

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

To: LEISURE SERVICES (GRANTS) SUB-COMMITTEE	Subject: CUMBERNAULD THEATRE TRUST LTD FUNDING
From: DIRECTOR OF LEISURE SERVICES	
Date: 25 November 1998	Ref: AM/KH

1. **Introduction**

This report details the current funding arrangements in place in relation to Cumbernauld Theatre and recommends a future course of action.

**Core Revenue Funding**

(1) **Background**

Cumbernauld Theatre Trust Ltd historically received core revenue funding on an annual basis from Cumbernauld & Kilsyth District Council which has been continued by North Lanarkshire Council. However, there has traditionally been no funding contract in place to account for this payment.

This does not follow the recent advice issued to local authorities by the Accounts Commission, and will not meet the requirements of the Best Value Regime.

(2) **Action Required**

A formal contract requires to be introduced which governs any future relationship between the Council as a funding body and Cumbernauld Theatre Trust Ltd. This would include the basis on which any future revenue funding would be made and which clearly demonstrates value for money.

Such a contract would only be entered into following a successful application by the organisation and would include definition of:-

- Legal status
- Funding purpose
- Representation
- Management arrangements
- Programming
- Accessibility
- Letting Policy
- Target Outcomes
- Financial Arrangements and Management
- Monitoring and Review
- Timescales

- Acknowledgements of funding
- Communications and Information

## 2. Advance Project Funding Payment

### (1) Award of Advance Payment of Project Funding

At the meeting of 25th November 1996 the Council decided:

“that a grant of £23,000 be awarded to the Cumbernauld Theatre Trust Limited from the Leisure Services Cultural Project Fund during this financial year, on the understanding that officers from the Council and representatives from the Cumbernauld Theatre Trust Limited meet to identify potential projects which may be carried out by the Theatre during 1996-98 without incurring any additional overheads”.

To date, the following projects have been approved:

- |                                     |           |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| • Stained Glass project/visual arts | £2,080.00 |
| • Arts Access project/drama         | £3,000.00 |

**Amount outstanding: £17,920.00**

Various other projects have been submitted which were outwith the funding criteria or which have had insufficient information to support the project. This latter category includes a retrospective project submitted to the 2nd September Grants Sub Committee and for which no further information has been supplied (See Appx 1).

### (2) Action Required

As projects have not yet been submitted which off-set in full the advanced payment, within the original timescale the members may consider that an appropriate course of action would be for the Council to obtain repayment of the amount outstanding.

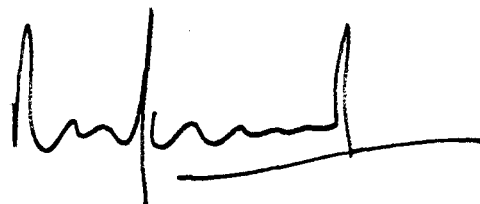
However, it is suggested that a more appropriate alternative would be to extend the period until such time as the projects can be carried out, and the Department will encourage the Cumbernauld Theatre Trust Ltd to do so at the earliest opportunity.

## 3. Recommendation

It is recommended that:

1. any future core revenue funding for organisations such as Cumbernauld Theatre Trust Ltd is by application.
2. any such future core revenue funding is governed by a funding contract.
3. agreement is reached with Cumbernauld Theatre Trust Ltd on an appropriate contract basis which includes definition of all relevant areas.
4. the period in which the advance project funding of £23,000 applies is extended until appropriate projects are carried out.

5. Cumbernauld Theatre Trust Ltd is encouraged to complete the outstanding projects as soon as possible.
6. the future payment of any core revenue funding will take into account the status of the outstanding projects to be carried out.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Grant', with a horizontal line underneath it.

**Department of Leisure Services**

Buchanan Business Park  
Stepps  
Glasgow G33 6HR

Our Ref BD/AA  
Your Ref  
Date 9 September 1998

Contact Beth Diamond  
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<sup>Appx 1</sup>  
**NORTH  
LANARKSHIRE  
COUNCIL**

*Director of Leisure Services  
Norman Turner*

Simon Sharkey  
Artistic Director  
Cumbernauld Theatre Trust Limited  
Braehead Road  
Kildrum  
Cumbernauld  
G67 2BN

Dear Simon

**Live Music Project**

I refer to our recent conversation regarding your application for the off-setting of costs of the above project against the £23,000 pre-funding agreement.

Unfortunately the information you have submitted to date is still insufficient to support your application; and Committee was therefore unable to consider it at its meeting on 2 September.

I list below the information which is required to support the funding you have requested.

For each event:-

Date of event, details of programme/bands involved, etc., number of people attending, breakdown of costs and fees, income achieved.

You will appreciate that we need to be sure that monies paid out by the Council are used for the purpose for which they are intended; and we are required by the auditors to have documentary evidence of this.

The next Committee meeting is 21 October. This information should therefore be submitted as early as possible if you wish us to re submit your project to Leisure Services Committee.

Yours sincerely

**Beth Diamond**  
Service Development & Review Manager  
(Cultural Services)