



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot
Neath Port Talbot Council

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Education, Skills and Leisure Scrutiny Committee
19th March 2020

Report of the Head of Participation

Matter for Information

Wards Affected:

All Wards

Report Title Cerdd NPT Music Update

Purpose of the Report:

To present members with an update on Cerdd NPT Music

Executive Summary:

The Cerdd NPT music service is a highly skilled team of peripatetic teachers that deliver weekly high quality instrumental, vocal and full class music curriculum lessons to all primary schools, all secondary schools, one special school and Hillside Secure Children's Home in Neath Port Talbot at a very competitive rate compared to other LA music services in Wales.

Background:

The Cerdd NPT Music service was established in September 2016 as a stand-alone music service for Neath Port Talbot following the disengagement from Swansea and the discontinuation of the West Glamorgan Music Service. The service continues to work very closely with all regions within the ERW music hub.

Finance:

Core funding was originally £272,000 but since the disengagement from Swansea, by slim lining the work force, re-setting timetables and cutting travel time and costs our present core funding is £162,000. This has been off-set by £64K in 20/21 and by £62K for 21/22 by WG grants over the two years. The WG carried out a feasibility study of all music services in Wales and the results have recently been published. We are hopeful

that the results will show that core funding from WG is needed to sustain all music services in Wales.

The Service:

Present staffing levels are a Manager (teaching one day a week), two Senior Team Leaders (with one day of office time), twenty-four contracted teachers (18 FTE), two self-employed teachers and one part-time Admin officer. All contracted staff undertake performance management, administered by the Senior Team Leaders.

Our highly skilled team of peripatetic teachers deliver weekly high quality instrumental, vocal and full class music curriculum lessons to all primary schools, all secondary schools, one special school and Hillside Secure Children's Home in Neath Port Talbot at a very competitive rate compared to other LA music services in Wales. Information from our recent data tells us we deliver music provision to just under 5000 NPT children a week and 1900 of these receive small group vocal or instrumental lessons. We are in constant contact with schools in order to deliver bespoke music packages which suit the individual needs of the schools. As we are not a statutory service, 'buy back' is at the discretion of school heads and dependent on how much they value music within their school.

Cerdd NPT Music staff run two after school music centres where NPT students are invited to join one of our seven ensembles and are offered many opportunities to perform in public as well as taking part in masterclasses, residential courses and music tours. Staff also prepare students for our NPT County Exams, Trinity College, London, ABRSM, GCSE, AS and A Level practical music examinations.

Along with our long established County Youth Brass Band, County Training and Junior Brass Band and County Training Orchestra, we have established a County Youth Symphony Orchestra in 2018.

In 2019 we successfully ran a choral project and have now established a County Youth Choir who meet weekly at Dwr y Felin Music Centre. We have also established a 'Rock and Pop' centre. From March 2020 we are establishing a 'County Junior Choir' for all Year 5 and 6 NPT pupils.

Financial Impacts:

No implications

Integrated Impact Assessment:

'There is no requirement to undertake an Integrated Impact Assessment as this report is for information purposes'.

Valleys Communities Impacts:

No implications

Workforce Impacts:

No implications

Legal Impacts:

No implications

Consultation:

‘There is no requirement for external consultation on this item’

Recommendations:

Matter for information – no recommendations required.

Implementation of Decision:

Matter for information – no recommendations required.

Appendices:

None

Officer Contact:

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