

Local Authority report based on data from October 24th 2008 returns

(Updated Jan 15 09)

1. Data

- 1.1. All Local Authorities have been in communication. Returns have been received from 136 Local Authorities of which 67 have provided information for all 5 questions, a further 19 have answered at least 4 of the 5 questions and the remaining 50 have answered some of the questions. Based on current data and projected figures:
- 1.2. In the 2007/2008 academic year
 - 1.2.1. 6,112 out of 14,928 schools (41%) were in receipt of Wider Opportunities experiences (132 LAs)
 - 1.2.2. 354,017 out of 1,957,939 Key Stage 2 pupils (18%) had received Wider Opportunities experiences by the end of the 2007 / 2008 academic year. (124 LAs)
 - 1.2.3. 271,765 out of 1,957,939 Key Stage 2 pupils (14%) will have had a first experience of Wider Opportunities in 2007/2008. As one year group represents approximately 25% of KS2 pupils. This figure represents 56% of 'eligible' pupils.
- 1.3. By the end of the 2008/2009 academic year
 - 1.3.1. 7845 out of 14711 schools (53%) of schools will have been in receipt of Wider Opportunities experiences (136 LAs)
 - 1.3.2. 698,483 out of 1,985,628 Key Stage 2 pupils (35%) will have received Wider Opportunities experiences (135 LAs)
- 1.4. By March 2011
 - 1.4.1. 10,033 out of 13,957 schools (72%) are projected to be in receipt of Wider Opportunities experiences. (108 LAs)
 - 1.4.2. 1,418,232 out of 1,616,211 Key Stage 2 pupils (88%) are projected to have been in receipt of Wider Opportunities experiences. (125 LAs)
- 1.5. Some data are insufficiently clear or have indicated the need for further monitoring and discussion, particularly in respect of standards and progression and ensemble provision. (See 5.3 below).
- 1.6. Out of 523,616 young people for whom Local Authorities have provided data regarding standards, 72% are at beginner standard; 20% are at National Qualifications Level 1 (grades 1 to 3 or GCSE grades D to G); 5% are at NQF level 2 (grades 4, 5 or GCSE grades A* to C); 3% are at NQF level 3 (grade 6 or above). There is significant variation between Local Authorities.
- 1.7. There is no apparent link between 'fair share' funding of Local Authorities and numbers of schools reached. That is, some Local Authorities that have less than their 'fair share' of the old 116a Standards Fund grant are reaching 100% of their schools whilst some Local Authorities that have more than their 'fair share' of the old 116a Standards Fund grant are only reaching 80% of schools.

1.8. The following data are based on a sample of 1,094,988 young people's engagement in music as defined by Find Your Talent. NB some of the data are estimates. Young people engage in music for up to the following amounts of time each week:

- 1.8.1. 11% up to 30 minutes
- 1.8.2. 40% up to 60 minutes
- 1.8.3. 21% up to 90 minutes
- 1.8.4. 9% up to 120 minutes
- 1.8.5. 4% up to 150 minutes
- 1.8.6. 3% up to 180 minutes
- 1.8.7. 3% up to 210 minutes
- 1.8.8. 3% up to 240 minutes
- 1.8.9. 2% up to 270 minutes
- 1.8.10. 3% up to 5 hours or more

2. 'Wider Opportunity' Programmes:

- 2.1. All colleagues feel that the programmes they are offering are now providing (or will be providing following planned changes) important and valuable music education experiences for their young people.
- 2.2. Many (but not all) programmes fulfil the original pledge that, over time, all primary pupils who wish to will be able to learn a musical instrument.
- 2.3. At present, prior to the implementation of the above changes (2.1), only 26 Local Authorities (LAs) have sufficiently meaningful and worthwhile programmes that result in more than 50% of young people continuing with enhanced music making opportunities after the first free period. A further 44 LAs have between 20% and 50% wishing to continue; 23 LAs have between 10% and 20% wishing to continue with the remaining 39 LAs below 10% or not having any data. Enquiries indicate that these numbers are an underestimate. There are a number of reasons for this including the need for:
 - 2.3.1. A clearer understanding of how this programme fits with the National Singing Programme and the statutory National Curriculum;
 - 2.3.2. More information regarding why young people do not wish to continue. (When looking at the pilot programmes, Ofsted found that between 70% and 100% of young people wished to carry on learning);
 - 2.3.3. More effective tracking of young people after the initial stage of the programme;
 - 2.3.4. Further training to support more tutors in effective large group teaching;
 - 2.3.5. Robust remissions policies that take account of the needs of the local areas;
 - 2.3.6. More imaginative uses of the Standards Fund grant 1.11 and other sources of funding to support the whole programme;

- 2.3.7. Greater understanding of additional sources of funding to support the continuation of this work.
- 2.4. Continuing Professional Development (CPD) through the Open University / Trinity Guildhall programme and the Music Service Evaluation Partner programme (MSEP), operated by the Federation of Music Services (FMS) are the routes through which we are supporting the sharing of effective practice. The Local Authority Music Plans will also begin to address these issues.
3. Data will again be collected in October next year. **Friday October 30th 2009** will be the new 'cut-off' date. By taking this decision now colleagues will be able to make appropriate plans to put in place mechanisms for collecting actual data from the 2008/2009 academic year, as well as initial factual information for the 2009/2010 academic year. This will enable decisions to be taken both at local and national levels, in the light secure information in time for the 2010/2011 financial year and for forward planning beyond 2011.
- 4. 3 Year Local Authority Music Plans**
- 4.1. See separate report
- 5. Music Service Evaluation Partner programme**
- 5.1. A thorough Quality Assurance process has been established. All evaluation summaries are checked by a central team. A final Quality assurance process, overseen by Margaret Martin Griffiths, former Senior Music HMI, will take place on January 30th.
- 5.2. Plans are in place for all Local Authorities to have been visited by Summer 2009.
- 5.3. This schedule will support all Local Authorities in identifying their local priorities and to devise plans, with clear action points and timescales, in time for submitting their 2009 Local Authority Music Plans. The proposed completion date for these plans is **Friday 18th December 2009.**
- 5.4. Data collected to date indicates that further discussions need to take place in respect of realising our vision for young people's music making and our expectations for them. We need to revisit plans for ensemble provision, standards and progression.
- 5.5. Adjustments to the funding are being made to enable services that are identified as being most in need of additional support to be able to receive it.
- 5.6. Consideration is being given to Ofsted contributing to the robustness of this programme.

Richard J Hallam MBE National Music Participation Director