

## ASSESSMENT CATEGORY - Older Londoners

**Ballet Rambert Ltd**

**Adv: Claran Rafferty**  
**Base: Lambeth**  
**Benefit: Several London**  
**Boroughs**

**Amount requested: £111,977**

**{Revised request: £123,855}**

**Amount recommended: £124,000**

**The Charity**

Ballet Rambert Ltd is a charitable company and trades as Rambert Dance Company. It is one of the most famous contemporary dance companies in the world and Britain's oldest, having been established by Marie Rambert in 1926. The Company is unique in that it always uses live music and is accompanied by an orchestra when touring.

**The Application**

Rambert has a thriving community programme in addition to its core performance and touring work. Each year, thousands of children, young people and adults benefit from a range of workshops, classes, residencies and summer schools. This application is to develop and extend the Company's work with older people, using dance to benefit their fitness, health and socialisation. The project (called *Dance in Health*) has been developed in consultation with NHS Trusts and local hospitals and will target people with dementia or Alzheimer's, or those with Parkinson's, and their carers. Participants will also be able to visit the Company's archive and to attend rehearsals at its new, state-of-the-art, headquarters on the South Bank.

**The Recommendation**

This project has been developed in partnership with NHS services and other charities to encompass as fully as possible the needs of a wide range of vulnerable older adults (including those with Parkinson's, Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia), and those recovering from serious illness and treatment. The programme will develop fitness, improve well-being, and encourage social interaction. Since its original submission – and following discussion with your officer – the charity has revised its request (Appendix A to the Application Form) to incorporate additional sessions and some, directly-related, core costs. Funding is advised as follows:

***£124,000 over three years (£39,000; £42,000; £43,000) for the costs of the Dance in Health project for vulnerable older people in London.***

**Funding History**

Meeting Date	Decision
17/03/2011	£50,000 towards the costs of providing disabled access to the new South Bank studios.

**Background and detail of proposal**

Rambert's Learning & Participation programme is its chief vehicle for community outreach and aims to use the power of dance to transform lives. Work with older people has been the biggest area of growth in recent years, although much of it has been short term and quite ad-hoc due to the way it has been funded. The

organisation is keen to provide more sustained activities and with a greater focus on vulnerable older adults, especially those for whom a programme incorporating movement and socialisation would be of particular benefit. Existing work with hospitals (eg Charing Cross) and charities (eg Hounslow Seniors Trust) across London has demonstrated a need for regular, professionally delivered, dance and mobility workshops and which provide opportunities for movement to music which, apparently, is very effective for the well-being of those with dementia or Alzheimer's. Whether working with healthy and fit older adults or with the frail, each session is tailored to the particular group, ensuring that the participants are challenged enough to feel the benefits and are able to enjoy the activity. Sessions are delivered by a team of freelance Animateurs – professional dancers and teachers and so called because their work combines dancing, choreography and teaching. The project will deliver over 100 sessions per year catering for up to 300 people annually.

### Financial Information

The charity's reserves policy target is to hold £650,000 in unrestricted free reserves, which equates to a modest 2.2 months' worth of total expenditure. The charity's holding of free reserves is forecast to be marginally ahead of this at £668,793 by the end of the current year.

The charity usually confirms its 'cost of generating funds' when finalising its year-end accounts and, therefore, this cost is only available for 2012/13 at this time. However, for 2013/14 and 2014/15 the charity forecasts that this cost will be similar to previous years.

Forecast income for 2014/15 amounts to £3,407,000, of which 75% (£2,543,263) was confirmed by March 2014.

Year end at 31 March	2012/13 Audited Accounts	2013/14 Draft Outturn	2014/15 Current Year Budget
	£	£	£
<b>Income and Expenditure</b>			
Income	3,192,480	3,263,000	3,407,000
Expenditure	3,059,134	3,330,000	3,476,000
Unrestricted Funds Surplus / (Deficit)	125,818	(52,972)	(221,000)
Restricted Funds Surplus / (Deficit)	7,528	(14,028)	152,000
<b>Total Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>133,346</b>	<b>(67,000)</b>	<b>(69,000)</b>
Surplus / (Deficit) as a % of turnover	4.2%	(2.1%)	(2.0%)
Cost of Generating funds (% of income)	114,601 (3.6%)	-	-
<b>Free unrestricted reserves</b>			
Unrestricted free reserves held at Year End	692,765	639,793	418,793
How many months' worth of expenditure	2.6	2.3	1.4
Reserves Policy target	650,000	650,000	650,000
How many months' worth of expenditure	2.4	2.3	2.2
Free reserves over/(under) target	42,765	(10,207)	(231,207)