

## **DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO:** Leisure and Arts Services Committee - 19 March 2007

**REPORT ON:** Dundee Repertory Theatre, Main House - Revenue Support 2007-2008

**REPORT BY:** Director of Leisure and Communities

**REPORT NO:** 158-2007

### **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 for 2007/2008.

### **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 That the Committee approves the level of grant funding amounting to £350.465 as set out in the report.

### **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 The funding recommended is £350,465, which sum is provided from the Leisure and Communities Department's Revenue Budget for 2007/2008 as shown in the budget at Appendix 1.
- 3.2 The terms and conditions of grant will be contained within a funding agreement 2007/2008 between Dundee City Council and the Dundee Repertory Theatre - Main House.

### **4.0 SUSTAINABILITY POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 Sustainability

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 and leisure and recreation are readily available to all.

- 4.2 Strategic Environmental Assessment

None required.

- 4.3 Anti-Poverty

Dundee Repertory Theatre, Main House provide employment and develop employment proposals as well as providing concession rates for access.

### **5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The Mission Statement of Dundee Repertory Theatre is to provide the highest possible arts services 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.

- 5.2 The funding agreement for 2007/2008 will contain requirements that Dundee Repertory Theatre, - Main House practices Equal Opportunity policies in respect of its dealings with its public and staff.

## **6.0 MAIN TEXT**

### **6.1 Highlights of the Year 2006/2007**

#### **Monkey by Colin Teavon**

This project was the culmination of two years of planning for Dundee Rep Ensemble and Scottish Dance Theatre to create a joint production. Aimed at a family audience this production was a success with audiences and critics.

#### **A Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare**

This production was hailed by the critics as one of the highlights of the year in Scottish Theatre. It played to over 6000 people, the majority of them school children.

#### **Hansel and Gretel by Phil Porter**

This year's Christmas show played to nearly 20,000 people, 92% of the ticket capacity available and proved very popular with audiences.

#### **Europe by David Greig**

In early 2007 the Company have been invited to collaborate on another production with The Barbican Theatre in London, due to the success of our last co-production, Ubu the King. This play by David Greig explores the ideas of a new and changing Europe.

#### **Dr Korczak's Example**

Due to the success of this play in 2006/2007 it was successfully restaged in January 2007 at Dundee Rep and as part of a large scale World Holocaust Memorial Day event, at the City Chambers in Kirkcaldy.

#### **Education and Community Work**

The company continued to develop its education and community work, and has recently begun a new project called SPARK, working in partnership with 6 Dundee Primary schools to create relationships between the schools and the theatre.

#### **Programming**

The Company continued 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 continued to programme a year round season of dance.

#### **Training**

The company continued to support young actors by employing two new apprentice actors who will be with the company for a year to continue their training. The Rep have also continued to provide placements and work experience for local students and those from further afield.

#### **Touring**

During 2006/2007 the company toured to The International Theatre Festival in Yokohama and Hiroshima, Japan, The Cervantino International Festival in Guanajuato, Mexico and the International Children's Festival in Edinburgh, bringing the Dundee Rep name to a wider audience with great success.

See Appendix 2 for production and audience figures.

## 6.2 **Plans for 2007/2008**

The company will continue to develop its strategic plan vision to be:

- A theatre whose work is a model of excellence, synonymous with quality across all its activities.
- A theatre rooted in making work for and with diverse local audience whilst strengthening its national reputation, complemented by a range of activities on an international scale.
- A national cultural asset which the people of Dundee feel ownership over and in which they can take enormous pride.

### **April 2007**

#### **Sunshine on Leith by Stephen Greenhorn**

This large scale musical is a new commission by Dundee Rep from the writer of Passing Places, River City and Glasgow Kiss featuring the songs of the Proclaimers woven into the story of two soldiers returning home to face life in modern Scotland. This production will feature a live band and choreography and will open in Dundee before touring to Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Glasgow.

### **May 2007**

#### **Happy Days by Samuel Beckett**

Hailed as one of the great masterpieces of post war theatre, this will be a rare chance for Dundee audiences to see a new production of Beckett's deeply funny play.

### **Autumn 2007**

2 full scale productions plus a Christmas show to be announced.

### **Spring 2008**

1 full scale production to be announced.

The company will also continue to programme a variety of visiting companies providing dance, drama, comedy, music and work for young people.

They 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.

- 6.3 Attendances to date in 2006/2007 are - 78,849 (Estimate to 31.3.07 at 8.1.07). 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 (Support Services) and Depute Chief Executive (Finance), 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**  
**28 FEBRUARY 2007**

**DUNDEE REPERTORY THEATRE  
DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL**

**Appendix 1**

	<b>Predicted Outcome 2006/2007</b>	<b>Draft Budget 2007/2008</b>
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>		
Administration Wages	156,859	186,532
Marketing/Sales/FOH Wages	177,701	195,267
Performers/Directors/Design	421,122	543,226
Production Staff	347,902	443,305
Allowance for Pension Contributions	10,732	16,000
Production Costs	77,104	125,500
Touring Costs	30,957	72,604
Royalties & Commissions	21,864	43,754
Visiting Company Fees	282,181	102,370
Marketing Costs	133,800	179,111
General Overheads	245,378	271,816
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>1,905,600</b>	<b>2,179,485</b>
<b><u>Trading Income</u></b>		
Box Office - Rep plays	211,205	262,233
Box office - Visiting	315,983	127,963
Friends	5,500	6,000
Touring Income/co-production fees	133,730	271,190
Net Catering Profit	21,770	21,414
Programme Net Profit	5,305	5,500
Confectionery Net Profit	5,305	5,500
Miscellaneous Income	23,000	20,000
Central Services Recharges	33,351	36,100
Sponsorship	10,000	10,000
Trusts	34,800	60,000
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>799,949</b>	<b>825,900</b>
<b><u>Grants</u></b>		
SAC Revenue	697,232	932,468
SAC Project Grants	1,250	0
SAC Lottery Dance	15,000	0
DCC Annual	346,275	350,465
ERDF	50,080	77,644
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>1,109,837</b>	<b>1,360,577</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,909,786</b>	<b>2,186,477</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b><u>4,186</u></b>	<b><u>6,992</u></b>
Surplus brought forward	<b>192</b>	<b>4,378</b>
Surplus carried forward	<b>4,378</b>	<b>11,370</b>

**Production and Audience Figures****Appendix 2**

	<b>Projected 2006/2007</b>	<b>outturn</b>	<b>Projected 2007/2008</b>
Main House productions	7		6
Visiting Companies Productions	35		30
Tours	2		1
Main House Performances	127		146
Visiting Companies Performances	104		75
Performances on tour	64		32
<b>Audiences</b>			
Main House	38082		40000
Visiting Companies	30232		35000
Tours	10534		10000
Totals	<b>78849</b>		<b>85000</b>