

IIA Statement

Instrumental Music Service (IMS)

An IIA for the Instrumental Music Service (IMS) saving of £500k was completed in January 2020. In approving the saving it was agreed that £150k would be delivered in 2021/22 with a further £350k in 2022/23. It was also agreed that parents/carers, school and IMS staff would be consulted on the options, which include the introduction of charging for school Instrumental Music lessons. The IIA was not published as the saving did not start until 2021/22.

A great deal has changed since January 2020 when the original IIA for IMS was completed. Covid-19 continues to impact significantly on IMS (locally and nationally) as well as on families generally. This is particularly relevant in the context of the IMS budget cut and delivery options. The consultation scheduled to begin in April 2020 was paused due to lockdown and school closures. During February/March 2021, parents/carers, school and IMS staff will be consulted on the saving, the impact of Covid and the options to introduce charging and reduce staffing.

The feedback from this consultation will inform how the Instrumental Music Service needs to be re-shaped to deliver the saving, the affordability and level of charges required and the impact on families. This information will be used to carry out a new IMS IIA as the impact is likely to be very different to that of January 2020.

Andy Gray

Head of Schools and Lifelong Learning