

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

Report To: Leisure and Arts Services Committee – 17 March 2003

Report On: Dundee Repertory Theatre Main House – Revenue Support 2003–2004

Report By: Director of Leisure and Arts

Report No. 235-2003

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, 2003/2004.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That the Committee approves the level of grant funding amounting to £314,000 as set out in the Report.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Allowance is made in the 2003/2004 Leisure and Arts Department Revenue Budget for the foregoing payment of £314,000 to Dundee Repertory Theatre Main House.

3.2 The terms and conditions of grant will be contained within a Funding Agreement 2003/2004, between Dundee City Council and Dundee Repertory Theatre Main House.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The continuation 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 2003/2004 will contain requirements that Dundee Repertory Theatre Main House practice equal opportunities policies in respect of its public and staff.

6.0 MAIN TEXT

6.1 In financial year 2002/2003, Dundee Repertory Theatre secured a 92% increase in its core funding from the Scottish Arts Council to enable the continuation of its innovative and highly acclaimed resident company. A further increase in SAC core funding for 2003/2004 together with Dundee City Council revenue funding of £314,000, will establish the future of the company, building on the artistic and financial successes of the organisation by investing in the quality, range and scale of work produced.

6.2 After ten years with the theatre as Chief Executive, Mr Hamish Glen is leaving to take up a new post as Director of the Belgrade Theatre, Coventry. He will be replaced by Mr James Brining currently at Theatre About Glasgow (TAG), one of Scotland’s major companies which specialises in work for young people. He has recently directed such shows as “Korezak’s Example” written by David Greig, and Steven Greenhorne’s “King Matt”. Mr

Dominic Hill, presently Associate Director at Dundee Repertory Theatre, will become Artistic Director. He directed "The Duchess of Malfi", the Christmas Show "The Snow Queen" and took the award-winning production of "The Winter's Tale" to Tehran.

6.3 During 2002/2003 the company:

- Revived their award-winning production of "The Winter's Tale". With the support of the British Council, the theatre made international headlines as the first UK theatre to visit and perform in Iran for 30 years.
- Local audiences once again responded strongly to the theatre's tradition of encouraging home talent to explore the city's history and traditions with the "Mill Lavvies" by Chris Rattray, music by Michael Mara.
- Other successful productions in the year were "The Duchess of Malfi" by John Webster and Shakespeare's "Measure for Measure" in a 21st century setting.
- The theatre continues to offer a range of work for Dundee's various audiences including late night comedy, jazz and guitar festivals, contemporary dance, community drama and visits by Scotland's leading touring companies.

6.4 Major plans for 2003/2004 include:

- The continued expansion of the resident company's repertoire.
- New works commissioned from leading Scottish playwrights.
- The revival and presentation of existing productions in Scotland's other major theatres, through touring.
- Ongoing skills workshops in voice, movement, music and language.
- The continuation of the theatre apprenticeship scheme.
- The development of the tourist/visitor audience base including further packages with local tourist facilities and attractions.

6.5 Attendances in 2002/2003 were 76,000, including touring. The theatre continues to be a substantial factor in the local economy and the development of the cultural quarter. The main house sustains 70 full-time equivalent jobs.

7.0 CONSULTATION

7.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Support Services, Director of Finance, Director of Corporate Planning, Director of Personnel and Management Services have been consulted on this report and are in agreement with its content.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None

**STEVE GRIMMOND
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND ARTS
28 FEBRUARY 2003**

Dundee Repertory Theatre Main House

	Projected Out-turn 2002-2003	Projected Budget 2003-2004
Expenditure:		
Administration Wages	129,382	135,388
Marketing/Sales/FOH Wages	155,105	161,114
Performers/Directors/Design	364,671	377,747
Production Staff	282,513	296,793
Production Costs	52,750	53,243
Touring Costs	40,426	21,350
Royalties and Commissions	29,312	33,853
Visiting Company Fees	93,985	96,450
Marketing Costs	106,930	104,335
General Overheads	214,975	216,146
Transfer to Fund Raising Target	8,000	0
Total	1,478,049	1,496,419
Income:		
New Writing	0	0
Scottish Enterprise Tayside	9,875	0
Lottery Grant	5,355	0
Lottery Projects Reserve	0	0
SAC Revenue	571,459	660,108
SAC Project	25,592	0
DCC Revenue	258,493	314,000
Other Project Grants	1,430	0
Trading Income:		
Box Office – Rep Plays	280,262	230,807
Box Office – Visiting Companies	101,503	106,387
Friends Income	4,254	0
Touring Income	92,113	33,000
Catering Net Profit	35,114	41,104
Programmes Net Profit	4,558	4,695
Confectionery Net Profit	4,000	4,120
Miscellaneous	13,950	14,369
Central Services Recharges	26,634	27,433
Sponsorship	19,220	23,000
Trusts Confirmed	25,000	
Trusts/Sponsorship Target	-	37,500
Total	1,478,812	1,496,523
Balance Brought Forward	-	763
Balance Carried Forward	763	867