

**REPORT TO: EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 24 JUNE 2013  
POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 24 JUNE 2013**

**REPORT ON: REMOVAL OF INSTRUMENTAL TUITION FEES**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION**

**REPORT NO: 300-2013**

## **1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report seeks approval to remove all instrumental tuition fees in Dundee from session 2013/14.

## **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Committee:

- i. Notes the contents of the report
- ii. Agrees to abolish all music tuition fees in primary and secondary schools from the beginning of session 2013/14.
- iii. Request a future update from the Director of Education on the impact of the removal of tuition fees

## **3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 The cost of implementing this proposal will result in a loss of income to the Education Department in financial year 2013-14 of approximately £55,000 which will be funded from general contingency. The full year impact of this proposal would be approximately £88,000 and will be built into the revenue budget.
- 3.2 The Education Department would continue to charge for instrument hire service amounting to £83 per instrument per academic year. The approximate annual income generated from instrument hire amounts to £23,000.

## **4 MAIN TEXT**

- 4.1 Dundee City Council is committed to providing accessible, high quality arts and cultural educational experiences for all children and young people regardless of geographic or social –economic circumstances.
- 4.2 The Education Department recognise the transformative educational and social impact participation in arts and music can have on the lives of children and young people, their families and wider communities.
- 4.3 In the current economic climate the proposal will ensure all children and young people in Dundee have equality of access to tuition by removing the barrier of cost.

4.4 A National Instrumental Music Review Group was established after the Scottish Parliament debate in November 2012. The group will present its recommendations in late June 2013. The purpose of the group was to investigate Local Authorities varying charging policies and rationale across the country.

Findings of the group to date include:

- Dundee City Council was identified as being one of the top 5 charging authorities in the country with Aberdeen City being the most expensive at a figure of £344 per annum with no further exemption for SQA candidates.
- The national average for school population uptake in instrumental tuition was found to be 9.1% (by P1-P7 and S1 – S6 whole school population)
- Dundee City Council's participation uptake was identified as being above the national average at 12.8%
- In the national study, Dundee City is identified as having a high uptake of pupils undertaking instrumental instruction in the 5 primary schools with the highest percentage of free school meals and clothing grants with an uptake of 26%

4.5 Currently only those pupils who are in receipt of free school meals and clothing grants or are completing an SQA course in S4 to S6 are exempt from paying music tuition and instrument hire. This arrangement would continue.

4.6 The proposal would abolish all tuition fees from the beginning of session 2013/14 for all families. The Education Department however would continue to provide a paid for instrument hire service for those families that are not exempt as detailed in paragraph 4.5.

4.7 Currently only those pupils who are in receipt of free school meals and clothing grants or are completing an SQA course in S4 to S6 are exempt from paying music tuition and instrument hire. The proposal would abolish all tuition fees from the beginning of session 2013/14 for all families.

4.8 The Education Department would continue to provide a paid for instrument hire service in year 2013/14.

4.9 By analysis and regular statistical returns, the Instrumental Music Service has increased numbers of pupils participating and accessing tuition in harder to reach areas by targeting promotion and reviewing it's communication processes. A launch of the new policy would take place in August 2013 to ensure parents/carers were aware of how to access tuition.

## **5 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

This Report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of sustainability, strategic environmental assessment, anti-poverty, equality impact assessment and risk management. An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and is attached to this report.

## **6 CONSULTATION**

The Chief Executive, Director of Corporate Services and Head of Democratic and Legal Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

## **7 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

**MICHAEL WOOD**  
**DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION**

## EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT TOOL

### Part 1: Description/Consultation

Is this a Rapid Equality Impact Assessment (RIAT)?	Yes
Is this a Full Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA)?	
Date of Assessment: June 2013	Committee Report Number: 300-2013
Title of document being assessed: ASPIRE Dundee	
1. This is a new policy, procedure, strategy or practice being assessed (If yes please check box) <b>YES</b>	This is an existing policy, procedure, strategy or practice being assessed?
2. Please give a brief description of the policy, procedure, strategy or practice being assessed.	The report proposes to remove all music tuition fees in Dundee from August 2013.
3. What is the intended outcome of this policy, procedure, strategy or practice?	Fairness and equality of access to tuition regardless of socio-economic circumstances.
4. Please list any existing documents which have been used to inform this Equality and Diversity Impact Assessment.	Scottish index of Multiple Deprivation 2012 Analysis
5. Has any consultation, involvement or research with protected characteristic communities informed this assessment? If yes please give details.	No
6. <b>Please give details of council officer involvement in this assessment.</b>  (e.g. names of officers consulted, dates of meetings etc)	Michael Wood, Director of Education Lina Waghorn, Head of Education (Pre-school, Primary, Culture and Communication) Kenny Christie, Education Support Officer (Culture)
7. <b>Is there a need to collect further evidence or to involve or consult protected characteristics communities on the impact of the proposed policy?</b>  (Example: if the impact on a community is not known what will you do to gather the information needed and when will you do this?)	Ongoing monitoring of update and participation in musical tuition across Dundee

## Part 2: Protected Characteristics

Which protected characteristics communities will be positively or negatively affected by this policy, procedure or strategy?

**NB Please place an X in the box which best describes the "overall" impact. It is possible for an assessment to identify that a positive policy can have some negative impacts and visa versa. When this is the case please identify both positive and negative impacts in Part 3 of this form.**

**If the impact on a protected characteristic communities are not known please state how you will gather evidence of any potential negative impacts in box Part 1 section 7 above.**

	Positively	Negatively	No Impact	Not Known
Ethnic Minority Communities including Gypsies and Travellers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender Reassignment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religion or Belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
People with a disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Socio-economic	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pregnancy & Maternity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please state)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Part 3: Impacts/Monitoring



<p><b>1. Have any positive impacts been identified?</b></p> <p>(We must ensure at this stage that we are not achieving equality for one strand of equality at the expense of another)</p>	<p>This policy will ensure all children have equality of access to music tuition in Dundee</p>
<p><b>2. Have any negative impacts been identified?</b></p> <p>(Based on direct knowledge, published research, community involvement, customer feedback etc. If unsure seek advice from your departmental Equality Champion.)</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>3. What action is proposed to overcome any negative impacts?</b></p> <p>(e.g. involving community groups in the development or delivery of the policy or practice, providing information in community languages etc. See Good Practice on DCC equalities web page)</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>4. Is there a justification for continuing with this policy even if it cannot be amended or changed to end or reduce inequality without compromising its intended outcome?</b></p> <p>(If the policy that shows actual or potential unlawful discrimination you must stop and seek legal advice)</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>5. Has a 'Full' Equality Impact Assessment been recommended?</b></p> <p>(If the policy is a major one or is likely to have a major impact on protected characteristics communities a Full Equality Impact Assessment may be required. Seek advice from your departmental Equality lead.)</p>	<p>No</p>
<p><b>6. How will the policy be monitored?</b></p> <p>(How will you know it is doing what it is intended to do? e.g. data collection, customer survey etc.)</p>	<p>Ongoing evaluation and monitoring.</p>

Part 4: Contact Information

Name of Department or Partnership	Education Department
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Type of Document	
Human Resource Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>
General Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strategy/Service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Change Papers/Local Procedure	<input type="checkbox"/>
Guidelines and Protocols	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Manager Responsible</b>	<b>Author Responsible</b>
Name: Michael Wood	Name: Lina Waghorn
Designation: Director of Education	Designation: Head of Education
Base: Dundee House	Base: Dundee House
Telephone: 433071	Telephone: 43718
Email: michael.wood@dundeecity.gov.uk	Email: lina.waghorn@dundeecity.gov.uk

Signature of author of the policy:		Date: 12/6/13
Signature of Director/Head of Service:		Date: 12/6/13
Name of Director/Head of Service:	Michael Wood	
Date of Next Policy Review:		