



Music Service

Best Value Review

Autumn 2002

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Appendices available separately :-

- Summary of discussions with key stakeholders
- Challenge checklist
- IWMS annual survey 2002
- DfES National Music Services Survey 2002 – benchmarking data for IW Music Service
- IWMS service plan 2002/3
- Job Descriptions for:-
 - Head of Music Service
 - Senior Teacher
 - Music Advisory Teacher
 - Instrumental Teacher
 - Administrative assistant

Isle of Wight Music Service

Best Value Review

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Review Team

- Neil Courtney, Head of Music Service
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Context

The present review is a contributory part of an overall Community Development section Best Value Review.

Methodology

- Questionnaires sent to all schools and parents of service users
- Consultation with key stakeholders in each of three main school sectors (primary, middle and high schools)
- Fact-finding visit to a similar size excellent mainland unitary authority music service
- Comparison of performance with 6 other (NUB group) local authority music services
- Consultation with DfES music consultant as 'critical friend'

Main recommendations:-

- Service should be maintained at present level of activity.
- Access can be improved through:-
 - Raising awareness of fee remission scheme by increasing the number of schools taking up assistance on behalf of pupils by 25% by July 2003
 - Increasing Music Centre membership
 - Additional resources to enable improved delivery of school projects
 - Opportunities should be sought to encourage a more even balance of genders amongst instrumental students
- Need for improved liaison between schools and Music Service. Key stakeholders suggest the re-establishment of schools / music service Partnership Forum.
- IWMS should consider further expansion of Solent Music Project facilities to include a new programme of community workshops, dependent upon suitable accommodation being found
- Health & safety issues to be addressed include hearing protection for at-risk staff and a general review of risk assessment throughout the team
- Need to set up new database to aid monitoring processes (e.g. Capita EMS music module)
- Administration – additional administrative backup will be a necessity if new ICT systems are to be introduced successfully
- Buildings and resources – long-term aim should be for all IWMS administration and resources to be housed in one centrally located building.

Areas for Improvement: IW Music Service 2002/3+

Key to IWC Corporate Objectives

- 1=Improving health, housing and quality of life for all
- 2=Encouraging job creation and economic prosperity
- 3=Raising education standards and promoting lifelong learning
- 4=Creating safe and crime-free communities
- 5=Improving public transport and the highways infrastructure
- 6=Protecting the Island's natural environment

Actions	Responsible Person	Target Date	Cost Implications		Outcomes	Links to Corporate Objectives
			Capital	Revenue		
<p><u>Improving access and inclusion</u></p> <p>1. Maintain current levels of service to suit need by lobbying central government and negotiating levels of funding with LEA</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Priority level 1)</p>	HMS / J.Metcalf	Nov 2003	£100k estimated allowing for possible depletion of DfES Music Standards Fund (MSF)	N/A	Service continues as present	1, 2, 3
<p>2. Increase Fee Remission Scheme take-up from previous 25/69 schools</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Priority level 2)</p>	Head of Service (HMS)	July 2003	Existing Music Standards Fund (MSF)	N/A	25% increase in take-up	1, 2, 3

Actions	Responsible Person	Target Date	Cost Implications		Outcomes	Links to Corporate Objectives
			Capital	Revenue		
3. Raise attendance levels through existing strategies (<i>Priority level 2</i>)	HMS + team	July 2003	N/A	N/A	5% overall increase in attendance of in-school pupils at music lessons	2, 3
4. Achieve a more even gender balance across the instruments (<i>Priority level 3</i>)	HMS + team	Ongoing	N/A	N/A	More boys learning woodwind & stringed instruments	1, 2, 3, 4
5. Expand and develop Solent Music Project world music resources (<i>Priority level 3</i>)	Music Advisory Teacher	(a) January 2003 (b) July 2003	Existing MSF Existing MSF	N/A N/A	(a) Gamelan anklung in use in Island schools (b) New programme of community workshops planned	2, 3 1, 2, 3, 4
<u>Raising Standards</u> 6. Re-establish IWMS / Schools' Partnership Forum (<i>Priority level 2</i>)	HMS + Senior Teacher + Music Advisory Teacher	Sept 2003	N/A	N/A	First joint meeting to take place by October 2003	3

Actions	Responsible Person	Target Date	Cost Implications		Outcomes	Links to Corporate Objectives
			Capital	Revenue		
7. Implement revised scheme of workshops to Key Stage 2/3 pupils (<i>Priority level 2</i>)	HMS + Senior Teacher	March 2003	N/A	N/A	New programme (with strengthened links to National Curriculum) delivered to middle schools	2, 3
<u>Develop and Provide new Opportunities beyond the classroom</u> 8. Increase Music Centre membership through reduced subscription levels (<i>Priority level 2</i>)	HMS	April 2003	Existing MSF	£1k	10% increase in membership levels (up to 400) by April 2003	1, 2, 3
<u>Improve Admin. & Resources</u> 9. Acquire Capita EMS music module software (<i>Priority level 1</i>)	HMS	Sept 2003	£11.3k in first year £1.5 p.a. thereafter	N/A	New EMS module up and running for new school year 2003/4	3
10. Relocate all administration & resources to one central located building (<i>Priority level 3</i>)	HMS	N/A	N/A	N/A	All admin. & resources housed under one roof	3

Actions	Responsible Person	Target Date	Cost Implications		Outcomes	Links to Corporate Objectives
			Capital	Revenue		
<u>Health & Safety</u> 11. Provide hearing protection for at-risk music staff (percussion and brass) (Priority level 1)	HMS	Sept 2003	£1k (7 x £130)	N/A	At-risk staff protected from potentially damaging decibel levels in small rooms	1, 3
12. Acquire acoustically safe mobile music teaching rooms x 2 (Priority level 3)	HMS	Sept 2003	£30k	N/A	Safe environment for music staff at risk from high decibel levels in working environments	1, 3

History and description of the service

The IWMS as currently structured is a relatively young music service (now in its sixth year), although its roots lie in some 48 years' provision of instrumental tuition to LEA schools on the Island. The present structure (funded in part by new Standards Fund income – see below) comprises the Head of Music Service (managerial & teaching duties), one Senior Teacher (0.7 teacher/0.3 management), a part-time Advisory Teacher (0.5FTE), one additional post of responsibility and one full-time administrative assistant, in addition to 14 permanent full and part-time instrumental staff and a further flexible part-time Teaching Panel of some 17 teachers (see staff/structure table below). The Saturday morning Music Centre which meets on 24 term-time weekends in addition to occasional long-weekend courses and concert tours employs 18 part-time staff as conductors, coaches and instructors for some 400 young musicians drawn from all parts of the Island and who take part in 3 wind bands, 4 orchestras, 2 choirs, 2 recorder ensembles, keyboard and theory classes.

Until 1996 only matters directly relating to instrumental music tuition were organised on behalf of the County Music Adviser (subsequently Inspector) by the Head of Instrumental Music who also assisted the former in the week to week running of the Saturday morning County Music Centre. On the retirement of the County Music Inspector the Head of Instrumental Music continued in post but with a greatly increased brief, and was finally appointed to the new post of Head of Music Service in September 1998.

The past 6 years have witnessed the introduction of a local graded learning scheme, an expanded Assisted Purchase scheme and a comprehensive review of the local music examination syllabuses. Additionally there has been further development of existing schemes of workshops, concerts, special projects, primary classroom support and an expansion of the panel of part-time temporary contract teachers, as a result of which the Service has greatly improved the flexibility of its response to school demands. The recent increase in DfES funding through the Music Standards Fund has enabled the Service to introduce a number of further significant initiatives over the past two years. These include the Solent Music Project, a major world music collaboration with our sister services in Portsmouth and Southampton and additional subsidies for instrumental tuition. Fuller details of all these can be found under 'Recent Developments' below.

Until 8 years ago all tuition was provided free of charge, as was membership of the County Music Centre. Despite an initial falling off in demand when charges were introduced, several years of stable funding have enabled the Service to regain some of the lost ground.

The Saturday morning County Music Centre receives tremendous voluntary support from a very active and loyal Friends' Association without which the operating overheads of the Centre would almost certainly by now have begun to have an adverse effect on membership levels.

Links to corporate aims

IW Music Service makes a contribution to the Council's corporate objectives in the following ways:

Improving health, housing and the quality of life

- In addition to Music Centre public concerts many IWMS students play a central role in many local community musical institutions which in turn make a major contribution to cultural development.
- Music Centre contributes 11+ public concerts p.a. within the community and makes a significant contribution to the Island's cultural well-being

Encouraging job creation and economic prosperity

- Many IWMS students go on to pursue careers in music, either through performance or education
- Learning an instrument helps all pupils develop teamworking skills through participation in music ensembles and self-motivated initiative through music practice

Raising education standards and promoting lifelong learning

- Local Learning Scheme and linked examination structure
- Senior County Music Awards and Bursaries scheme
- Extended group lesson duration for most instruments
- Workshops and concerts to schools in all sectors (typically 60% of all LEA schools in any one academic year)
- Extra-curricular opportunities both within schools and through the work of the IW Music Centre
- Solent Music Project – world music opportunities for all pupils in all schools through partnership with Southampton and Portsmouth Music Services (see 'Developments 2000+' below)

Links to corporate aims (Raising education standards and promoting lifelong learning)
Cont'd

- Comprehensive staff professional programme through Performance Management procedures, Personal Development Plans and regular programmes of in-service training, both in-house and in partnership with Southampton and Portsmouth LEAs via Solent Music Project.
- Music Service contribution to IIP award achievement in 2002
- Highly subsidised instrumental tuition available for all LEA pupils (approx. 60% subsidy provided from central and local government support)
- Remission scheme for additional subsidy of instrumental tuition for children entitled to free schools meals
- Subsidised instrument hire scheme
- Additional subsidies for those studying minority / expensive instruments
- Remission of Music Centre fees for financially disadvantaged pupils
- Assisted Instrumental Purchase scheme (tax free)

Creating safe and crime-free communities

- IWMS provides students with a skill for life, thereby contributing to reduction in effects of crime and disorder

Improving public transport and the highways infrastructure

- Music Centre provides highly subsidised bus transport for members from all parts of the Island

Protecting the Island's physical environment : -----

Staff/structure

- Head of Service
- Senior Teacher (QTS+2)
- Music Advisory Teacher (0.5FTE)
- Instrumental staff :
 - 1 x FT (QTS+1)
 - 6 x FT (QTS)
 - 6 x PT (=3.04FTE)

 - 2 x part-time Primary Support staff (=0.32FTE)

 - 17 x part-time temporary teaching panel staff (=4.6FTE)
- 18 x part-time staff at IW Music Centre (hourly paid : 24 x 2½hrs per week)
- 1 x Administrative assistant

Job descriptions for the first four staff categories are to be found separately

Assets and Resources

Whilst the peripatetic teaching force are its biggest asset the Music Service also has the following resources:

- **Resource base at Sandown Old Town Hall** comprising a medium-sized meeting room, an interview room/office, a resource storage room and a small music library room. Most of the present accommodation is in need of renovation, but plans are now in place for all these rooms to be upgraded along with the conversion of 2 further rooms to provide a much needed improved facility for rehearsals, workshops, recording work and a home for world music resources, all of which will assist in the development of new links between the Music Service and the community.
- **Sheet music library** :The IWMS possesses some 400 sets of band and orchestral music in addition to a variety of classroom curriculum materials all of which is available to schools and Music Centre groups upon request.
- **Instrument Hire** : The IWMS provides some 450 woodwind, brass and stringed instruments for pupils to hire at nominal subsidised rates, subject to formal written agreements. Instruments are regularly serviced and maintained, and are replaced when beyond economical repair.
- **IW Music Centre equipment** includes a substantial amount of large orchestral and band percussion instruments (5 timpani, 5 drum kits, 2 xylophones, 3 glockenspiels, 1 vibraphone) as well as a number of expensive but essential 'minority' instruments including bass tubas and euphoniums, cor anglais, 'A' and Eb clarinets, 'D' and 'C' trumpets. Non-percussion instruments are loaned to Music Centre members free of charge, subject to completion of formal written agreements.
- **Solent Music Project resources** include the following world music equipment, all of which is available to schools on a carousel rotation:-

Jointly owned by IW Music Service, Southampton Music Service and Portsmouth Music Service:-

- Javanese Gamelan
- African Drums
- Caribbean Steel Pans
- South Asian Drums

Exclusively owned by IW Music Service:-

- Mini Balinese Gamelan Anklung (arriving by December 2002)
- Mini African Drums
- Mini Caribbean Steel Pans
- South American Samba instruments

Budget Outline

Following the introduction of nominal charges for services to schools and parents in the mid-nineties the DfES Music Standards Fund (MSF) was created to assist LEAs in stabilising funding levels for their music services with effect from Financial Year 1999-2000. The Fund was originally in two parts, 27a and 27b as follows:-

Fund 27a (“Protecting Local Education Authority Music Services”) equated to previous Section 22 LEA funding and was at 100%.

Fund 27b (“Expanding Local Authority Music Services”) was at 50%.

The new funding under Fund 27a (£256k) was unfortunately matched by an equivalent reduction in LEA input, although £42.4k was retained for matched funding under the 50% terms of the Fund 27b settlement. In addition a further LEA contribution of £8.9k was made to the IWMS share of the new Solent Music Project (in partnership with Southampton and Portsmouth LEAs).

Since FY 2000/1 the Music Standards Fund has been simplified by combining the previous 27a and 27b funds, although last year it still required a matched LEA contribution of the same magnitude as before.

In the present Financial Year (2002-3) this requirement has been removed and, through provision of additional government subsidy, the entire Music Standards Fund is at 100% level. It was the intention of the DfES that, in a situation where LEAs maintained their previous funding input levels, this would provide additional funding for music services. Locally this has not been the case (see table below) and the music service is experiencing flat funding levels, although inflation costs (not included in Standards Funding) have been covered by the LEA.

	<u>2001/2</u> (% of total)	<u>2002/3</u> (% of total)
LEA contribution	£149.4k (25.2%)	£107.2k (17.9%)
DfES contribution (MSF)	£307.1k (51.8%)	£358.2k (59.7%)
Income from schools	£105.2k (17.8%)	£112.3k (18.7%)
Income from families	£22.8k (3.8%)	£17.0k (2.8%)
Concert income	£8.5k (1.4%)	£5.7k (0.9%)
	-----	-----
Total	£593.0k	£600.4k

Future funding levels :

2003-4 : MSF unchanged from 2002-3 levels (no inflation)

Beyond FY 2003-4 : uncertain as the Music Standards Fund is due for a major review, using new criteria established by the creation of new National Performance Indicators referred to elsewhere in this report. As the IWMS has historically received high levels of Standards Funding it is quite likely that the LEA will be called upon to make good any shortfall caused by possible levelling out of central government subsidies, although there may be some extra help through new DfES initiatives including the Wider Opportunities Programme which launches in 2004. Prior to 1999 the LEA contributed £256k to the Music Service under Section 22 in addition to a further £51k for the Music Centre, Awards and bursaries etc. making a total LEA input of £307k. The equivalent figure for 2002-3 is down to £107k – see table above.

Current Performance / Recent Service Developments

The Service currently delivers some 2200 instrumental and vocal lessons on a weekly basis to pupils in 66 (out of a total of 69) LEA schools across all sectors (primary, middle, high and special). A full range of orchestral and band instruments is covered including strings, woodwind, brass, percussion and keyboards. In 2001-2 approximately 40% of pupils were boys and 60% girls.

Subsidised hours, at a rate of £8 per hour in 2002-3, are allocated to schools in accordance with the number of pupils on roll, with additional hours available on request at the higher rate of £18 per hour. The cost passed on to parents by schools varies but is typically in the region of £25 per term for a 25 minute group lesson and £30 per term for a 20 minute individual lesson.

IWMS staff currently teach some 12½% of all Key Stage 1-4 pupils in Island LEA schools rising to 20½% of Key Stage 2 pupils, one of the highest percentages in the country. 100% of LEA schools receive support of some kind from the IWMS. (See *Key Performance Indicators* below and full listings elsewhere in this report).

IWMS staff receive regular professional development opportunities through Performance Management and in-house / external in-service training, including links with other services through the Solent Music Project.

Services to schools, in addition to those outlined below under 'Recent Developments', include subsidised special projects and residencies by visiting professional artistes, piano tuning and maintenance and curriculum resources including an extensive sheet music library.

Services to parents and pupils, in addition to those outlined below, include a subsidised instrument hire scheme (accessed by 80% of LEA schools in 2001-2) and a Senior Music Award / Bursary scheme (recently expanded – see under 'Developments 2000+').

Developments 1996+

- **Local graded learning scheme**
- **Revised Local Music Examinations scheme** (free of charge to candidates)
- **Assisted Purchase Scheme** (VAT free instrument purchase to pupils)
- **Performance Weeks to schools**, providing instrumental family taster sessions to primary schools and instrumental and rock music workshops and concerts to middle schools (Substantially subsidised). 71% of schools received such events in 2001-2.
- **Primary curriculum support** in the classroom

Current Performance / Recent Service Developments (Cont'd)

Developments 2000+ (most of the following funded by DfES Music Standards Fund)

- **Senior Teacher** (0.3 management/ 0.7 instrumental tuition)
- **Music Advisory Teacher** (0.5) – curriculum advice and support to schools, organisation of INSET for school-based music staff, assistance with delivery of Solent Music Project (see below). In 2001-2 some 50% of all LEA schools received such input.
- **New part-time teaching posts** in a number of instrumental specialisms, enabling the service to increase the duration of most group lessons by 25% (up to 25 min. from the previous 20 min).
- **Remission scheme** - enabling students from financially disadvantaged backgrounds to benefit from substantial reductions in termly fees for tuition.
- **Minority instrument subsidies** – free introductory tuition and instrument loan on essential but large and expensive instruments.
- **Senior County Music Awards & Bursaries** providing financial support to pupils in LEA schools who show and continue to show evidence of substantial musical ability – number of awards made following competitive audition twice annually is now doubled.
- **Solent Music Project** – Joint initiative with Southampton and Portsmouth Music Services, supported by DfES Music Standards Fund. Major world music resources now available on a carousel basis to schools in the three authorities, along with regular professional in-service training from world music specialists, include :-
 - Javanese gamelan
 - African drums
 - South Asian drums
 - Caribbean steel pans

In addition the Isle of Wight Music Service possess its own sets of samba equipment, mini steel pans and mini African drums. We are also awaiting delivery of a small Balinese gamelan anklung of our own. Future plans include extending the availability of our world music resources to include community access through the refurbishment of our resource base at Sandown Town Hall.

In 2001-2 the numbers of Island schools receiving each world music resource were as follows:

<i>Javanese Gamelan</i> :	19 schools (27%)
<i>African Drums / Caribbean Steel Pans</i> :	19 schools (27%)
<i>South Asian Drums</i> :	14 schools (20%)
<i>South American Samba</i> :	5 schools (7%)

The Solent Music Project also provides regular joint INSET sessions for instrumental teachers in the three authorities and an annual conference for all 180 central and school-based music staff (to be hosted by the IW Music Service in October 2002)

Current Performance / Recent Service Developments (Cont'd)

- **IW Music Centre** – successful implementation of day and long-weekend rehearsal courses for senior groups. Reintegration of college students has resulted in a major increase in standards of performance. Youth Symphony Orchestra received a National Association of Youth Orchestras British Reserve Award in 2001 in recognition of recent developments.
Also – very successful new beginner strings group launched in September 2002.
- **Other plans** for the immediate future include greater integration of the local Learning Scheme with Federation of Music Services programmes of study in line with the new national instrumental music curriculum document 'A Common Approach' (2 members of our staff have been involved in national working parties), the introduction of new taster initiatives for a large number of Key Stage 2 pupils under the DfES Wider Opportunities Programme and the establishing of a new resource centre at our base at Sandown Old Town Hall.

- **Key Performance Indicators** :- Following the recent introduction of national music service Performance Indicators, the IW Music Service completed a comprehensive DfES survey of all aspects of service delivery in July 2002. A copy of the full return is to be found in appendix xyz (??), but six key performance indicators have been identified, which, along with 13 further indicators, will provide the Service with a sound basis for future benchmarking, which are as follows:-

Access

1. Number of pupils in maintained schools in Key Stages 1 – 4 who are receiving regular instrumental / vocal lessons from or through the Music Service as a percentage of the total pupil population @ 01/02/02
(12.47 % = 2052 pupils)
2. Number of pupils from maintained schools in Key Stages 1-4 regularly attending ensembles provided by the Music Service (*including members of orchestras, bands, choirs etc*) as a percentage of the total pupil population @ 01/02/02
(1.9 % = 314 pupils)
3. Number of schools receiving regular instrumental / vocal tuition provided by the Music Service as a percentage of the total number of schools @ 01/02/02
(96 % = 66 schools)

Breadth

4. Number of maintained schools receiving music support from the Music Service as a percentage of the total number of schools, including both instrumental and vocal lessons **and** other forms of music support (e.g. curriculum support, delivering class lessons in schools, providing concerts and workshops etc).
(100 % = 69 schools)

Quality

5. Number and percentage of regular instrumental / vocal pupils achieving National Qualifications Framework, Level 1 and above @ 01/02/02
(57 % (1170 pupils)
6. Number of instrumental / vocal lessons observed during the academic year 2001/2002 and the percentage judged to be satisfactory or better, using OFSTED criteria.
(100% of 22 lessons observed)

**Extract from National Survey of LEA Music Services: 2002:
benchmarking data**

Data for: **Isle of Wight Music Service**

“To enable LEA Music Services to compare their own performance against the national trend, a number of key questions have been selected from the Survey results and are presented in a series of cumulative ascending tables.

Please note that where two or more authorities made the same return, these have been ranked in alphabetical order. The number of “usable” replies in each case excludes authorities which entered N/A, or who left the question blank, or where outlying responses considerably distorted the national range.”

Question	Where IWMS appears when LEAs are ranked in ascending order	Total usable responses for this question	Top Quartile (✓)
Q 1.8 Total income per pupil	125	140	✓
Q 2.1 The number of KS2 pupils receiving regular instrumental / vocal lessons as a % of the total KS2 population	130	136	✓
Q 2.2 The % of primary schools which have received taster sessions over the past 12 months	87	132	
Q 2.5 The percentage of schools receiving regular instrumental / vocal tuition provided by the LEA Music Service	129	137	✓
Q 3.12 The number of pupils who have been receiving instrumental / vocal tuition for 2 years of more as % of all those learning	81	107	✓
Q 3.15 The unit cost based on total income divided by annual contact hours	102	126	✓

MUSIC SERVICE / SWOT / ANALYSIS

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
<p>Skilled and experienced core staff and management, including new Senior Teacher and Advisory Teacher posts</p>	<p>Increased service activity can impair effectiveness of delivery through pressure of time/workload</p>	<p>Retain additional staff via continuing Standards Fund and LEA support</p>	<p>Removal of Standards Fund / LEA matched funding support</p>
<p>Effective delivery of instrumental tuition (including development of IWMS Learning Scheme and expanded Senior County Music Award/Bursary schemes)</p>	<p>Quality of group tuition impaired by short lesson duration (20 min.) for some instruments.</p>	<p>Extend group lesson duration by 25% (to 25 min.) for all instruments through additional staffing supported by Standards Fund. Increase number of available awards</p>	<p>Removal of Standards Fund / LEA matched funding support</p>
<p>Instrumental tuition reaches 12%+ of total school population (all middle and high schools, 98% of primary schools and one special school)</p>	<p>Remission scheme and shortage instrument subsidies only taken up by 46% of schools in first year of scheme. Attendance levels variable – some schools less supportive than others</p>	<p>Greater inclusion and access by raising the status of instrumental tuition through improved liaison work of senior management. Greater take up of remission and shortage instrument subsidies.</p>	<p>Conflict with other areas of curriculum, especially literacy and numeracy strategies. Lack of Headteacher support in some schools.</p>

High level of performance skills within team enables delivery of very successful programme of workshops and concerts to primary and middle schools	No regular programme of events for high and special schools	Develop new programmes of workshops and concerts for high and special school sectors	Imbalance of instrumental skills within team
Established successful major world music programme (recently expanded) in collaboration with Southampton & Portsmouth Music Services .	Some resources less popular than others.	Wider use of resources, including establishing of community links.	Removal of Standards Fund / LEA matched funding support
Valuable and extensive resources including instruments and materials	Poor accommodation and outdated I.T. systems	New resource base (using legacy money + Standards Fund?) Set up new purpose-designed ICT systems to increase all-round efficiency of music service work.	Lack of funding / suitable building
IW Music Centre has a high profile and provides a benchmark for high standards in young people's extra-curricular music-making	Introduction of subscriptions four years ago resulted in an immediate fall in membership	Increased subsidy from Standards Fund to reverse recent falls in membership	Removal of Standards Fund / LEA matched funding support Increased pressure on young people's leisure time from other non-musical activities including weekend employment

Service Plan

The full 2002-3 Music Service Plan is attached separately.
In summary, the main aims for the immediate future include:-

Improving access and inclusion :-

Remissions Scheme : 25% increase in take up by schools on behalf of their pupils by December 2002

Attendance levels : 5% increase overall by December 2002

World Music :

- Add Balinese *gamelan anklung* to IWMS world music resources for schools by January 2003
- Host Solent Music Project conference locally in October 2002 (achieved)
- Initiate community links through extended world music opportunities by July 2003 (dependent upon Sandown resource base refurbishment)

Raising Standards :-

Group tuition : Improve the quality of instrumental tuition by increasing all non-individual lessons to 25 minutes by July 2003 (mostly now achieved)

Schools workshops and concerts : Revised programmes for middle and primary schools with stronger links with National Curriculum / introduction of workshops for high and special schools (work in progress)

Performance Management scheme : new structures in place and operational by July 2002 (achieved)

Improving Management Structures :

New responsibilities of Senior Teacher and Advisory Teacher to be developed and clarified by September 2002 (now achieved)

Develop and provide new opportunities beyond the classroom :-

Establish new resource base (see elsewhere in this report) (Sandown Town Hall refurbishment etc...)

Increase Music Centre membership : up 10% by December 2002

Improve ICT systems :

- Introduce new systems and enable access to all IWMS staff and customers by September 2002 (not achieved due to delays in availability of software and appropriate funding). Revised target date *September 2003*.

Partnerships

Now in its third year of existence the ***Solent Music Project***, is a successful partnership between the Isle of Wight, Southampton and Portsmouth LEA Music Services. Funding was secured from the DfES Music Standards Fund as the result of a joint bid from the three authorities in 1999-2000. As is detailed elsewhere in this report the main thrust of the Project is to provide schools in the three areas concerned with hands-on opportunities of experiencing world music. The Project provides substantial backup and professional support to music staff through teaching packs, schemes of work, and a variety of audio-visual aids (including a website) as well as frequent practical training sessions given by world music experts from many parts of the UK and abroad.

Additionally the Project provides regular in-service training days given by national figures in music education for the 60 or so instrumental staff from the three music services.

In 2001 the Project was inspected by Ofsted as a part of the review of Portsmouth Music Service and was deemed "excellent". Additionally the Secretary of State for Education made reference to the Project when citing examples of good practice regarding partnerships and collaboration between music services at a recent press conference.

The Project has just appointed a full-time Development Officer to improve resource development and promote its work on a national level.

The IWMS has also forged links over several years with the locally based Platform One youth community music organisation as well as with regularly visiting professional artistes including Robert and Andrea Oliver (Early Music Workshops) and Andy Warn (world percussion and guitar workshops).

THE REVIEW

The Challenge:-

“Should the Council provide a central music service and, if not, how else might it be provided and by whom?”

Following consultation with key stakeholders and other service users it is very apparent that, notwithstanding the areas for further development detailed elsewhere in this report, the music service is held in high regard and plays a pivotal role in the development of lifelong skills for a significant proportion of the LEA school population, as set out in the aims below (approx. 12½% of all Key Stage 1-4 pupils were studying a musical instrument with IWMS specialist staff @ 01/02/02) :-

Aims of the Music Service, all of which make strong links to the Council's third corporate objective – “Raising educational standards and promoting lifelong learning” :-

- To provide instrumental and vocal tuition to enable interested and committed pupils to benefit from musical opportunities and experiences beyond those available within the classroom.
- To encourage and develop to the full each pupil's musical potential through the provision of adequate opportunities for live music-making and listening.
- To develop through these musical activities pupils' sense of self-discipline, self-confidence, self-expression and other social skills.
- To promote and value pupils' musical understanding, skills, experience and attitude.
- To respond to pupil and school demand.
- To improve and develop the standard and quality of the service provided.

Key stakeholders point out (see summary of meetings elsewhere) that, were the Council unable to provide a central music service, specialist staff would leave the Island for more secure employment, leaving schools to make their own local arrangements for instrumental music tuition. Such provision would be inconsistent and probably sub-standard (lacking a co-ordinated approach to the development both of staff and of instrumental schemes of work in accordance with national curricular developments). It would also be expensive and elitist and would be in direct conflict with the Council's policy for greater access and inclusion. Additionally there would be no centrally co-ordinated “value added” facilities available to schools, including the Solent Music Project world music programme, concerts and workshops, assisted instrument purchase and subsidised instrument hire schemes, fee remission schemes, awards and bursaries, classroom curriculum support, professional advice and in-service training programmes, and highly regarded Music Centre.

Consultation

User Surveys

A comprehensive user survey of all Music Service activities was undertaken in the early summer of 2002 (the first of a series of annual surveys) as follows:-

- **Survey of schools :-**

Survey forms were distributed to all primary, middle and high schools (67 in all), 25 (37%) being returned.

The majority of respondents considered the activities of the music service to be good, and the IW Music Centre, Assisted Purchase Scheme and the Solent Music Project considered to be excellent.

- **Survey of parents :-**

Approximately 2000 survey forms were distributed in the summer term to instrumental/vocal teaching staff for distribution to all music service pupils. 87 (4.3%) were returned. Of these the majority indicated general satisfaction with music service activities. The few problems which were raised indicated a need for better communication and information.

A brief summary of the main findings is as follows (see attached Survey sheets for detailed breakdown) :-

- **Instrumental & Vocal tuition** was considered by those using this service :-

	Satisfactory or better	Good or better	Excellent
Parents :-	100%	87%	45%
Schools :-	100%	79%	29%

A couple of schools raised the need for greater liaison with the music service along with issues concerning early stages of tuition. One or two parents also expressed a need for better communication with their child's instrumental teacher.

- **Instrumental Hire Scheme** was considered by those using this service:-

	Satisfactory or better	Good or better	Excellent
Parents :-	98%	84%	38%
Schools :-	100%	70%	24%

Comments generally very complimentary

- **Assisted Purchase Scheme** was considered by those using this service:-

	Satisfactory or better	Good or better	Excellent
Parents :-	100%	100%	67%
Schools :-	100%	100%	57%

Comments generally very complimentary

- **Fee Remission Scheme** was considered by those using this service:-

	Satisfactory or better	Good or better	Excellent
Parents :-	98%	84%	38%
Schools :-	100%	70%	24%

Comments mostly regarding the need for raising awareness of scheme

- **Subsidy scheme for shortage instruments** was considered by those using this service :-

	Satisfactory or better	Good or better	Excellent
Parents :-	100%	82%	36%
Schools :-	100%	70%	24%

Comments mostly regarding the need for raising awareness of scheme

- **Senior County Music Awards and Bursaries** were considered by those using this service:-

	Satisfactory or better	Good or better	Excellent
Parents :-	100%	93%	47%
Schools :-	100%	100%	20%

- **Isle of Wight Music Centre** was considered by those using this service :-

	Satisfactory or better	Good or better	Excellent
Parents :-	100%	97%	61%
Schools :-	100%	100%	67%

Comments mostly regarding the need for raising awareness of scheme

- **Concerts & Workshops** were considered by schools using this service :-

	Satisfactory or better	Good or better	Excellent
Schools :-	100%	89%	33%

Comments generally complimentary

- **Solent Music Project** was considered by schools using this service :-

	Satisfactory or better	Good or better	Excellent
Schools :-	100%	100%	65%

Comments generally complimentary

- **Advice & Support** considered by schools using this service :-

	Satisfactory or better	Good or better	Excellent
Schools :-	93%	67%	27%

Comments indicated a wish for greater availability

Key Stakeholder discussions

Personal consultation with three key stakeholders (the largest schools in each of the three main sectors – Sandown High, Nodehill Middle and Nine Acres Primary) has raised the following points:

- The IW Music Service is considered excellent and generally good value when compared with other mainland services. Teaching staff are considered generally excellent and reliable. The Solent Music Project, in-house Performance Week workshops and concerts and the IW Music Centre are all highly regarded.
- Charges are considered to be very reasonable and, coupled with remission schemes, are not at prohibitive levels.
- The service is generally regarded as accessible and quick to respond to schools' concerns.

Suggestions for future development / areas of concern include:

- Re-establish schools' music service partnership forum to strengthen links and inform future music service strategic planning.
- Co-ordinate and develop area-based one-off events (e.g. primary music festivals, pyramid-based projects) possibly through an expanded role for the music advisory teacher.
- Wider Opportunities Programme (DfES funded initiative due to start in FY 2004/5) should have a significant impact on access and inclusion but only if schools are supportive and encouraging. There are still timetable conflicts over literacy and numeracy strategies in some less enlightened schools. The service will need to work with schools through new partnership initiatives to maximise the potential of the new programme.
- A small music service can have problems over supplying replacement specialist staff when teachers are ill.

(See attached summary document for a full summary of Key Stakeholder discussions)

Feedback from DfES music consultant - 'Critical friend' report

1 Aims and Objectives

The Music Service meets IW Council and Directorate aims in three principal areas:

- Inclusion - by providing a subsidised service to pupils in all schools with special provision for financially disadvantaged families.
- Standards – the achievement of standards that are high in comparison with similar LEAs through tuition and curriculum support in schools, provision for talented and gifted pupils, and a pyramid of central ensemble opportunities.
- Cultural development – making a major contribution through its work in schools, the Music Centre and music making in the community.

In addition it supports strategic aims in employment opportunities and health and safety through the wider benefits of music education, provides well established opportunities for staff development and even contributes to transport aims by providing special, subsidised buses for central music making opportunities.

2 Service improvements

The priority aims that have been identified from the service development plan relate to the above corporate objectives. These focus on:

- Access – improving take up of remission opportunities
 - increasing Music Centre membership
 - extending resources to develop school projects
- Standards – developing school music workshops
 - re-establishing school music forum
 - setting up new database system to monitor progress
- Health and Safety strategies

Target dates have been set and success will be measured through existing monitoring systems and new ones that are included in the developments.

3 Consultation and Comparisons

Consultation with stakeholders has confirmed the service's proposed developments and informed further improvements e.g. the school music forum.

The Comparison exercise with other Music Services has been useful in identifying areas of comparative strength, e.g. the percentage of pupils receiving tuition and the standards they achieve, and weaknesses in terms of management resources and accommodation.

4 The Best Value Review process and outcomes

The BVR process has been efficiently and effectively managed. The guidance given by the Directorate to the service manager has been effective in preventing the overload of time, energy and information that I have observed in a number of BVRs of mainland Music Services.

The outcome is very clearly documented and provides an occasion to celebrate the considerable achievements of the service and to support the developments that have been identified.

Douglas Potts
DfES Music Consultant

Main recommendations / findings

- Improve access through:-
 - Raising awareness of fee remission scheme by increasing the number of schools taking up assistance on behalf of pupils by 25% by July 2003
 - Increasing Music Centre membership
 - Additional resources to enable improved delivery of school projects

- Need for improved liaison between schools and Music Service. Key stakeholders suggest the re-establishment of schools / music service Partnership Forum.

- Need to set up new database to aid monitoring processes (e.g. Capita EMS music module)

- Health & safety issues to be addressed include hearing protection for at-risk staff and a general review of risk assessment throughout the team

Comparison with other services

All LEA music services were asked to complete a major survey for the DfES in the summer of 2002. This was divided into three main parts as follows:

- Section 1. Background information
- Section 2. National Performance Indicators (new)
- Section 3. Performance Data

The DfES is due to share its findings with all services before the end of 2002, providing services with clear national benchmarks against which to measure their present and future performance. For the purposes of the current Best Value Review the Isle of Wight Music Service sent a smaller survey, based on the original DfES format of *access*, *breadth* and *quality* and including 9 of the new national performance indicators, to 7 statistical neighbours, including 6 'NUB' group authorities as follows:

Bath & North East Somerset Music Service

Durham and Darlington Music Service

East Riding of Yorkshire Music Service

Hereford Instrumental Music Service

North Lincolnshire Music Service

Berkshire Young Musicians' Trust

also:

*Brighton & Hove Music Service

(see below for relevant findings)

- *A fact-finding visit was also made to Brighton & Hove Music Service as a known example of a good service of similar size to our own by the Head of Music Service and Senior Teacher (see below for relevant findings).

A summary of the main findings from the survey of statistical neighbours is as follows:-

Teachers

- The IWMS employs fewer teachers (full time equivalent) than other comparable music services but a higher proportion of them have qualified teacher status. The proportion of full time teachers is about average. There is considerable variation in the proportion of part time teachers employed on an hourly paid basis; about two thirds in the IWMS, anything from all hourly paid to almost none in other services.

Tuition charges

- Both the charges made to schools and typical charges paid by parents on the Island are among the lowest in this survey. The hourly charge quoted in the summary below is an average figure taking into account both subsidised formula hours and additional at-cost hours in response to demand from schools. The charge to pupils is an average cost passed on to parents by schools.
- Most (though not all) services surveyed (including the IW Music Service) have a fee remission policy.

Pupil numbers

- IWMS pupils form a higher proportion of the school population, especially at Key Stage 2, than in any of the comparable music services. 100% of Island schools receive music services with 96% buying instrumental tuition (2nd highest in survey group).
- The % of pupils attending music service ensembles is about average.
- In the IWMS there are three girl pupils for every two boys. This is about average for these music services.
- The IWMS has a slightly higher proportion of pupils in sixth forms, but unlike many other services has no provision for adults or young children.

Range of ensembles

- In addition to the normal range of bands and orchestras (except for brass bands), IWMS also offers gamelan, samba, steel pans, African and South Asian drums through the Solent Music Project in co-operation with Southampton and Portsmouth.

Pupil achievement

- IWMS has amongst the highest proportion of its pupils achieving National Qualification Framework Level 1 and above. It is particularly strong at Level 3.

Quality of Teaching

- Like most music services, all IWMS lessons observed were satisfactory or better (internal monitoring)

Summary of findings of comparative survey of statistical neighbours

(NPI = National Performance Indicator)

		IW	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
No. of Teachers	<i>Full time Headcount</i>	8	17	12	6	30	22	5	11
	QTS	8	7	N/A	6	21	19	4	8
	Non QTS	0	10	N/A	0	9	3	1	3
	FTE	8	15	12	6	30	22	5	11
	<i>Part time Headcount</i>	6	0	8	3	13	21	0	6
	QTS	5	0	N/A	2	7	6	0	3
	Non QTS	1	0	N/A	1	6	15	0	3
	FTE	3	0	1	1.4	6.4	8.7	0	2.65
	<i>Hourly paid Headcount</i>	28	29	55	42	17	1	53	1
	QTS	17	13	N/A	9	6		19	
	Non QTS	11	16	N/A	33	11	1	34	1
	FTE	5.8	8	16	12.6	8.8	0.01	19.3	0.1
	Total Headcount	42	46	75	51	60	44	58	18
	QTS	30	20	N/A	17	34	25	23	11
Non QTS	12	26	N/A	34	26	19	35	7	
FTE	16.8	23	29	20	45.2	30.7	24.3	13.75	
Hourly charge for tuition	£	9.53	8.43	31.68	26.00	pri 19 sec 27	10.00	18.00	14.00
Termly charge to pupils group of 4	£	25.00	42.15	65.00	NA	17.00	25.00	NA	0 – 45
<i>Duration of lesson in min.</i>		25	30	30	NA	30	25	NA	
Termly charge to individual pupils	£	32.00	84.30	158.00	NA	17.00	25.00	NA	
<i>Duration of lesson in min.</i>		20	30	30	NA	25	25	NA	
LEA / Music Service remissions policy for disadvantaged pupils		Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
KS2 pupils receiving regular instrumental / vocal lessons (NPI)		1228 20.5%	1036 11%	945 13.2%	1178 16.1%	2439 8.2%	1731 11.0%	1383 16.9%	696 8.6%
KS1-4 pupils receiving regular instrumental / vocal lessons (NPI)		2052 12.5%	2193 8%	2192 10.3%	2135 9.1%	4001 4.6%	3311 7.3%	2605 9.4%	1524 7.0%
Pupils (KS 1-4) from maintained schools attending Music Service ensembles (NPI)		314 1.9%	694 2.5%	826 3.9%	310 1.3%	1099 1.27%	403 0.89%	636 2.3%	460 2.1%
Schools receiving instrumental / vocal tuition (NPI)		66 96%	67 92%	77 93.9%	74 86%	293 99%	121 76.5%	96 93.2%	66 77.6%
Schools receiving any support from Service (curriculum support, class music, live music concerts etc.) (NPI)		69 100%	72 99%	82 100%	86 100%	296 100%	141 86.5%	97 94.2%	79 92.9%

	IW	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Range of instruments (NPI) :					inc 6 th			
Bassoon	4	6	11	6	8	12	10	5
Baritone	2		3	19		16	9	3
Cello	55	102	85	30	363	191	109	68
Clarinet	162	191	204	221	460	369	489	207
Cornet	115	7	85	109	261	70	50	43
Double bass	9	6	2	6	19	21	8	9
Euphonium	17	3	11	8	80	17	4	6
Flute	152	201	252	239	264	333	475	163
French horn	12	12	10	11	9	29	9	4
Gamelan	*		0	0			0	
Guitar	396	105	501	191	247	237	239	42
Keyboard	154	526	227	157		13	79	
Oboe	21	24	18	18	25	19	17	6
Percussion	182		112	148	131	177	127	165
Piano	20		44	37			40	
Recorder	190	16	24	133	62	42	38	35
Steel pan	*		0	0			12	
Tenor horn	9		12	27	74	33	29	18
Trombone	19	23	30	25	78	89	13	21
Trumpet	49	104	60	75	301	199	160	100
Tuba	5	2	2	3	14	8	2	2
Voice	16		124	155	194(E)	59	83	80
Viola	33	14	7	7	59	63	9	31
Violin	357	676	322	390	1332	1292	507	496
Other*		*287						
*Sax	53	*	126	108	64	59	75	35
*drumkit		*	21					
*Dhol			0					
*Fife				35				
*Flugel horn				2			2	
*Harmonica				26				
*Northumbrian bagpipes							1	
*Viola da gamba							3	
*Electric bass guitar	20							

	IW	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Range of ensembles – number of pupils taking part (NPI)								
Brass bands / ensembles		48	91	27	26		83	
Gamelan	*SMP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Guitar		6	42	17	8		20	
Jazz	14	15	16	0		20	26	39
Keyboard	17	25	0	0			12	
Orchestras	44	53	20	51	81	88	249	80
Percussion ensembles	7	3	11	4	7	20	22	
Pop / rock			3	0			10	
Recorder	24	20	52	13	5		20	
Samba band	*SMP	0	0	0	0	0	5	0
Steel band	*SMP	0	0	0	0	0	12	0
String ensembles	21	155	180	76	441	106	75	45
Wind bands	185	93	120	245	500	139	112	121
Vocal groups / choirs	22	153	129	66	147	30	65	72(E)
Woodwind ensembles		101	152	42		4	72	
Other*		*232	*54		*		9	
*kindermusic / JMW		*	*					
*music tech		*						
*drumkit tech		*						
*early music					*8			
*Primary music celebration								600
R.E. celebration								200

	IW	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Pupils achieving NQF Level 1 and above (NPI)	1170 57%	1335 58%	254 11.6%	859 40.2%	2257 56%	1508 48%	1032 39.6%	700(E) 43.6%
Level 1	865 42.2%	1019 44%	142 6.5%	640 28.9%	1861 45.4%	1508 45.5%	638 24.5%	460 30.2%
Level 2	221 10.8%	261 11%	79 3.6%	159 7.2%	308 7.52%	489 14.8%	315 12.1%	135 8.86%
Level 3	84 4.1%	55 2%	33 1.5%	60 2.7%	72 1.76%	158 4.77%	79 3%	28 1.84%
Lessons observed (internal monitoring) (NPI) % satisfactory or better	22 100%	8 100%	N/A	9 100%	77 98.2%	123 100%	55 94.5%	36 100%
Lessons observed (OFSTED monitoring) % satisfactory or better			N/A	5 100%		60 100%	3 100%	
Boys receiving instrumental / vocal tuition as a % of boy pupils in school	821 10%	1089 8%	875 8.1%	776 3.3%	1268 2.87%	915 3.63%	791 5.88%	390 3.2%
Girls receiving instrumental / vocal tuition as a % of girl pupils school	1231 15%	1214 9%	1133 10.9%	1359 5.8%	2733 6.46%	2169 8.92%	1814 12.8%	1127 9.8%
Instrumental / vocal pupils eligible for free school meals as a % of school pupils eligible for free school meals	N/A	N/A	140 9.9%	N/A	18%(E)	125 2.62%	N/A	87(E) 2.5%
Early years classes (no. of pupils)		214	51	N/A	8		30	N/A
Tuition in 6th forms	137	63	183	79	96	227	90	117
Lifelong learning for adults		71	41	8	-		22	40

Key to services in above tables:-

IW	Isle of Wight Music Service
A	Brighton and Hove Music Service
B	Berkshire Young Musicians Trust
C	Bath and North East Somerset
D	Durham and Darlington Music Service
E	East Riding of Yorkshire Music Service
F	Hereford Instrumental Music Service
G	North Lincolnshire Music Support Service

Findings from a comparison visit to Brighton & Hove Music Service

by Neil Courtney, Head of Music Service and Louis Henry, Senior Teacher on 11/10/02

- **School population :**
 - BHMS – 28000
 - IWMS – 19000

- **School structure :**
 - BHMS – Primary (Years R to 6) / Secondary (Year 7+)
 - IWMS – Primary (Years R to 4) / Middle (Years 5 to 8) / High (Year9+)

- **Staffing :**
 - Overall teaching staff levels very similar, although Brighton & Hove Music Service (BHMS) have approximately twice as many full-time staff as Isle of Wight Music Service (IWMS) and no part-time contract staff. Number of hourly paid staff is almost identical. Contact time is very similar

- **Lesson duration :**
 - BHMS = 30 min. / IWMS = 25 min (group) / 20 min. individual
 - Both services guarantee parents a minimum of 30 lessons p.a.

- **Costs to parents :**
 - BHMS charges directly to parents, whilst IWMS charges schools for tuition and parents for instrument hire (like a majority of services).
 - Charges to parents by BHMS are, at £42 per term for group and £84 for individual tuition approximately double those passed on by Isle of Wight schools.
 - **Remission scheme** – BHMS system is quite complex but does allow for greater flexibility than IWMS scheme.

BHMS scheme:-

50% exemption rate for 24% of all pupils receiving instrumental tuition (based on eligibility for Income Support / Family Credit / Working Families Tax Credit (NHS exemption)

100% exemption rate for 15% of all pupils receiving instrumental tuition (based on free school meals entitlement as on Isle of Wight)

IWMS scheme:-

£10 remission (typically 50% of fee) for those qualifying for free school meals. It should be borne in mind though that the charges to parents are much lower on the Island in the first case.

- **Funding :**

Income balance for the two services is as follows:-

	BHMS	IWMS
LEA contribution (2001-2)	8%	25%
Schools/parents/concerts	50%	23%
DfES (Standards Fund)	42%	52%

- **No. of pupils taught:**

IWMS teaches a significantly higher proportion of the school population than BHMS:-

	BHMS	IWMS
@ Key stage 2 :	11%	20.5%
Key stages 1-4 :	8%	12.5%

- **No. of schools receiving music service support** is very similar.

- **Gender balance:**

BHMS achieves a more even balance between the number of boys and girls learning instruments than IWMS, although this is probably due to local historical reasons – there being no specific service strategy.

- **Range of instruments taught:**

Broadly similar although, unlike IWMS, BHMS does not provide any vocal tuition at present.

- **Music Centres:**

BHMS has a more extensive community role than IWMS due mainly to historical reasons – such initiatives have in many cases been provided by external organisations on the Island.

BHMS has, in addition to a traditional music centre very similar in size and scope to the Isle of Wight Music Centre (approx. 400 enrolled members from a larger population base), a recently established Contemporary Music Centre (approx. 160 enrolled members).

Charges:- Subscription levels in BHMS music centres are approximately double those for IW Music Centre. There is no subsidised bus service for music centre members in Brighton.

Mid week classes are also provided for *kindermusik* as well as music tuition for adults.

- **Summer schools :**

BHMS also provides summer schools during school term time in July, which offer, at additional cost to users:-

- Folk ensembles
- Vocal ensembles
- Music theatre
- Jazz, guitar, keyboards, percussion, woodwind, strings and brass coaching.

- **Partnerships :**

Like IWMS, BHMS is a partner in a major collaborative scheme with neighbouring music services. The Rhythmix Project, in partnership with BHMS, Medway, East Sussex and Surrey music services, is aimed at reaching out to young people not currently engaging with the opportunities provided by those services.

Funding, originally from the Standards Fund (as Solent Music Project), is now provided by S.E Arts and Youth Music Action Zone. The main focus of the project is centred on the encouragement of contemporary music-making, including the use of music technology and the integration of dance and world music from other cultures (including the recent acquisition of a gamelan – cf. Solent Music Project)

- **Wider Opportunities strategies :**

BHMS provides taster sessions for primary schools with follow up parents' meetings, although this scheme is not as fully developed as that provided by the IWMS.

- **Administration :**

Whereas teaching staff levels and structures are very similar, BHMS has a significantly more extensive administrative backup team comprising :-

- Customer services / business manager (F/T)
- Project Development officer (F/T)
- Finance and buildings officer (F/T)
- Admin. Team leader (F/T)
- 3 Administrative assistants

By contrast the IWMS currently has only one administrative assistant (F/T) who receives some support from central admin. at County Hall.

- **Buildings and Resources :**

All BHMS administration and resources are based in a wing of a large primary school in a central location. BHMS accommodation includes includes :-

- Secretarial accommodation in 3 rooms
- Head of Service office
- Senior management office
- Music library
- 2 instrument storage rooms
- Recording studio
- Music technology room
- 4 large rehearsal rooms
- Recital hall

By contrast IWMS is currently accommodated in one room at the Guildhall (accommodating Head of Service, Senior Teacher, Advisory Teacher and Administrative Assistant). A separate resource base at Sandown Town Hall is shortly to be refurbished and should provide a second meeting room and a small amount of additional storage space.

- **In summary :**

- The IWMS provides a similar size of instrumental service to that of BHMS to a higher proportion of pupils in the LEA at considerably lower end-cost.
- BHMS remission scheme is more successful than that of IWMS mainly due to the direct nature of billing to parents for tuition.
- BHMS music centres are more expensive than IW Music Centre, but offer greater flexibility to a higher local population, including contemporary music and summer schools for the wider community on a considerable scale.
- Both services are involved in major collaborative partnerships with adjoining services.
- BHMS administration and buildings are considerably more extensive than those of IWMS whose current facilities are very limited by comparison.

Main recommendations / findings

- IWMS should consider further expansion of Solent Music Project facilities to include a new programme of community workshops, dependent upon suitable accommodation being found
- Opportunities should be found to encourage a more even balance of genders amongst instrumental students
- Administration – additional administrative backup will be a necessity if new ICT systems are to be introduced successfully
- Buildings and resources – long-term aim should be for all IWMS administration and resources to be housed in one centrally located building.

Competition

Options for future delivery:

- Until the early 1990's the music service received 100% of its income from the LEA. A series of budget reductions was followed by the introduction of charges to service users in 1995, at which point the future financial viability of such a central service was in some doubt. Options at the time included devolving responsibility for the provision of instrumental music tuition to schools – a high risk strategy at a time of considerable budgetary pressures on general school budgets. Since 1999 the increasing level of central funding from the DfES through the Music Standards Fund for LEA controlled music services has helped secure the future viability of such services and has led to a raft of new initiatives being available to pupils in LEA schools. It should be noted though that during this time there has been a significant reduction in the level of local authority funding on the Island for its music service. The DfES currently plans to restructure its funding for LEA music services with effect from the financial year 2003/4, using the new National Performance Indicators as a benchmark. The LEA could well be called upon to make good any shortfall as a result of such a course of action if it wishes to preserve current levels of good practice as outlined elsewhere in this report.
- As has been mentioned elsewhere (see 'Review') key stakeholders have pointed to the considerable drawbacks of a fragmented and decentralised music service without its attendant 'value added' provision. Features unique to a centrally provided music service include DfES funding and national Performance Indicators, OFSTED monitoring and support from the Federation of Music Services and partnerships with other LEA providers (e.g. Solent Music Project) along with co-ordinated services including instrumental hire and purchase schemes, remission schemes, concerts and workshops, classroom curriculum support and advice and programmes of in-service training for school music staff.
- There are alternative providers on the Island for tuition on some instruments in the form of independent self-employed teachers and, for keyboard tuition, via the Yamaha School of Music in Newport. Additionally some independent and unregulated commercial organisations exist nationally but these are unsubsidised and non-comprehensive services.
- The Music Service has a good track record over four decades and will continue striving to improve to meet current demands. The clear way forward must be continued and enhanced LEA funding for a centrally provided music service, supported by DfES central initiatives, to ensure a flexible service appropriate to the needs of Island schools in the years to come.