



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Learning from the impact of a two-year project embedding arts-based teaching in five additional support needs schools across South and East Ayrshire.

Purpose: To identify an experienced evaluator to support Live Music Now Scotland (LMNS) in capturing evidence on a two-year project funded by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation's Teacher Development Fund. The project is a partnership between Live Music Now Scotland (LMNS), South Ayrshire's Creative Learning Network and five additional support needs schools and units.

The project places a LMNS musician in each school once a week for 20 weeks each year for two years. The musicians and teachers will focus on collaborating to identify ways to teach areas of the curriculum creatively through the medium of music. This is with the intent that the teachers will gain the confidence, skills and experience to sustain arts-based teaching following the end of the project.

Through evaluation, we want to know how effective this model of collaboration is between the teachers and musicians and what impact it has:

1. On the teachers' confidence in using music, any changes in their teaching approach and the sustainability of this learning
2. Subsequently on the students' communication and language skills

1. Strategic Overview

A Background to the fund

Paul Hamlyn Foundation was established by Paul Hamlyn in 1987. Upon his death in 2001, he left most of his estate to the Foundation, creating one of the largest independent grant-making foundations in the UK.

Their mission is to help people overcome disadvantage and lack of opportunity, so that they can realise their potential and enjoy fulfilling and creative lives. They have a particular interest in supporting young people and a strong belief in the importance of the arts.

The purpose of PHF's Teacher Development Fund is to support delivery of effective and sustainable arts-based teaching and learning opportunities in the primary classroom, and to embed learning through the arts in the curriculum. It aims to do this through supporting teachers and school leaders to develop the necessary skills, knowledge, confidence and experience.

Each year it makes around six grants of up to £150,000 to partnerships of arts/cultural organisations and five to ten schools, who work together for two academic years, and participate in a shared Cohort Learning Programme.

The fund also runs an Evaluation Support Scheme which involves evaluation consultants contracted by PHF working with each of the TDF projects in bespoke ways throughout the two years, to offer additional support and guidance on reflection, evidence-gathering, learning and evaluation.



B Background to Live Music Now Scotland (LMNS) & South Ayrshire's Creative Learning Network (CLN)

Arts-based learning is at the heart of Live Music Now Scotland. It is a key objective to share high-quality live music with people throughout our communities, especially those who wouldn't normally have access to music as part of their daily lives. We achieve this by delivering meaningful participatory performances, workshops and residencies, embedding the power of music in our audiences' curriculum and/or care. Our second objective is to provide performing experience, training and support to exceptional, specially recruited musicians at the start of their careers.

South Ayrshire's Creative Learning Network sits within South Ayrshire Council. Funded by Creative Scotland and Education Scotland, it brings learning in and through the arts to schools across the local authority. Creative Learning Networks across Scotland encourage collaborative working across the Education, Culture and Communities sectors and bring together those with an interest in children and young people's creative learning. Their aim is to build young people's confidence, achievements and skills for future life and work.

C Background to the partnership

This project is an exciting collaboration between Live Music Now Scotland, South Ayrshire's Creative Learning Network and five additional support needs schools and units. Using the medium of music; the LMNS musicians, classroom teachers and primary children will journey together to explore how music can support and develop the students' language and communication skills over the course of two years. They will collaborate to create a rich, aesthetic learning environment where collectively they can learn, share, reflect and grow together. The music will have an emphasis on song and songwriting, providing a supportive environment to develop speech, vocabulary, confidence and life skills. The project will involve 4 Live Music Now Scotland musicians; 5 ASN schools/units; 26 classroom teachers; and approximately 110 children with additional support needs

We strongly believe in the power of music and advocate the impact of our work delivering high-quality live music to those who are usually excluded from accessing it. Findings from the project will allow us to deepen our understanding of our ASN work, develop and grow from it and advocate for future work.

Project aims:

STUDENTS

- Bring high-quality, rich arts learning opportunities to all primary age children learning in five additional support needs units and schools, providing a space to develop their musical and wider skills, confidence and creativity.

TEACHERS

- Create a safe space for classroom teachers to:
 1. Explore different approaches to the teaching and learning of language.
 2. Be supported to make music with participants of all ages and levels of ability.

Teacher training will take place through observing and collaborating with their visiting musician; taking part in regular training; and access to LMS designed resource packs. We hope to increase teachers' confidence in arts-based learning approaches, provide them with the skills and confidence to integrate music into their teaching practice, and create a strong legacy of musical resources including storytelling and music-making that will impact their future students.



MUSICIANS

- Create a safe space for LMNS musicians to:
 1. Broaden their understanding of an ASN school curriculum; work with a wide range of student needs; and learn from the classroom teachers' invaluable knowledge and experience.
 2. Broaden their experience in engaging ASN pupils through music and learn to integrate this into their future music delivery: training will include storytelling, song writing, Makaton Level 1 and collectively developing the theme of a project.
 3. Invest in their professional development, gain the confidence and experience to train future LMNS musicians and enhance future projects that they are involved in.

SCHOOLS

- Support school leaders to evaluate the impact of arts-based learning, exploring how these approaches could embed the arts into their schools' curriculum.

LMNS & SAC CLN

- Act as a catalyst for LMNS and South Ayrshire Council's Creative Learning Network to advocate this model of peer learning between teachers and musicians and subsequently the power of music in aiding language and communication skills in an ASN setting.

D Role of the research

Live Music Now Scotland's work in additional support needs schools has grown in recent years from one-off participatory performances to providing residencies in ASN schools, care homes and other community settings for four weeks up to as many as twenty weeks.

We have designed the programme as an action research informed approach to ensure that we learn all we can from the impact of this project and that we fully support the teachers, musicians and children involved as it progresses. Although the main focus of our project is teacher development, we anticipate that teachers will be gathering insights into the impact of their changing pedagogy on children's learning as part of their learning. Starting with a baseline assessment of teachers' confidence and skills that is flexible and responsive, followed by reflective enquiry throughout, we will be able to adapt our approach and training over the two years.

E Evaluation aims

The conclusion of the evaluation will allow us to deepen our understanding of our work in additional support needs schools and settings, develop and grow from it and advocate for future work. To expand on this, we hope that the findings will be used to inspire and influence LMNS' future delivery with teachers and schools and in tailoring our musicians training. It will also act as a tool to advocate to all of Scotland's local authorities and partners for future projects; similar models of peer learning between teachers and musicians; and the benefits of embedding the arts into a schools' curriculum.

2. Evaluation design and methods

We are seeking to commission an experienced individual (or team) to collaborate with us in evaluating our approach to teacher development and sharing formative insights during the development of the project. The role will include:

- Advising LMNS on the evaluation methods and data needed; how to capture this in a realistic way taking into account teacher time restraints and a large number of students; analysing the data; and guiding LMNS on how to adapt the evaluation flexibly as the project progresses.



- Providing input and attendance to some of the teachers' training in order to observe and capture data on the process. Teachers and musicians will come together four times per year; at two INSET days and two Twilight sessions each year.
- Live Music Now Scotland being responsible for collating and monitoring the weekly written feedback and being on the ground observing sessions in practice and recording verbal feedback.

NOTE: The Paul Hamlyn Fund evaluation support team who will be advising LMNS on this aspect of the project and the evaluator will have opportunities to influence the approach used.

1. Reporting requirements

- Ongoing informal updates with the General Manager from Live Music Now Scotland.
- Review at end of Year 1 to monitor progress and inform adaptations for Year 2 as necessary.
- Final end of project report to be delivered by the completion date.
- Up to three physical presentations to be delivered on date(s) to be mutually agreed; this includes a presentation to the Live Music Now Scotland Board of Trustees and a presentation at a celebration event at the end of the project presenting the findings to local authorities and partners.

2. Data ownership and copyright

Data ownership and copyright will always remain with Live Music Now Scotland and South Ayrshire's Creative Learning Network. A contract with standard terms and conditions will be provided when the work is awarded.

3. Required timeline

Activity will commence in January 2023 after the successful candidate has been appointed, or as close to this date as agreed by Live Music Now Scotland and the successful candidate. The completion date will be September 2024, unless another date is mutually agreed.

4. Payment schedule

The full contract will not exceed £10,000 to include all activities outlined in sections 2 and 3 and all associated expenses. Associated expenses include but are not limited to: VAT, travel, printing, postage, fees for online platforms or software.

Payment will be staged and due upon completion of agreed tasks. The Provider should invoice Live Music Now Scotland for payment, which be issued within 28 days of the invoice.

7. How to apply

In responding to this request, applicants should provide:

- Your understanding of the evaluation questions and subject area.
- A detailed plan of how the evaluation will be carried out including your methodology, ideas for embedding ongoing reflection, any anticipated problems and suggestions for alternative approaches.
- A commitment to costs; to complete the work outlined in the brief, giving a separate breakdown of anticipated expenses.
- A CV of the organisation and/or person(s) who will carry out the work with evidence of relevant experience and quality of completed work in the subject area.
- Two referees for similar work.



8. Criteria for awarding contract

The process for awarding the contract will be:

- i. The submission of a written response as outlined in Section 7 'How to Apply'.
- ii. Shortlisting the written responses based on the following criteria:
 - Proof of understanding of the enquiry/evaluation questions and subject area
 - Quality, scope and relevance of the evaluation plan
 - Evidence of experience conducting similar work with other organisations, including research skills and methods, and evidence showing how this work has helped them to reach their goals
 - Commitment to meeting the schedule of work and costs outlined
 - Quality, scope and relevance of CV
 - Two references for similar work
- iii. An interview with the General Manager of Live Music Now Scotland and South Ayrshire's Creative Learning Network Lead.

9. Submission of tender

Proposals must be submitted by **5pm** on **Wednesday 7th December 2022** to:
Sophie Rocks, Project Administrator, E: sophie.rocks@livemusicnow.scot

If you would like to discuss this brief further, please contact Lesley-Ann to arrange an appointment:
Lesley-Ann Smith, General Manager, E: lesleyann.smith@livemusicnow.scot

Successful applicants will be notified of their interview date by **Friday 9th December 2022**. The interview and presentation will take place at Ayr Town Hall or online on **Tuesday 13th December 2022**.