

## **DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO:** Leisure, Arts and Communities Committee - 22 March 2010

**REPORT ON:** Scottish Dance Theatre - Revenue Support 2010-2011

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

**REPORT NO:** 98-2010

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To seek Committee approval for a Service Level Agreement to be extended between Dundee City Council and Scottish Dance Theatre for the period 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011.

### **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 2.1 remits the Director of Leisure & Communities, on behalf of Dundee City Council, to enter into a one year Service Level Agreement with Scottish Dance Theatre, subject to on-going monitoring and evaluation as to its efficiency, economy and effectiveness
- 2.2 remits the Director of Leisure and Communities to keep these arrangements under review and amend as appropriate.
- 2.3 approves the Grant Funding amounting to £23,644 for the period 1 April 2010 - 31 March 2011.

### **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 The funding recommended is £23,644 which sum is provided for in the Leisure and Communities Department's revenue Budget 2010-2011 and set out in Appendix 1.
- 3.2 The terms and conditions of the grant will be contained within a Service Level Agreement 2010/2011, between Dundee City Council and Scottish Dance Theatre.

### **4.0 MAIN TEXT**

#### **4.1 Review of 2009-2010**

Scottish Dance Theatre has largely achieved its business targets for 2009/10 undertaking more performances in Dundee than predicted and more performances in Scotland outwith Dundee. Outwith Dundee attendances were nearly 2000 more than predicted, partly due to playing to very large audiences on the company's highly successful tour to China and Dubai. The SDT Interactive, school matinee events have again been very successful and this half lecture demonstration/half performance model, with associated workshop programme enables the company to take its work to smaller scale and less well technically equipped venues such as the Webster Theatre in Arbroath, Perth College, Lochilphhead School. Caroline Bowditch, SDT's Dance Agent for Change has had a significant impact in breaking new artistic ground within mainstream dance and, through key partnerships, increased access to dance for people with disabilities, working locally and nationally. A new two year Lottery funded post is an Associate Director Fellowship and choreographer, director and dancer Marc Brew is with the company until December 2010. The post offers Marc an invaluable training opportunity which will help advantage him in a market place where he is

currently disadvantaged as a wheelchair user. During 2009/10, as well as touring a new work NQR which features both Marc and Caroline as performers alongside SDT's dancers and cellist, the company has toured 9 other works in repertoire, three of which were created during the year – NQR, The Life and Times of Girl A, and Drift. The company has attracted significant positive media coverage both locally and nationally throughout the year.

In December 2009, February and March 2010 the company ran intensive training sessions for 9 local musicians in order to give them the necessary skills to enable us to employ them to play for SDT's daily company training classes. The company is in the process of developing a Disability Equality Scheme with guidance from the Scottish Arts Council.

In 2009 SDT performed two works at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe to critical acclaim and also toured to China and Dubai, undertaking a very successful education programme funded by the British Council in China. The company toured during the year to small Scottish venues as well as large scale venues such as Edinburgh Festival Theatre, undertaking a total of 62 performances. The company took part in Dundee City Council's Light Night event in November 2009, performing in Tay Square alongside the SDT Youth Group, creating a festive atmosphere and encouraging enthusiastic audience participation. The dancers ran an informal, multi art-form event, Hoopdash, at the Rep and performed at the Dundee Dance Partnership Are You Dancin' event at the Bonar Hall. The company hosted professional dancers from around the world to take class with the company at the Rep.

SDT undertook a programme of classes and sessions for adults and young people in Dundee and a programme of workshops in Scotland and outwith Scotland related to the company's tours. SDT Creative Learning initiated a project bringing together SDT Youth Company with youth companies from Stirling and Aberdeen and performed the resulting dance piece in Dundee, Stirling and at Glasgow Theatre Royal at Go Dance 2010. Led by Caroline, the company has run several integrated workshops, including sessions at the Rep and at Kingspark School. Caroline and an SDT dancer performed a duet at the Fairtrade Tea Dance at the Bonar Hall. SDT continued to develop its education work locally and was a lead partner in the Dundee Dance Partnership Are You Dancin' project in November 2009. The annual Great Big Dance Show was again a highlight of the year and saw over 130 young people from Dundee and surrounding areas coming together to perform on the Rep stage. Following the success of SDT Creative Learning's involvement in the NHS Well Good project the company offered further taster workshops to Dundee schools; the company expanded its involvement in delivery of the Higher Dance programme at local schools and ran a successful Hungry Caterpillar project in Dundee Primary Schools in collaboration with DCC Education Department.

During 2009/10 Scottish Dance Theatre maintained 9 dancers, two apprentices via the London Contemporary Dance School graduate scheme and offered several placements for Scottish students and local school children as well as offered places for students and professional dancers to join company class (approximately 200 sessions) and the SDT maintains close links with the students of the Scottish School of Contemporary Dance. In 2009/10 the company sustained 22.85 full time job equivalents in the city adding to the local economy.

#### **4.2 Major Plans for 2010-2011**

In 2010/11 Scottish Dance Theatre will tour extensively in Scotland and will also tour to Italy and Holland. The company will tour a total of 9 different works, with two new works premiering in February 2011 from US choreographers Ben Levy and Kate Weare. The target audience for 2009/10 will be 11,200. In summer 2010 the company will undertake a two week run at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. SDT Dance Agent for Change and Associate Director Fellow will work with the company during the

year funded by the Scottish Arts Council Equalities Career Development fund. SDT Creative Learning will continue their work both extensively locally and nationally, often in collaboration with other local agencies and organisations, focussing on young people aged 10 – 25 and those who work with them. The company will sustain approximately 23 full time job equivalents in 2010/11.

SDT budgets for 2009/10 were reduced – income and expenditure - during the year as fundraising targets were lowered as the economic climate resulted in less funding being available from trusts and foundations. The company's revenue funding from Scottish Arts Council for 2010/11 will not increase (standstill). Fundraising from trusts and foundations for 2010/11 will be prioritised, particularly for the company's ground breaking work in the field of dance and disability.

- 4.3 Scottish Dance theatre sustained 23 full time equivalent jobs in Dundee during 2009/10 and predicts that they will achieve 98% of their income in 2010/11 from non City Council sources.

## **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), Assistant Chief Executive and Director 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**  
**1 MARCH 2010**

**SCOTTISH DANCE THEATRE**

**Appendix 1**

	<b>Projected Outturn 2009-2010</b>	<b>Projected Budget 2010-11 (Estimate)</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages	585,944	580,794
Fees	109,299	139,000
Production Costs	148,951	185,910
Education	14,203	17,150
Other Project Costs	43,961	19,200
Marketing	51,750	38,950
Overheads	133,808	113,250
<b><u>Total Expenditure</u></b>	<b>1,087,916</b>	<b>1,094,254</b>
<b><u>Income</u></b>		
Performance/Box Office		
Trusts/Sponsors, Misc, Lottery Projects	139,073	155,225
Education Income	28,690	28,300
<b>Sub Total Income</b>	<b>167,763</b>	<b>183,525</b>
<b><u>Grants</u></b>		
SAC Annual	808,000	808,000
SAC Project	64,426	44,894
Dundee City Council Annual Revenue		
Support	23,644	23,644
Other Councils		8,000
Release D.Studio Def Inc	27,474	27,474
<b>Sub Total Grants</b>	<b>923,544</b>	<b>912,012</b>
 <b>Total Income</b>	 <b>1,091,307</b>	 <b>1,095,537</b>
 <b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	 <b>3,391</b>	 <b>1,283</b>
Balance Brought Forward	13,722	17,113
<b>Balance Carried Forward</b>	<b>17,113</b>	<b>18,396</b>