

Aim 1 – develop the infrastructure for professional production and performance

Outcomes	Objectives	Actions	Comments	08/09	09/10	10/11
Dance talent is developed and sustained in Northern Ireland and recognised for the quality of its work	Support Professional Production and Performance	<p>1. Review level of investment in regularly funded producing companies to ensure that they have the resources to realise artistic ambitions and meet demand from promoters.</p> <p><i>Resource implication:</i> additional finance</p> <p>2. Offer support with the costs of building capacity within selected companies, such as:</p> <p>Mentoring Staffing Specialist services Equipment Access to resources</p> <p>3. Introduce multi-year funding to selected companies and projects to enable longer-term planning and audience development.</p>	1, 2 & 3. This is about addressing the core capacity of RFOs to address issues relating to inability to attract/maintain high calibre staff on a long-term basis; attract appropriate specialist skills to enable the companies to perform more effectively; and also to enhance the core creative base of the company, in terms of artistic processes/ambitions. If this cannot be achieved through increasing funding given directly to RFOs, an alternative approach would be to increase project funding so that it was capable of supporting both ideas originating from RFO and other projects brought forward by the rest of the sector.	25,000	25,000	30,000

		<p>4. Seek to increase project funding budget to: Encourage new initiatives to develop. Create work of higher quality by increasing development and rehearsal processes.</p> <p>5. Review funding eligibility guidelines to ensure that people keen to work in Northern Ireland are not arbitrarily excluded.</p> <p><i>Resource implication:</i> officer/specialist advisor time</p>	<p>4.This may or may not be open to RFOs but it is essentially about increasing the creative content of work created on a project basis so as to improve the artistic development process, the range of content on offer, and the quality of its promotion.</p>	25,000	25,000	30,000
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Provide facilities and support for Northern Ireland based professional dance artists	Develop a network of spaces in which to create and develop dance	<p>1. The new premises of OMAC and Crescent Arts Centre open in Belfast and receive support with running appropriate levels of dance activity.</p> <p><i>Resource Implication: achieve results through existing funding agreements</i></p> <p>2. A feasibility study is undertaken to explore and, if appropriate, take forward the setting up of a dance centre in Derry operating as a partnership between the existing dance companies and University of Ulster, plus the venues in the city based on the European model of dance centres.</p>	<p>2. This is a mixture of funding or project development and design study. This also offers scope to a) work with ACE in their plans for development of a dance centre in Liverpool and, given the obvious links between Northern Ireland, RoI and Liverpool, could be an excellent way of sharing costs in design/feasibility and opening up scope for joint approaches to funding. It could also be a useful opportunity to engage the expertise within DanceHouse in Dublin in terms of the long, hard process of developing and subsequently delivering a large-scale capital resource, thus providing a forward looking agenda for NI/RoI collaboration in dance.</p>	20,000	15,000	15,000
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		<p>Its potential remit should embrace youth dance as outlined elsewhere in the strategy.</p> <p>It will be important to proceed with this initiative on a partnership basis with the local authority, university and the arts organisations based in Derry.</p>			
	<p>3. Support a mapping exercise of spaces throughout NI that are suitable for dance practice, creation , rehearsal and performance (in consultation with Dance Resource Base) taking into account community centres, other general performing arts spaces and those in both the private and public sector, then ensure that this information is widely accessible. ACNI research team could undertake this if time permits, in which case it would not require additional finance.</p>	<p>3. This is an essential prelude to any initiative for developing a new dance space and youth dance initiative elsewhere as it will ensure that the key question concerning additionality/duplication of resources are addressed which will impact upon the strategic case for funding new developments and it will also highlight resources available elsewhere to counter “complaints” that other places are not being well served/have nothing.</p>	5,000	0	0

Aim 2 – ensure that people throughout Northern Ireland have the opportunity to experience and enjoy dance as audiences

Outcomes	Objectives	Actions	Comments	08/09	09/10	10/11
Improved access for audiences throughout Northern Ireland to a wide range of high quality dance	Develop the programming of dance throughout the network of regional theatres outside Belfast	<p>1. Explore viability of the setting up of a dance promoters support scheme in association with Audiences NI, lowering the risk of programming dance within an audience development programme.</p> <p>2. Offer support with capacity building within regional theatres so that dance audience development work can take place.</p> <p>3. Set up and run a dance promoter support scheme.</p> <p><i>Resource Implication: ACNI specialist advisor time plus support for fees and other tour costs</i></p>	<p>1, 2 & 3. In the initial stage this is to fund a professional dance promotion expert/advisor within ACNI with some developmental funding to engage with venues to identify barriers to more effective dance promotion and may span staff knowledge, expertise and marketing skills coupled with some initial testing of ideas.</p> <p>Having established barriers etc in the above scheme, funds are then available to organise one tour a year of high quality work through reducing risk; developing ancillary activities; improving marketing.</p>	20,000	25,000	40,000

Aim 3 – ensure that people of all ages and abilities have the opportunity to learn about and participate in dance, and that there are routes through to professional involvement

Outcomes	Objectives	Actions	Comments	08/09	09/10	10/11
Increased opportunities for people to participate in dance and for young talent to be nurtured	Promote dance in education	<p>1. Work within education to see how dance might be strengthened within the physical education curriculum and how the number of schools offering Dance GCSE could be increased.</p> <p><i>Resource Implication: Specialist Advisor Time</i></p> <p>2. Explore options for getting more professional performances into schools.</p> <p><i>Resource Implication: Specialist Advisor Time</i></p>	<p>2. This is about enabling schools to have access to high quality professional dance (as opposed to outreach/workshops). It could work in tandem with the Dance Promoters Support Scheme. In the longer term after these pilots ACNI could aim to ensure that at the very minimum during a child's lifetime experience in school (i.e. between ages of 5-16) there would be exposure to high quality dance. Assuming that the enhanced subsidy cost of making this possible was between £1,250-2,000 per programme one could</p>	0	5,000	10,000

			<p>create an annual programme from 2012 onwards (perhaps funded on the back of the Olympics?) based on dividing the total number of schools in NI by 11 and then multiplying by the unit cost. One could even avoid segregation by using it as a chance for bringing together children from different traditions and integrated schools, thereby reducing the costs by half once more.</p>			
		<p>3. Explore ways of increasing the number of youth dance initiatives throughout Northern Ireland by offering financial support to establish groups particularly where they relate to Aim 2, Objective 1.</p> <p><i>Resource Implication: additional finance possibly from Awards for All</i></p>	<p>3. This should follow on from the mapping exercise as a pilot to begin to put community dance workers in those venues that have the physical resources to support dance but lack the human capital. This is a very small sum but could perhaps be used to pilot new ways of working on a short-term but intensive manner.</p> <p>This should be progressed on a partnership basis with the possibility of involving both Rainbow Dance in Belfast and the new dance centre in Derry being considered.</p>	5,000	10,000	10,000

<p>Increased opportunities for people to participate in dance</p>	<p>Develop dance activity in the community</p>	<p>1. Work with local authorities to ensure that community dance activity continues to be supported throughout NI.</p> <p><i>Resource implication:</i> officer/specialist advisor time</p> <p>2. Explore the possibility of responding to requests for dance artist in residence posts throughout NI, particularly where they are part of initiatives coming forward under Aim 1, Objective 1 and Aim 3, Objective 1.</p> <p><i>Resource Implication:</i> officer/specialist advisor time, then additional finance</p>				
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<p>People in Northern Ireland have access to the highest quality vocational training opportunities</p>	<p>Ensure access to vocational training</p>	<p>1. Continue to offer support to the dance degree course at University of Ulster.</p> <p><i>Resource implication:</i> maintain existing financial support</p> <p>2. Work with existing vocational providers to ascertain development needs and undertake advocacy accordingly.</p> <p><i>Resource Implication:</i> officer time</p> <p>3. Liaise with specialist schools to audit provision of and demand for specialist training for pupils under the age of 16.</p> <p><i>Resource Implication:</i> officer time</p> <p>4 Work with the Northern Ireland Executive to ensure that dance students have access to</p>				
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		the necessary support to continue training. <i>Resource Implication:</i> officer time				
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Aim 4 – encourage an environment that values and supports professional development

Outcomes	Objectives	Actions	Comments	08/09	09/10	10/11
Creative talent is developed and sustained in NI	Encourage opportunities for skills development beyond vocational training provision	<p>1. Once OMAC and Crescent Arts Centre re-open, make funding available for running professional workshop and residency opportunities with companies to share expertise.</p> <p><i>Resource Implication:</i> additional finance long term</p> <p>2. If a new dance centre develops in Derry, ensure it has adequate funding to offer professional workshops and residencies.</p> <p><i>Resource Implication:</i> additional finance long term</p> <p>3. Support a programme of inspirational seminars/workshops drawing on the best talent worldwide, in consultation with the</p>				

sector, perhaps as part of the preparations of developing a role for Derry as a key hub for Dance in Northern Ireland.

Resource implication:
additional finance long term

4. Continue to support initiatives to take excellence originated in NI outside the locale so as to create greater awareness of dance in NI.

Resource Implication:
continue to make funding available for such promotional activities

<p>1. Dance artists are aware of training opportunities available in the UK and abroad and their needs are being met.</p> <p>2. Community groups who want to establish contact with a dance artist have access to an informative database</p>	<p>Ensure that dance professionals have access to information resources related to further training and opportunities to work in the community</p>	<p>1. Ensure that Dance Resource Base has sufficient resources to:</p> <p>Establish good communications within the dance community in NI</p> <p>Ensure there is a database which is readily available to community groups seeking a dance artist to work with them</p> <p>Networking events are organised</p> <p>Information services are available so that dance artists are aware of training opportunities available in the UK and elsewhere</p> <p>Shared resources are developed which are accessible to all dance artists and companies</p> <p>In the first instance this may require ACNI to offer support with capacity building within the organisations to</p>	<p>1. The sector needs to have ongoing full-time support to maximise its full potential and address the wider concerns identified in the consultation</p>	<p>10,000</p>	<p>15,000</p>	<p>20,000</p>
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		<p>prepare it to develop and grow.</p> <p>2. Support the dance sector in NI to take advantage of services available in RoI that are offered on an all-Ireland basis and consider making specific funding available to make such provision strategic rather than opportunistic.</p> <p><i>Resource implication: officer time in engaging with Dance Ireland to explore an equitable basis upon which NI dance sector can make use of these resources, followed by additional funding if required to make this viable.</i></p>	<p>2. Although the key starting point of impetus for this idea was the resource on offer on an all-Ireland basis by DanceHouse (such as access to rehearsal space and specialist classes/services) which may be necessary in the intervening period between exploring the development of a European “dance house”- type facility most likely in County Londonderry, by framing it in the context of all-Ireland links provides ACNI with a resource for leveraging/proving reciprocation with RoI, thus countering possible concerns at excessively one-way traffic.</p>	5,000	5,000	5,000
Total Resources				£115,000	£125,000	£160,000