
Report to: Cabinet

Date of Meeting: 21st July, 2016.

Subject: Sefton and Knowsley Youth Music Hub

Report of: Head of Schools and Families

Wards Affected: All

Is this a Key Decision? No

Is it included in the Forward Plan? Yes

Exempt/Confidential No

Purpose/Summary

To seek Cabinet approval for the development of a single Music Education Hub for the Local Authority Areas of Sefton and Knowsley.

Recommendations:

1. That Cabinet approves Option 3, to develop the SKY Music Hub (Sefton and Knowsley Youth Music Hub) as the single Music Hub for the two Local Authority Areas, with Sefton Council acting as the Lead Hub organisation for a trial period up until 31st March 2017; and
2. That Cabinet grants officers the authority to enter a Partnership Agreement for the joint Music Hub with Knowsley MBC.

How does the decision contribute to the Council's Corporate Objectives?

| | <u>Corporate Objective</u> | <u>Positive Impact</u> | <u>Neutral Impact</u> | <u>Negative Impact</u> |
|---|---|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Creating a Learning Community | √ | | |
| 2 | Jobs and Prosperity | √ | | |
| 3 | Environmental Sustainability | | √ | |
| 4 | Health and Well-Being | √ | | |
| 5 | Children and Young People | √ | | |
| 6 | Creating Safe Communities | √ | | |
| 7 | Creating Inclusive Communities | √ | | |
| 8 | Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening Local Democracy | √ | | |

Reasons for the Recommendation:

The creation of a single Music Education Hub across Sefton and Knowsley will improve the range, quality and impact of music education opportunities for children and young people across the two Local Authority Areas by harnessing complementary strengths.

A single music education hub for Sefton and Knowsley brings an economy of scale and therefore cost efficiencies. For example, the joint commissioning of Continuing Professional Development (CPD).

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

The Music Service is funded entirely by external grant funding or by contributions from schools, and so there are no financial implications to the Council as a result.

(B) Capital Costs N/A

The new hub will be funded by an annual grant from the Department for Education via Arts Council England and from traded activity with schools and income from parents.

The Head of Corporate Resources has been consulted (FD 4193/16) and notes that the Music Service is funded entirely by external grant funding or by contributions from schools, and so there are no financial implications to the Council as a result.

The Head of Regulation and Compliance has been consulted and has no comments on the report. (LD 3476/16)

Implications:

The following implications of this proposal have been considered and where there are specific implications, these are set out below:

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Legal- | | |
| Human Resources- | | |
| Equality | | |
| 1. | No Equality Implication | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. | Equality Implications identified and mitigated | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. | Equality Implication identified and risk remains | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Impact on Service Delivery:

Service delivery will be improved through collaborative working towards a joint strategy. For example, sharing expertise from each Local Authority Area, increasing the range of opportunities for children and young people and improving the support, training and resources available to teachers in schools.

Sefton Music Hub and Knowsley Music Education Hubs were both formed in 2012 in response to the National Plan for Music Education (DfE, 2011). It is now proposed that Sefton and Knowsley will have a single Music Hub (Sefton and Knowsley Youth Music Hub)

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

In 2015, Brighter Sound, (an independent regional music development organisation) were commissioned to undertake a strategic review of extended music education provision across Sefton and Knowsley. Parents, young people and schools were consulted widely on a range of issues. The final report made several thematic recommendations about the ways in which a joint hub could improve the quality and breadth of music education for children and young people.

Cabinet members and senior officers of both Local Authorities were consulted in Spring 2016.

Music Hub Relationship Managers from Arts Council England (ACE) have been consulted and are supportive of this initiative.

Future Consultations

Officers will consult ACE (Arts Council England) and continue dialogue with officers from other Music Hubs areas to develop a report on Option 2. This will enable Cabinet to reach a conclusion on the future delivery of the Music Hub from 1st April 2017.

Are there any other options available for consideration?

Option One

Status Quo. This would mean that (compared with Option 3) there would be fewer opportunities for children and young people and a less comprehensive offer of CPD (Continual Professional Development) for teachers in schools.

Option Two

A wider regional partnership, such as the North West or Merseyside has been considered, but there is not yet a state of readiness amongst all potential partners.

Option Three

A sub-regional partnership.

Develop the SKY Music Hub (Sefton and Knowsley Youth Music Hub) as the single Music hub for the two Local Authority Areas.

This option has the advantages of achieving a broader range of activities for Children and Young People and Professional Development opportunities for staff in schools, since costs will be shared and the duplication of activity avoided.

Shared expertise from Sefton and Knowsley will ensure stronger provision, since best practice and complementary expertise from both areas will be disseminated. This will include a joint Quality Assurance Framework and curriculum evaluation tools. There is also the potential to share resources.

Implementation Date for the Decision

Following the expiry of the “call-in” period for the Minutes of the Cabinet Meeting.

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Background Papers:

National Plan for Music Education (NPME)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-importance-of-music-a-national-plan-for-music-education>

Appendix 1 a. Sefton and Knowsley Areas of Work by Core/Extension Role and Strand

Appendix 1 b. Sefton and Knowsley Work Plan by Core/Extension Role and Strand

Appendix 2. ACE Music Education Hubs: Standard Terms and Conditions, 2016.

1. Music Hubs

1.1 Music Hubs were first formed in 2012 as a direct result of the publication and implementation of the (then) coalition government's National Plan for Music Education or NPME (2011).

1.2 The vision of the NPME is to

“enable children from all backgrounds and every part of England to have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument; to make music with others; to learn to sing; and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of excellence”. (NPME, 2011, p9)

1.3 The NPME has four more years to run i.e. up to 2020. At its inception, it sought, amongst other initiatives, to develop a network of music education hubs in England to build on the work of music services.

1.4 The Department for Education (DfE) provides ring-fenced grant funding for hubs on an annual basis to support them in the delivery of specific roles.

1.5 The music education hub grant is aligned to LA pupil populations (5-18) within one or more LA areas. The allocations are calculated by the DfE according to a national funding formula. The grant is managed by Arts Council England (ACE) on behalf of the DfE.

1.6 ACE describes music education hubs as:

“groups of organisations – such as local authorities, schools, other hubs, art organisations, community or voluntary organisations – working together to create joined-up music education provision, respond to local need and fulfil the objectives of the hub. Hubs are coordinated by the hub lead organisation, which takes on responsibility for the funding and governance of the hub.”
(<http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/music-education/music-education-hubs>)

1.7 Music education hubs are, therefore, partnerships of independent organisations that agree to work together for the benefit of children and young people.

1.8 Local Authority Music Services are the lead organisations for most music hubs.

1.9 In all cases, the hub lead organisations are accountable for the grant funding received from the DfE through ACE.

2. Music Hub Governance

2.1 An Advisory Group will work with the Hub Lead and Head of Knowsley Music and Performing Arts Service to develop plans and agree budget alignment to meet the Aims of the NPME, ACE criteria and local need.

2.2 A Hub Board; The Performance, Accountability and Development Group has been established to oversee the work of the Hub. The board will support, challenge and

scrutinise hub plans, review strategy, offer advice and monitor performance and refer matters to the Hub Advisory Group, where appropriate.

3. Sefton and Knowsley Music Services

- 3.1. Sefton Music Service and Knowsley Music and Performing Arts Service are recognised as good quality providers in their areas and will continue to be key partners in delivering the Core Roles as described in the NPME (2011).
- 3.2. Both Sefton and Knowsley Music Services will continue to operate as separate Music Services under their respective Councils policies, procedures and contractual arrangements and will continue to support schools at a local level.
- 3.3 Sefton and Knowsley will retain their separate responsibility for the operation and sustainability of their Music Services.
- 3.4 Supported by the Hub Board and Advisory Group, Managers from both Music Services will work together on cross cutting themes to enhance and develop the quality and breadth of activity for children, young people and schools.

4. Areas of focus for joint working

- 4.1 Planned areas of joint working for 2016-2017 were agreed between Senior Service Mangers of Knowsley and Sefton on 28/1/16 are shown in Appendix 1 a and b.
- 4.2 Arts Council England recognises the multiple advantages of this collaboration and is fully supportive of the new SKY Music Hub.

5. Finance

- 5.1 The total Grant for the joint hub is £592,944. This is comprised of £380,743 (Sefton) and £212,201 (Knowsley).
- 5.2 The grant will be released to Sefton Council (as the body which is accountable) upon meeting the funding conditions as set out in the ACE Music Education Hubs: Standard Terms and Conditions, 2016 (Appendix 2). Upon receipt of the payment from ACE, the appropriate funding will then be dispersed to Knowsley MBC.
- 5.3. Sefton Music Service is self-financed from external funding or school contribution and there are no annual revenue commitments to the Council to support this service.
- 5.4. However if the funding to deliver the service was to cease at some stage in the future there is a potential financial liability cost relating to a small core team of staff who are employed to monitor and deliver this activity as they are employed by the Council, but currently funded through grant funding.
- 5.5 As lead authority, Sefton will have no financial burden on it as a result of the proposals within the report.

6. Options

6.1 Option One

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6.2 Option Two

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6.3 Option Three




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Appendix

| | | |
|----|---|--|
| 1a | Sefton and Knowsley: Approach to Areas of Work/Core and Extension Roles by Strand |  Appendix 1a..docx |
| 1b | Sefton and Knowsley: Approach to Areas of Work/Core and Extension Roles by Strand |  Appendix 1b..pdf |
| 2 | Standard terms and conditions for Music education hubs |  Appendix 2. Music Education Hubs - star |