

Appendix 3

Music Service Review

The proposal detailed below aims to strengthen the music service provision and as a consequence will deliver a budget saving.

The SLA arrangement with the current provider is due for renewal and the opportunity to review the service as a whole has been taken.

Informed discussions have been undertaken with our regional partners in Gwynedd, Ynys Mon Conwy and Flintshire and our current provider William Matthias with regards to the music arrangements in place for these local authorities. A full review of the music provision within Denbighshire County Council has also been carried out recently.

The service is currently delivered in two parts:

- Part one is delivered by the local authority and this is in relation to the management of instruments and delivery of some ensembles.
- Part two is delivered by the provider and this relates to the management and organisation of the peripatetic music lessons to schools.

The review also highlighted a number of areas that could be improved by drawing up a detailed tender and specification to include clear outcomes and responsibilities as highlighted below:

1. Clarity on the management responsibilities of the peripatetic teaching service
2. Introducing an improved system within the authority for the audit and control the instruments
3. Ensuring equal access for all pupils to ensembles
4. Introducing a consistent method for setting and agreeing targets for individual pupils and reporting on pupil progress and attainment.
5. Agreeing and implementing a strategy for
 - a. increasing the numbers of pupils participating in vocal and instrument tuition and ensembles,
 - b. enhancing and extending musical opportunities for pupils at all key stages in order to promote, engage and secure improved outcomes
 - c. how numbers of ensembles will increase and develop and how the quality of musical ensembles in the pyramid of provision at area/county/regional and national level are monitored
 - d. the training programmes to be delivered to pupils and how those programmes already delivered will be maintained

It is felt that by engaging experts in the delivery of the entire service this will deliver significant improved outcomes for pupils within Denbighshire. There will be a consistent and joined up approach to developing a strategy and delivering operational priorities and it will ensure business continuity should there be staff absence. The approach will also release savings. It is recognised that there will be an impact on some of the existing staff employed by the DCC Music Service, which may include transferring employment and changes to roles.