

MAYOR AND CABINET

Report Title	Proposed Music Education Hub for Lewisham		
Key Decision	Yes		Item No.
Ward	All		
Contributors	Executive Director of Children and Young People		
Class	Open	18 January 2012	

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 *The Importance of Music* - A National Plan for Music Education was published on 25 November 2011. The Plan sets out the commitment by both the Department for Education (DfE) and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) both to recognise the importance of music in young people's lives and to ensure they receive music education of the highest quality.
- 1.2 At the heart of the Plan is the assertion that no one organisation can do this alone. It is through organisations working together in new music education hubs that opportunities reaching beyond school boundaries can be developed, drawing in the expertise of a range of education and arts partners.
- 1.3 The Plan sets out what this change will mean for schools, local authorities, local authority music services, music and arts organisations, and music teachers.
- 1.4 The DfE will continue to fund music education in the three years from April 2012. In the summer term 2012 Lewisham Music Service's DfE funding will remain in place under the same terms as now. Funding for the new hub from September 2012 will be subject to an open process run by Arts Council England. The deadline for bids is 17 February 2012, with the new hubs taking forward the work formerly carried out by local authority music services from September 2012.
- 1.5 The Arts Council Prospectus sets out the expectation that there will be fewer music education hubs than local authority areas and therefore we will be continuing to work towards closer collaboration with neighbouring hubs/LAs.

2 Recommendations

That the Mayor agrees:

- 2.1 Lewisham Music Service be the lead applicant in the borough bid because of its reach in schools, range of established partnerships and the breadth of our of school projects, ensembles and events across Lewisham; and
- 2.2 Lewisham Music Service be the lead organisation to take forward the hub bidding process on behalf of Lewisham Council and that authority to sign off the final bid be delegated to the Executive Director for Children and Young People.

3 Background

- 3.1 Lewisham Music Service was formed in 2000 and currently provides tuition and music ensemble programmes in 68 Lewisham schools and academies, in after school music centres and in a Saturday Music Centre for over 4,500 children age 7 to 18.
- 3.2 Over 2,500 KS2 children have their first experience of learning a musical instrument through our *Tune Up* whole class programme.
- 3.3 Our school projects and events support school-based choirs and ensembles in exciting performance opportunities across the borough such as *Lewisham Live*, which next March will include 13 concerts involving over 1,500 children.
- 3.4 Our teacher networks provide invaluable opportunities for school music staff across Lewisham to access CPD, to meet and to exchange ideas and resources.
- 3.5 Our partnerships with professional arts organisations such as the London Symphony Orchestra offer invaluable progression routes for gifted and talented children.
- 3.6 We manage a stock of over 3,000 musical instruments which are made available to children and young people in Lewisham.
- 3.7 We provide concessions of up to two-thirds for fees for lessons, for ensembles and for instrument hire for children on Free School Meals.
- 3.8 The new Music Education Hub will build on and develop the existing impact and reach of our programmes.
- 3.9 Through more formal and strategic work with partners, the hub will deliver good value for money, quality and consistency across a range of key areas as set out in the National Plan for Music Education. (See Appendix 1).
- 3.10 We anticipate a strengthening of our existing relationships with the London Boroughs of Greenwich, Lambeth and Southwark through the newly formed South London Music Collaborative. Although all four boroughs are proposing to submit individual bids, we anticipate that, if they are agreed, over the three year period closer working relationships

will deliver cost efficiencies in areas such as Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and instrument loans.

- 3.11 The Arts Council recognises that the timeline for bids to be formulated and submitted is such that it may not be possible to have formal partnership arrangements in place at the point at which applications are submitted. We intend to demonstrate in our bid how established our partnership arrangements are and how we propose they should develop over time. We also anticipate continuing the process of shaping and developing the Hub over the next two terms before it comes into effect in September 2012, should the recommendations be agreed and if our application is successful.

4 Procurement

- 4.1 The Music service has conducted a series of open meetings with existing and potential partners.
- 4.2 The new Music Hub operations will include commissioning services from partner and associate organisations (See Appendix 2).
- 4.3 Some partner organisations may enter into formal partnership agreements as required and these arrangements will be governed by Service Level Agreements as appropriate.

5 Financial Implications

- 5.1 Lewisham Music Service currently receives £357,030 from DfE (Music Education Grant) and £456,000 in income from schools and parents. We receive £2,500 from the Council Arts Service for projects and performance events, but no other direct Council funding apart from in-kind support for office accommodation.
- 5.2 The amount of available funding for Summer Term 2012 is £110,715.
- 5.3 The amount of funding available for the proposed Lewisham Music Education Hub is the £221,431 (Sept 2012 to April 2013), £286,573 (2013-2014) and £291,529 (2014 – 2015).
- 5.4 As the lead organisation, Lewisham Music Service would be responsible for managing the application and any grant funding that is awarded on behalf of the Music Education Hub.
- 5.5 The Music Education Hub will be managed within the grant resources available with no call upon the General Fund resources of the Council.

6 Legal Implications

- 6.1 As the lead organisation, Lewisham Music Service will be responsible for managing partnership arrangements, service level agreements and monitoring quality of delivery on behalf of the Music Education Hub.

7 Crime and Disorder Implications

7.1 None.

8 Equalities Implications

8.1 If a proposal is not put forward to the Arts Council Lewisham Music Service will lose all its core funding and will cease to exist in its current form.

8.2 This will disadvantage and disrupt the music education of over 4,500 children and young people in Lewisham as well as remove a thriving music support network for schools including Free School Meals children, children in special schools and gifted and talented children.

8.3 The *Tune Up* whole class programme which provides an opportunity for every child in KS2 to learn a musical instrument could only be provided in those schools willing to take on responsibility for the programme themselves without access to specialist Music Service support.

9 Environmental Implications

9.1 None.

10 Conclusions

10.1 Lewisham Music Service is well placed to put forward a proposal on behalf of the Council. This will secure funding for a music education hub for the borough which will support a wide, diverse range of organisations to work together to meet the core and extended areas of activity as set out in the National Plan for Music Education.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix 1 - *The Importance of Music: A National Plan for Music Education* (DfE, Nov 2011)

<http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=139&MId=2118>

Music Education Hubs – Prospectus for applicants (DfE and Arts Council, Nov 2011)

<http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=139&MId=2118>

Appendix 2 - Lewisham Music Education Hub, Draft Plan, January 2012