



CFO name: X Factor Dance Company	Reference number (GMS): G200801016
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Lead officer’s recommendation

Summarise your reasons for assessing the application as you have (drawing out the strengths and weaknesses of the proposal and highlighting any specific risks):

X Factor is still developing as a company. It has had core funding for 3 years, which has helped it have a longer term vision for the future. However, during this time there have been many staff changes, which have disrupted the company’s management, impacting on its targets. It is likely that this year should be better, with performances during the Fringe boosting the audience figures and number of performances annually.

Through its educational work, X Factor has been more successful in attracting audiences. The company is focussed around the Artistic Director, which makes the company vulnerable. Financially, the company seems secure, but is heavily dependent on SAC funding, attracting little other income.

The company’s change in direction – presenting double bills with guest choreographers – should give venues more confidence in programming the company, but work needs to continue to develop audiences. The company seems limited in its ambitions.

Assessment:	High	Medium x	Low
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Areas of concern:

- Strengthen Board
- Board to consider contingency plan if AD moved on/ unable to continue
- Reserves policy
- Generating income from other sources

Identify areas of concern drawn from the assessment which will inform the funding agreement for 2006/7 and future agreements / 12 month development plan (as applicable)

Development issues:

The current budget restricts many developments within the company. X Factor aims to continue to develop both the number of performances it presents and its education work. This might put too much of a strain on the Artistic Director's time.

Optimum developments would include hiring dancers for longer and a tour of the Highlands and Islands.

Identify development issues drawn from the assessment which will inform the funding agreement for 2006/7 and future agreements / 12 month development plan (as applicable)

Lead Officer:
Print name: Susan Hay

Date:1/11/05

Stage 2

Decision and authorisation			
CFO name: X Factor Dance Company		Reference number (GMS): 200801016	
Stage 2: Head of Department recommendation within the context of the sector ecosystem			
Category for support	Essential	Important ✓	Partial
<p>Based on the lead officer's assessment and match with the department ecosystem, summarise your reasons for assessing the application as you have (drawing out the strengths and weaknesses of the organisation and highlighting any specific risks). Identifying development areas.</p> <p>X-Factor is a small scale contemporary dance company, established around Artistic Director Alan Greig, initially with the purpose of creating his own choreography. X-Factor became a CFO in 2003/04 and received a significant increase in funding which has enabled the company to create and tour productions with large casts and to raise the production values. In 2005, for the first time, X-Factor invited a guest choreographer to create a work with the company and toured a double bill alongside a new work from the Artistic Director. This development was well received by venues, press and audiences. The company recently worked on an integrated performance project with Traveller – a company of dancers with disabilities.</p> <p>Despite being core funded for three years X-Factor has not developed as ambitiously as might have been hoped. Throughout this time, there has been a number of management/staffing issues that has placed increased strain on the Artistic Director and board which may account for this.</p> <p>X-Factor is part of the dance infrastructure for the professional production and performance (Dance Strategy Aim 1). The company's work impacts on all three of Scottish Arts Council Aims, as it supports the artistic development of the Artistic Director and guest choreographers, tours professional performances to audiences throughout Scotland with a programme of learning and participatory activities.</p> <p>X-Factor has an important role to play within the dance scenario. At Optimum, Standstill and Reduced, we are committed to supporting companies of this size and scope. Within Optimum dance scenario would be seeking multi-year, project funding for a minimum of 3 such companies. We would see X-Factor's future relationship as part of that model.</p>			
Decision authorised:			
Head of Department:	Dance		By 2 December 2005
Print name:	Anita Clark		
Date:	1 December 2005		

Stage 3: Head of Department recommendation within the context of the Corporate Synthesised scenario

CFO name: X-Factor Dance Company

Reference number (GMS): G200801016

Category for support

Foundation

Flexible ✓

Neither

X-Factor Dance Company will cease to be a core funded organisation at the end of 06/07. As a small-scale company, set up to present the work of the Artistic Director, Alan Greig it is appropriate that the future funding relationship is within Flexible Funding. The company will be invited to apply for artist-led flexible funding along with other appropriate artist led dance companies.

Recommendation authorised:

Head of Department: Dance
Print name: Anita Clark

Date 14.02.2006

By 14
February
2006

Stage 4: Group Heads			
Recommendation and authorisation			
CFO name: X Factor Dance Company		Reference number (GMS): G200801016	
Category for support	Foundation	Flexible ✓	Neither
<p>Agree with the recommendation that X-Factor will cease to be a core funded organisation at the end of 06/07 but will have the opportunity, along with other artist led dance companies, to apply for flexible funding for future projects.</p>			
<p>Decision authorised:</p> <p>Group Head Print name: Jim Tough</p>			<p>Date 14.02.2006</p> <p>By 14 February 2006</p>

Stage 5: Creative Arts / Performing Arts Committee			
Recommendation and authorisation			
CFO name: X Factor Dance Company		Reference number (GMS): G200801016	
Category for support	Foundation	Flexible ✓	Neither
<p>Agreed as per Managers/Group Heads recommendations.</p>			
<p>Committee Chair Print name: Jennifer Waterton</p>			<p>Date February 2006</p>

Stage 6: Council			
Decision			
CFO name: X Factor Dance Company		Reference number (GMS): G200801016	
Category for support	Foundation	Flexible ✓	Neither
Approved flexible funding as per Managers/Group Heads and Committee recommendations			
Chairman Print name: Richard Holloway		Date 28 February 2006	