

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Leisure, Arts and Communities Committee - 23 March 2009

REPORT ON: Dundee Ice Arena - Revenue Support 2009-2010

REPORT BY: Director of Leisure and Communities

REPORT NO: 180-2009

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To submit to the Committee a request for renewal of Revenue Grant Funding to Dundee Ice Arena for the year 2009-2010.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That the Committee approves the level of Revenue Grant funding amounting to £101,250 as set out in the report.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The funding recommended is £101,250 which sum is provided for in the Leisure and Communities Department's Revenue Budget 2009-2010, as shown in the budget at Appendix 1.

3.2 The terms and conditions of these payments will be contained within a Management Agreement 2009-2010 between Dundee City Council and Dundee Ice Arena.

3.3 Should the additional guarantee of £25,000 be required, this will be funded from General Fund Balances.

4.0 MAIN TEXT

4.1 Dundee Ice Arena provides ice time for all major ice sports including ice hockey, figure skating, speed skating and curling. It also provides regular facilities for public skating.

4.2 Review of 2008-2009

During 2008/2009 the Ice Arena continued to host Scottish Premier and National League ice hockey and a full range of curling competitions including the hosting of the Strathcona Cup involving competitors from all over Canada. Extensive junior development programmes were delivered for hockey, curling, figure skating and speed skating. Dundee was chosen to host the Scottish celebration for the International Ice Hockey Federation Centenary. Over two hundred junior players attended the event representing every Ice Hockey club in Scotland. Children from various local schools attended the day time Curling classes as part of the partnership agreement with the Royal Caledonian Curling Club. Figure Skating continued to progress at all age levels culminating in two Dundee skaters competing at the Junior world championships and one of the skaters has now been chosen to represent GB at the Senior World Championships. Dundee hosted the UK Short Track Speed skating Championships in 2008 the first time this event has taken place in Scotland. An Adult Learn to Skate programme has been introduced and will continue over the Summer period. The facility's versatility, convenient location and unrestricted parking is demonstrated by the increasing business for its function suites and conference rooms.

4.3 Major Plans for 2009-2010

In 2009/2010 the Arena will be hosting several major events including the Scottish Recreational Ice Hockey Championships, Royal Air Force championships, Northern League Finals, Scottish Cup Finals.

A programme of figure skating and ice hockey schools will once again be held during the school holidays which will involve international coaches from around the world. There are now several junior competitors who have come through the development ranks in their respective sports since the arena opened, attaining national and international recognition.

Once again one of their resident coaches will be acting as a technical adviser for the World Figure Skating Championships.

An indoor six a side football tournament is planned to take place during the summer period which will involve Junior teams from the Dundee, Angus and Fife areas.

4.4 During 2008/2009 Dundee Ice Arena has coped with a significant increase in energy costs. This has reduced its surplus and affected its financial position. Appendix 1 shows that the company has budgeted for a surplus for 2009/10. However, due to the seasonal nature of its business, the company actually incurs deficits during the earlier part of its financial year. In the past, the company has been able to maintain a positive financial position due to the level of reserves it held. These levels of reserves are no longer available and the company has indicated that it will not be able to maintain this financial position throughout the year without additional income. It is therefore proposed that a guarantee of an additional £25,000 be approved.

4.5 Dundee Ice Arena sustained 17 full time equivalent jobs in Dundee during 2008-2009 and they are projected to achieve 90% of their income from non public services in 2009-2010.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management.

There are no major issues.

6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Depute Chief Executive (Finance) and Head of Finance have been consulted on this report and are in agreement with its contents.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None.

STEWART MURDOCH
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND COMMUNITIES
13 MARCH 2009

Dundee Ice Arena**Appendix 1**

	Estimated Outturn 2008-2009 £	Budget 2009-2010 £
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Staff Costs	263,000	261,000
Property Costs	403,000	403,000
Supplies and Services	296,000	298,000
Total Expenditure	962,000	962,000
<u>Income</u>		
Playing Income	626,000	706,000
Rental Income	50,000	61,000
Events Income	27,000	18,000
Development Income	52,000	81,000
Operations Income	10,000	12,000
Other Income	3,000	1,000
Sub Total	768,000	879,000
<u>Grants</u>		
DCC	150,000	101,000
Sub Total	150,000	101,000
Total Income	918,000	980,000
Surplus /(Deficit)	-44,000	18,000
Surplus brought forward	55,000	11,000
Surplus carried forward	11,000	29,000