

**Brighton & Hove City Council**

**For general release**

**Meeting:** Children, Families & Schools Sub Committee

**Date:** Monday 8 September 2003

**Report of:** Director, Children, Families and Schools

**Subject:** Brighton & Hove Music Service

**Wards affected:** All

**1. Purpose of the report**

- 1.1 To note the Music Service and Music Trust Annual Report.
- 1.2 To seek the approval from the Committee of the proposed integration of Brighton Youth Orchestra into the City Council's Music Service.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 That the Committee notes the attached annual report.
- 2.2 That the committee approves the proposals contained in this report for the orchestral integration with Brighton Youth Orchestra to be completed by January 2004.
- 2.3 That the Director Children, Families & Schools be authorised to enter into the agreement with the Brighton Youth Orchestra and take all other steps necessary or incidental to the implementation of the proposals.

**3. Information/background**

**Annual Report 2002/03**

- 3.1 2002 was a successful year for the Brighton & Hove Music Service, building on the recent excitement in receiving the Major Trophy from the National Music Council for our innovative programme of activities. Throughout the year we have continued to develop our on-going programme while also establishing new projects and activities.
- 3.2 The team of instrumental teachers delivered 2600 lessons to young musicians each week in our schools as well as providing over 1000 weekly activities at the two City Music Centres. We have introduced a new curriculum framework for instrumental

learning, and have developed the range of curriculum materials with the aim of developing the creative as well as the technical skills of young musicians.

- 3.3 We have continued to develop our curriculum support programme in partnership with schools to assist with the delivery of the National Curriculum for Music. The series of courses for teachers, new curriculum materials and loan scheme of specialist instruments have continued to be well supported.
- 3.4 A highlight of this year was our Discovery Recitals for Primary and Special schools. Over 3000 children had the opportunity to hear 'live' music performed by our instrumental teachers. The demand from schools for these recitals has continued to grow and we are presently planning to expand the range of ensembles to enable all schools to access this programme.
- 3.5 During 2002/03 we embarked on an ambitious programme of concerts and events. The series of seven summer concerts concluded with 400 talented young musicians performing on the newly opened Dome stage. The new academic year began with a major performance at the Corn Exchange featuring young musicians that have taken part in our Rhythmix project. Performances included World Music, Gospel singing, Samba, rock bands, Djing and Music Technology.
- 3.6 The Primary Schools Christmas Concert is always a highlight of the year and this year was not an exception. 1300 primary aged children formed into massed choir to sing a festive programme in the Brighton Centre, which was appreciated by the capacity audience.
- 3.7 In partnership with the Brighton & Hove Music Trust a number of exciting projects took place, these included Mini Music, music sessions for 0 to 5 years old children. B:Vocal a major project aimed at encourage young people to discover their voice. 270 students took part in an exciting range of courses including music theatre, vocal percussion and beat box as well as the formation of a new Chamber Choir.
- 3.8 Rhythmix2 was completed this year and we are very pleased that funding has been secured until 2005 for Rhythmix3 from Youth Music as part of their Youth Music action Zone scheme. Rhythmix2 aimed to provide music- making opportunities to 1070 and achieved 1116. For many of these young people this was the first time they had accessed a music project.
- 3.9 We have an exciting and busy schedule planned for the next academic year and the whole BHMS team are looking forward to working with schools, families and our young musicians with the aim of continuing to provide a high quality, inclusive and innovative music education programme

### **Brighton Youth Orchestra Integration**

- 3.10 A partnership for orchestral studies was launched in 2002 between Brighton & Hove Music Service (BHMS) and Brighton Youth Orchestra (BYO) with the aim of providing high quality and inclusive opportunities for orchestral training in the city. This partnership has developed positively, and it was agreed to explore how this

partnership could be further developed to ensure that students have access to a structured and progressive pathway to orchestral activities.

- 3.11 An initial meeting took place between Cllr Pat Hawkes, Chair of Brighton & Hove Music Trust, Rosalind Turner, Assistant Director of Children, Families and Schools, Glynn Jones, BYO Trust, Greg Roach, BYO Trust, Peter Chivers, Head of BHMS and Andy Sherwood, Director of BYO.
- 3.12 The group agreed an overall vision and strategic direction for greater collaboration and integration between the two organisations. A smaller working party subsequently met to discuss detailed issues regarding orchestral provision.
- 3.13 A proposal was developed to fully integrate both organisations, incorporating three orchestras as part of Brighton & Hove Music Centre membership. The first orchestra, BYO, would retain its name and would continue as the senior orchestra, with two additional orchestras being set up. Names are still to be agreed for these but working titles of Symphony 2 and Symphony 3 were agreed.
- 3.14 It is proposed that, to ensure the minimum disruption, BYO will continue to meet on Friday at its existing venue at Brighton University, Symphony 2 would continue to meet on Monday at Brighton & Hove Music Service, and Symphony 3 will meet on Tuesday at Brighton & Hove Music Service.
- 3.15 If approved the integration process would commence in September with the production of an integrated diary of events and rehearsal schedule, the orchestras would relocate and combine in October with the process being completed in January 2004
- 3.16 The proposal for staffing and conducting of the proposed orchestras is that:
- i) Andy Sherwood, current Music Director of BYO, will be employed to co-ordinate the combined BHMS orchestral programme and conduct BYO. This role will also include developing a strategy for the promotion of minority orchestral instruments and undertaking violin tuition.
  - ii) Other conductors will be employed on a part time hourly paid basis.
  - iii) As BYO do not currently employ regular sectional tutors, Brighton & Hove Music Service tutors currently employed with Brighton & Hove Youth Sinfonia and Brighton & Hove String Chamber Orchestra would tutor on the 3 new orchestras.
- 3.17 Brighton Youth Orchestra currently operates as a limited company as well as having set up Brighton Youth Orchestra Trust. BYO Trust will remain as a separate identity, and will have an on-going commitment to support the work of BYO, with a guaranteed grant of £8000 for the next two years. BYO Limited will cease as a limited company and any outstanding financial or staffing liabilities will be the responsibility of BYO Trust. There will be a written agreement to this effect before the integration commences.

3.18 It is proposed that a representative of BYO Trust be co-opted on to Brighton & Hove Music Trust and vice versa. It is intended that over time the meeting dates for both trusts would be synchronised.

3.19 The outcome of this integration will provide:

- A clear pathway of opportunity for students leading to excellence
- Integrated provision creating links with the instrumental curriculum and Music Centre activities
- Wider opportunities for students, with support through the current fee structure of B&H Music Service and the fee exemption policy.
- Staff development opportunities.

#### **4. Consultation**

4.1 Brighton & Hove Music Trust and Brighton Youth Orchestra Trust have been consulted and support the proposals outlined above.

4.2 Brighton & Hove City Council legal and finance departments have been consulted over these proposals, and it is anticipated that both organisations will be in a position to commence the integration in September 2003, once all the requirements have been met.

4.3 Brighton & Hove Music Service teachers and students have been consulted.

<b>Meeting/Date</b>	<i>Children Families &amp; Schools Sub Committee / 8<sup>th</sup> September 2003</i>
<b>Report of</b>	<i>Director</i>
<b>Subject</b>	<i>BHMS/BYO Integration</i>
<b>Wards affected</b>	<i>All</i>

**Financial implications**

*A business plan has been developed on the basis that these activities will operate at no direct cost to the Music Service, but through income from fees and a grant from the BYO Trust. Confirmation has been received from the BYO confirming the grant contribution, actual figures from previous year ends, and that there will be no bad debts once BYO Ltd is wound up  
Finance Officer contacted: Sukey Booth 7/8/03*

**Legal implications**

*Confirmation has been received regarding the BYO Trust Deeds, showing that a commitment to Brighton & Hove Music Service can be made.  
Legal Officer consulted: Anna Mackenzie 11/8/03*

**Corporate/Citywide implications**

The proposal will increase access to music education activities for young people across the city and will contribute significantly to the city wide Cultural Strategy. All activities and tutors are subject to continuous monitoring and review processes.

**Risk assessment**

All staff will be CRB checked. The financial risk has been assessed and, subject to final information being received, and a written agreement with BYO Trust, has been agreed as manageable.

**Sustainability implications**

There will be a financial commitment from BYO to at least the current level of grant for the next two years, at which point the arrangements will be reviewed.

**Equalities implications**

All activities for Brighton & Hove students will be subject to the current fee policy of B&H Music Service, which allows exemptions to students on low incomes. Efforts will be made to recruit from groups and communities currently under-represented within BYO and BHMS.

**Implications for the prevention of crime and disorder**

The service aims to promote social inclusion.

**Background papers**

Previous reports to Brighton & Hove Music Trust on collaboration with BYO

**Contact Officer**

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