



Scottish Arts Council

CFO name: Mull Theatre	Reference number (GMS):G200801087
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Lead officer's recommendation

Mull Theatre (MT) delivers a broad range of consistently high quality work to geographically isolated people and within the central belt. There is proven continuing demand for MT's work from every scale of promoter. MT provides support for artists and there is potential to expand on this area. Its commitment to education and its integration into core activities is evident, although there are some areas for development in this and marketing. It also addresses Scottish Arts Council policy area of tourism.

MT faces peculiar challenges because of its location but despite this, MT has greatly developed its operational effectiveness. It is well managed, though there are still a few development areas.

The removal to new premises should help MT to continue developing effectiveness and efficiency. (There is an associated risk that MT will not secure the funding from ERDM to build the production facility. However, the current new facilities will enable MT to have its offices in one building, which will be a considerable improvement on the previous situation.)

Under optimum recommend funding with additional money requested (though this support should not directly support the HNC course as this is beyond Scottish Arts Council's remit.)

Under standstill recommend funding with some additional money (c. £10,000.) This should be used for staff development, enhanced conditions and some artist support. However in 2006/07 (some of) this could be used for any additional costs involved in the Farewell To Mull Little Theatre programme/celebration.

Assessment:	High		
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Areas of concern: Reserves policy; Board renewal

Development issues:
Reserves policy; Governance (Board renewal); successful transition to new premises including a marketing campaign to explain the changes; further development and implementation of staff development policy; develop educations strategy to include feedback from participants; develop marketing strategy

Lead Officer: Jaine Lumsden Date: 30/11/2005
Print name:

Decision and authorisation			
CFO name: Mull Theatre		Reference number (GMS): G200801087	
Stage 2: Head of Department recommendation within the context of the sector ecosystem			
Category for support	Essential		
<p>MT has achieved high artistic standards and good audience levels considering much of its work is presented in rural areas. There is some risk in the move to new production premises. It needs to remain clear that Scottish Arts Council support relates to MT's activity as a touring producing theatre and not as a venue. This implies that continued funding is dependent on continued high levels of quality touring and that support is not being agreed for a home base theatre.</p>			
Decision authorised:			
Head of Department David Taylor		Date 1.12.05	
Print name:			

Stage 3: Head of Department recommendation within the context of the Corporate Synthesised scenario			
CFO name: Mull Theatre Company		Reference number (GMS): G200801087	
Category for support		Flexible	
<p>Mull Theatre has achieved consistently good levels of artistic quality. It reaches audiences that rarely see professional drama and offers some support to local and professional artists. While the majority support of companies is focused on those that are artist led, Mull Theatre is considered to be significant within its region and achieving good audience levels. It is recommended that Mull Theatre Company receives two years flexible funding.</p>			
Recommendation authorised:			
Head of Department		Date 14.02.06	
Print name: David Taylor			

Stage 4: Group Heads			
Recommendation and authorisation			
CFO name: Mull Theatre Company		Reference number (GMS): G200801087	
Category for support		Flexible	
<p>Agree with the recommendation for flexible funding status for two years.</p>			
<p>Decision authorised:</p> <p>Group Head Date 14.02.06 Print name: Jim Tough</p>			

Stage 5: Creative Arts / Performing Arts Committee			
Recommendation and authorisation			
CFO name: Mull Theatre Company		Reference number (GMS): G200801087	
Category for support		Flexible	
<p>Agreed as per Managers/Group Heads recommendations.</p>			
<p>Committee Chair Date 06February 2006 Print name: Jennifer Waterton</p>			

Stage 6: Council			
Decision			
CFO name: Mull Theatre Company		Reference number (GMS): G200801087	
Category for support	Flexible		
<p>Approved flexible funding as per Managers/Group Heads and Committee recommendations</p>			
Chairman Print name: Richard Holloway		Date 28 February 2006	

End of Assessment