



The Webster Memorial Theatre / Arbroath
Local Authority Case Study

The Webster Memorial Theatre / Dundee

The Brief

The Webster Memorial theatre was identified in 2004 as a facility that required urgent attention to bring up to acceptable standards, particularly focusing on health and safety and the Disability Discrimination Act, with the theatre facing closure if not fully addressed.

Externally the Main Façade, built in 1867 was in poor condition with the stonework badly eroded and spalling.

The Client Angus Council decided to pursue the option to fully refurbish the theatre and in addition to addressing the major problems with the above sought to take the opportunity to transform the Theatre into a modern viable facility. Improving the overall theatre experience being one of the main objectives.

The Solution

The works to the proposed theatre also led to the opportunity to improve the existing streetscape. A grant was received from the Town Heritage Initiative and this was sufficient to fully fund the renovation of the external stone work.

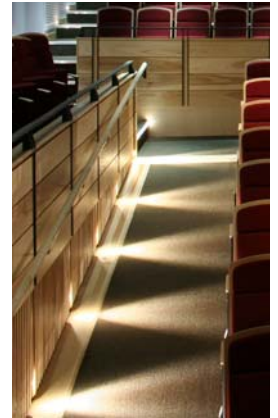
Received a range of awards since January 08

Improvements to the provision of public spaces: including creating an attractive and inviting entrance area and foyer. The main auditorium was completely remodelled to significantly enhance sightlines, lighting sound and acoustics with the provision of disabled access fully integrated with the overall design. The radical enhancements to the Assembly Hall provided additional multi function performance and conference space.

The Outcome

The Webster Theatre is now a fully operating, multi-functional and successful professional theatre that is fully accessible.

The success of the project can be demonstrated by the range of awards it has received since opening in January 2008.



Awards

The theatre has received the award for Best Example of Environmental Improvement/ Conservation 2008 from the Dundee Institute of Architects, the Ron MacFarlane Award for the Best Accessible Building in Angus in 2008 and the Angus Council 2009 Excellence Award for Project of the Year.

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