

- Where do we go from here?
- FMS to distribute the music grant
- The Power of Newham's Music Enraptures the Queen's Chaplain
- Preparing for hubs training

# Aspirations



## Where do we go from here?

**Virginia Haworth-Galt, FMS Chief Executive, explains some of the priorities that the National Executive has been debating since the Henley Review and the Government's response (Music Education in England) were published in early February 2011.**

Clearly, everyone involved in music education has been given much to think about. To create a new musical landscape will mean adopting more flexible attitudes and being open minded about change. Fast.

As a way of unpicking the recommendations the FMS National Executive has agreed to focus on a number of the key challenges and start the process of formulating responses and plans. Not every recommendation in the Department for Education's document is discussed in this short

paper but here is a brief summary of our thinking to date:

### **Recommendation 9**

***The provision of Music Education should remain a statutory requirement as part of the National Curriculum.***

Music Services enjoy a unique relationship with Schools and the FMS agrees strongly with the Henley Review recommendation that music remains a statutory part of the National Curriculum. The FMS believes that in order to ensure that England remains a

musical nation it is crucial that we win this debate. The FMS is working with others (including NAME, MEC and ISM), to provide clear, strong evidence and information for the Curriculum  
*Continued on page 2...*



Michael Gove, Secretary of State for Education, met with FMS members Chris Mahy, West Sussex Music Service and Tony Mealings, Oxfordshire Music Service at the recent National Association of Head Teachers Conference in Brighton where the FMS had a stand.

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Review, to prove the key role music plays within a child's education.

The Henley Review also stated that 'Music should be included as one of the subjects that go to make the English Baccalaureate.' The FMS, and others across the music education sector, agree that unless music is brought into the Baccalaureate it will seriously impact on GCSE participation and in some cases it will simply not be made available. We stated within our submission to Government that "We urge the Education Select Committee to think long and hard about why music must be included. There is so much evidence to demonstrate the literary, cognitive and social benefits that a musical education brings beyond the intrinsic joy of music in its own right. The gulf that music would leave by its absence would be catastrophic."

### Recommendation 10

***The Department for Education and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport should work together to develop a national plan for Music Education in England (the National Music Plan).***

Music Services will be one of the key stakeholders working with Government and others to develop the National Music Plan. The FMS will make sure that the development of the plan draws on the expertise and unique perspective of Music Services as music educators and quality service providers.

### Recommendation 14

***...should work together to create Music Education Hubs in each Local Authority area...***

Music Services need to play a key role in shaping the new music education landscape. They have to ensure that children access an excellent music education locally matched to educational outcomes which are determined by the National Music Plan. The Henley Review has highlighted the necessity for strong and effective partnerships creating and delivering exciting hubs to meet the needs of children within a locality. Music Services

must be at the heart of the hubs and work with others to make sure that all the music education needs of children are met. Because the needs and resources of each area will differ there can be no standard format for a hub, one size will not fit all. FMS is providing training and support materials for Music Services to assist in the development of the best hubs for each area.

### Recommendation 24

***A new qualification should be developed for music educators, which would professionalise and acknowledge their role in and out of school...***

The FMS will be included in the discussion group and would look to ensure that the views of Music Services are fully integrated into the development of this new qualification. The FMS will undertake an audit of Music Service current workforce in order to gain a clear picture of the current employment situation.

### Recommendation 27

***...It is recommended that a credible and experienced management training provider be commissioned to provide a nationwide management development scheme targeted specifically at music educators.***

The FMS has an effective leadership training programme (Rising with the Tide) and is keen to make sure that our role in supporting leadership development within the sector is recognised and further developed.

### Recommendation 28

***All music teachers should be encouraged to register on a national database, which allows them to use a kite mark. This would provide parents with a base-level of quality assurance.***

FMS is happy to work with Government to advise on the best way of moving this forward. We would want to ensure that the resulting system was valuable and linked to a genuine assessment of quality assurance.

### Recommendation 33

***As part of the National Music Plan, further work should be undertaken to develop a national plan for the use of technology in the delivery of Music Education – and to ensure that the workforce is up-to-date with latest developments...***

The FMS is keen to work with the Government and other partners to explore how technology can best be used in the delivery of music education. We will be contacting Music Services across the country to identify any Members who have specific expertise in this field and we can make sure that their knowledge and experience is utilised within the development of the national technology plan.

### Review 34

***The Music Education world is fragmented and uncoordinated. There are too many organisations that have overlapping areas of interest. These organisations need to join together to create one single body.***

The FMS notes the Government's concern about the range of music education voices and the potential for a lack of clarity. The FMS will continue to talk and work with other organisations to explore ways in which fragmentation in the music world can be lessened and co-ordination improved. We are keen to work with national partners to move music education developments forward and access the specialist skills and perspectives each one brings to benefit children's music education. The FMS is working with partners on a practical and strategic level in our training, project work and organisational development and will continue to build relationships with partners based on mutual respect and trust.



**Virginia Haworth-Galt**  
Chief Executive,  
Federation of  
Music Services

# The FMS takes key role in distributing the Music Grant

**In a move away from directly passing music service funding to local authorities, the Department for Education (DfE) has charged the Federation of Music Services (FMS) with distributing and administering the £77m Music Grant.**

Central Government is looking for real value for money and the efficiency of the FMS' Otley office has been recognised in being awarded this contract. The FMS won its spurs in successfully administering the £40m Instrument Fund over the last four years. The administration cost for undertaking this task was below 0.2% of the total budget and was handled by the FMS' office with a part time staff of just three personnel!

Perhaps more particularly the FMS has managed to build up an excellent working relationship with the membership over the last few years under the efficient eye of Sarah Adamson and her small team in Otley, near Leeds.

## Working closely with local authorities

In a bid for more efficiency and ahead of the development of a National Plan for Music to be introduced in 2012, the FMS will oversee the allocation of money to local authorities to ensure more funds reach front line services. The Grant, that will be distributed in two tranches, comes with binding commitments local authorities have to adhere to. The FMS will oversee these processes with the assistance of Richard Hallam who will be working alongside the FMS.

Virginia Haworth-Galt, the FMS Chief Executive, said: "This is a critical year for all involved in music education and we are delighted that the Government has asked the FMS to undertake this

core task at the heart of music education; this new way of administering vital funds will help create a more even distribution of the Music Grant and will mean that more money reaches schools and children. Music Services are looking forward to working with Bridge Delivery Organisations and Arts Council Portfolio Organisations amongst others to ensure that all children continue to access an excellent music education.

"Dick Hallam is a respected figure in music education and well known to local authorities; he will be supported by our team at Otley who have so successfully handled the Instrument Fund over the last four years."

Music funding and delivery was recently subject of a review by Darren Henley on behalf of Michael Gove at the DfE and Ed Vaizey at the Department for Culture Media and Sport; the total annual Music Grant has remained untouched for 2011/12 period but is now split between Music Services receiving £77m and Sing Up, In Harmony and Teach First sharing £5.5m.

# The Power of Newham's Music Enraptures the Queen's Chaplain

**The transcript below is from a recent recording of Pause for Thought on the Chris Evans' Breakfast Show on Radio 2 featuring Canon Ann Easter, Chief Executive of a Charity and Chaplain to the Queen:**

"I had a wonderful time at the weekend when I went to a concert given by young people from our local music academy.

Newham, where I live, is a poor inner London borough with more than its fair



share of gang stabbings and half of its children are brought up below the poverty line, but, on Saturday evening, 60 of Newham's finest, all smart in their black and white, concentrating like mad on the conductor and their music, performed Strauss, Tchaikovsky and Rossini like professionals.

I'm aware that learning music is good for confidence building and that learning to play together is even better as it teaches us the disciplines of team work too but, for me, to see those children's faces beaming at the audience as we rose to our feet for yet another standing ovation, was worth all the effort.

The children had made good music together; they'd played tunes which uplifted and inspired, soothed and excited and the music which they made so generously somehow showed us

something of the Eternal.

When my friend and I were discussing the music and hymns for her beloved husband's funeral later this week, we said how even just a few notes of a special tune can transport us to another place; suddenly the sounds, the smells and the people are vividly alive around us.

Music is so much more than just a few sound waves; from the lullabies for our babies to the dance tunes of our youth; the work songs of the fields and the hymns of the Cathedral, music is food for our souls.

So when we joined in about fifteen choruses of 'Thank you for the music' at the end of the concert, I was thanking Newham's bright and beautiful children and their parents and teachers who enabled it to happen, but mostly I was thanking God for a glimpse of Heaven."

**BBC  
RADIO**



# Preparing for hubs training programme kicks off

**An initial three centre training programme that focused on change management and preparing Music Services for hubs has been completed by Marc Jaffrey and his team at Think Again Media during March.**

The three introductory sessions in London, Manchester and Birmingham were attended by nearly all Music Services; they had been created to help Music Services start preparing the ground for the formation of hubs and the bidding process that will be part of the new way of working come 2012.

## More courses to come

Further courses on Partnership Development and Bid Writing (see

schedule below) are all available free to Music Services at venues around the country. In addition special 'Tool Kits' are being prepared for Hub Modelling and Bid Writing which will be made available to all Services. These will be supported by FMS mentors to provide face-to-face and on-line advice to back up this guidance in new working methods. More details to follow on these new aspects of FMS support for members.

These training sessions are being created to help Music Services recognise and tackle the challenges ahead. This will mean a fundamental shift in the way that some Music Services operate; at least it will require a mind-set change to embrace local



*Think Again Media's Mark Jaffrey*

partners and work with new people. A failure to recognise the fault lines in the new landscape could see other organisations moving into territory that has traditionally been in Music Services' gift.

**The schedule of courses is as follows:**

## Partnership Training:

- 10th May** – Prospero House, **London**
- 12th May** – The Moller Centre, **Cambridge**
- 16th May** – Maple House, **Birmingham**
- 17th May** – 3 Albion Place, **Leeds**
- 24th May** – MacDonald Hotel, **Manchester**

## Bid Writing:

- 6th June** – Bridgewater Hall, **Manchester**
- 9th June** – Engineers House, **Bristol**
- 5th July** – Prospero House, **London**
- 7th July** – Royal York Hotel, **York**
- 11th July** – Maple House, **Birmingham**
- 13th July** – Chicheley Hall, **Milton Keynes**

