P-05-880 Wales is Rapidly Losing its Musical Reputation and Heritage, Correspondence - Minister for Education to Petitioner, 01.11.19

Kirsty Williams AC/AM Y Gweinidog Addysg Minister for Education

Ein cyf/Our ref KW/07347/19 Dinah Pye Senior Consultant Active Music Services

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Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

01 November 2019

Dear Dinah Pye,

Thank you for your letter of 14 October regarding music services in Wales.

As you are aware, following the Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee's report, my officials have taken forward work in this important area in response to the recommendations.

I agreed to procure an independent contractor to carry out a feasibility study to assess options for the future delivery of music provision.

I continue to recognise the current pressures facing music services, but as I have said previously, and I am sure you agree, it would be remiss of us to not explore this issue properly and thoroughly. The study has now concluded and the contractor is in the process of finalising the report. I look forward to receiving the final report shortly and will be closely examining the content and considering the future delivery of music education in Wales.

I am pleased to confirm that my officials are currently in the process of issuing the additional £1.4 million funding to local authorities to support music service provision across Wales during 2019-20.

I am aware that the petitions committee have considered the petition 'Wales is Rapidly Losing its Musical Reputation and Heritage' submitted by Active Music Services and are awaiting the publication of the music services feasibility report to consider further.

Yours sincerely,

Kirsty Williams AC/AM

Y Gweinidog Addysg Minister for Education

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We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.