatre in London as part of a season of work entitled *Young Genius*. This production sold out its London performances and gave the Dundee Rep name a high profile in a national context.
- In autumn 2005 the company produced *Gypsy*, a large scale musical, involving a cast of 12 professional actors, 7 musicians, 5 students from Dundee's Dance and Drama Course and Dundee College and a team of 18 local children. This production was a sell out success and received good critical acclaim. The local audience reaction was excellent.
- The company's Christmas show *Cinderella* played to 92% capacity.
- In the early part of 2006 the company are producing a small scale production of *Dr Korczak's Example*, also by David Greig, which will tour to the Yokohama International Theatre Festival and to the Aster Plaza Theatre in Hiroshima. This production will return from Japan to carry out a tour of local schools, continuing to build relationships with local schools and to provide an educational resource within the city.
- The company continues to develop work aimed at children, young people and their families, with a number of visiting company performances. The audiences for this strand of work are continuing to grow.
- Dundee Rep continues to programme a year-round season of dance, including visits from companies new to Dundee such as Iceland Dance and Galili Dance from the Netherlands.
- The company continues to support young actors by employing two new apprentice actors who will be with the company for a year to continue their training.
- The role of Education within the theatre continues to develop with attendances at productions by school parties continuing to grow and the number of workshops provided for schools increasing.

6.3 **Plans for 2006-2007:**

- For the first time Scottish Dance Theatre and the Dundee Rep Ensemble will combine forces to produce a large scale family show based on the Chinese Monkey legends and made famous through the cult 1970's television series. This production will also tour to the International Children's Theatre Festival in Edinburgh and to Glasgow and Aberdeen.
- The company will continue to programme a variety of visiting companies providing dance, drama, comedy, music and work for young people.
- The company will continue to support training apprenticeships for young actors.
- Dundee Rep also aims to develop its role as a creative learning centre, allowing opportunities for learning across all aspects of its operation.

6.4 Attendances to date in 2005-2006 are 69,233. The theatre continues to be a substantial factor in the local economy and sustains 70 full-time equivalent jobs.

7.0 **CONSULTATION**

7.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Finance), Depute Chief Executive

(Support Services) and Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning) have been consulted on this Report and are in agreement with its contents.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None

**STEWART MURDOCH
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND COMMUNITIES
26 JANUARY 2006**

**Dundee Repertory Theatre Main House
(Appendix 1)**

	Projected Out-turn 2005-2006	Projected Budget 2006-2007
Expenditure	£	£
Administration Wages	151,098	156,239
Marketing / Sales / FOH Wages	169,845	174,296
Performers / Directors / Design	443,415	355,110
Production Staff	340,383	338,165
Allowance for Pension Contributions	9,378	12,879
Production Costs	102,313	77,975
Touring Costs	25,207	36,030
Royalties and Commissions	33,574	30,939
Visiting Company Fees	137,184	94,366
Marketing Costs	131,200	145,806
General Overheads	241,370	242,935
Total	1,784,967	1,664,740
Trading Income		
Box Office - Rep plays	291,731	215,307
Box Office - Visiting	141,283	117,957
Friends Income	5,000	5,500
Touring Income	119,810	73,000
Catering Net profit	13,000	25,120
Programmes Net Profit	7,000	5,305
Confectionery Net profit	5,150	5,305
Miscellaneous Income	23,247	20,500
Central Services Recharges	32,380	33,351
Sponsorship	5,000	5,000
Trusts	57,000	45,000
Total	700,601	551,345
Grant Income		
SAC Revenue	679,912	697,232
SAC Project	1,125	5,000
SAC Lottery Dance	20,000	15,000
DCC Revenue	335,000	346,275
ERDF	50,080	50,080
Total	1,086,117	1,113,587
Total Income	1,786,718	1,664,932
Balance carried forward	1,751	192