
To: Education and Children's Services Policy Board

On: 24 May 2018

Report by: Director of Children's Services

Heading: Music Tuition Fund

1. Summary

- 1.1. The Council set its budget on 2 March 2018 where it allocated £200,000 of revenue resources to support a programme to increase music participation, tuition and free instrument provision across Renfrewshire schools. Council identified that the programme of support should ensure that children from lower income households continue to have access to music tuition. Council decided that a report on the delivery of this programme would be presented to a future meeting of the Education and Children's Services Policy Board.
 - 1.2. This report recommends that the additional funding allocated by Council is used to support the continuation of free music tuition for all children in Renfrewshire, support the continuation of the School Pipe Band, provide a fund to ensure that children from lower income households can have access to a personal instrument and have access to funds to maintain these instruments.
 - 1.3. The fund for providing and maintaining musical instruments will be available to children in receipt of school clothing grants.
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2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The education and children's services policy board notes that the additional funding of £200,000 will be used as follows:
 - [a] £100,000 to ensure the continuation of free music tuition for pupils in Renfrewshire's schools and provide additional music tuition to schools with high numbers of low income households;
 - [b] £70,000 to support the continuation and development of the School Pipe Band; and
 - [c] £30,000 to fund the costs and maintenance of music instruments for children from lower income households.

3. Background

- 3.1. The Council set its budget on 2 March 2018, allocating £200,000 of revenue resources to support a programme to increase music participation, tuition and free instrument provision across Renfrewshire schools. Council identified that the programme of support should ensure that children from lower income households continue to have access to music tuition.
- 3.2. Renfrewshire Council is committed to ensuring that children have access to music tuition as part of the school curriculum and that this should be provided free for all children. The additional funding allocated by Council on 2 March 2018 will ensure that no child in Renfrewshire is charged for music tuition as part of their curriculum.
- 3.3. Over the past few years a School Pipe Band has been developed in Renfrewshire, a partnership between the Pipe Band Trust, Johnstone Pipe Band and Renfrewshire Council's music service. The Pipe Band initiative has been funded through a mixture of external grant funding which is due to expire and funding from the Council. It is proposed that the continuation of the School Pipe Band is funded through the additional revenue allocated by Council on 2 March 2018. The music coordinator is presently working with Johnstone Pipe Band to commission the tuition required for piping and drums.
- 3.4. Some children in Renfrewshire have not been able to access music tuition in the past due to the cost of purchasing instruments. It is planned that schools with high numbers of low income households be given the opportunity to participate in additional music tuition and that a fund to allow the purchase of personal instruments is made available. In addition, that fund would also be available to allow children from lower income families to maintain their instruments. The maintenance fund could be used for repairs as well as replacement strings etc.
- 3.5. The fund for providing and maintaining musical instruments will be available to children in receipt of school clothing grants. The school music coordinator will promote the fund in schools so that entitled children are aware of the support available.

Implications of this report

1. Financial

Cost relating to the proposals in this report will be contained within the £200,000 allocated at Council on 2 March 2018.

2. HR and Organisational Development

None.

3. Community/Council Planning

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| Our Renfrewshire is thriving | - Ensuring that children and young people can develop and maintain their talents. |
| Our Renfrewshire is well | - Children and young people have access to appropriate activities which promote health and wellbeing. |
| Tackling inequality, ensuring opportunities for all | - The music tuition fund will allow children and young people from lower income families access musical instruments, tuition and |

support to maintain their instruments.

4. **Legal**
None.
5. **Property/Assets**
None.
6. **Information Technology**
None.
7. **Equality and Human Rights**
The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report. Services comply with the Equality Act 2010.
8. **Health and Safety**
None
9. **Procurement**
None.
10. **Risk**
None.
11. **Privacy Impact**
None.
12. **Cosla Policy Position**
None.

List of Background Papers

None.

JT
9 May 2018

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