

Kirsty Williams AM/AC  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg  
Cabinet Secretary for Education



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Suzy Davies AM  
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21<sup>st</sup> July 2017

Dear Suzy,

Thank you for your question in plenary on 12<sup>th</sup> July regarding how the Music Endowment for Wales will interact with existing music education provision. I promised to write to you with an update.

As you are aware the Music Endowment for Wales is in its set up phase, with work currently being taken forward on initial planning. This work is being led by the Arts Council, with milestones concerning strategy, approach and governance being achieved this autumn; with a launch to follow in November.

In order for the endowment to be attractive to donors and supporters it is crucial for it not to be seen as a replacement for any existing sources of funding from either local or central government. Therefore the remit of the endowment is being considered carefully during these planning stages, in discussion with key stakeholders and interested parties, to ensure that any objectives identified for the fund clearly differentiate it from any existing provision.

Criteria for access to the fund will be for the board, which will manage the endowment, to decide; with reference to the work carried out in the set up phase regarding the identification of clear charitable objectives.

On your second point, the core business of delivering music services to young people across Wales will remain the responsibility of Local Authorities. The Welsh Government is committed to working in partnership with Local Authorities to support music provision in schools and to enable all young people to access instrument or vocal tuition. The Music Endowment for Wales is aimed at enhancing music provision in new and innovative ways, and is not intended to replace anything currently being delivered through the Music Services.

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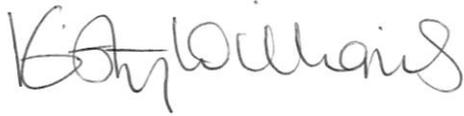
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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

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.

Finally, a number of measures to support Music Services are currently being taken forward by Welsh Government involving a range of partners, such as the Welsh Local Government Association, Arts Council of Wales and Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama; including a National Instrument Database and the National Musical Instrument Amnesty, which will take place in November.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kirsty Williams', written in a cursive style.

**Kirsty Williams AC/AM**

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