



Department for Education
Sanctuary Buildings
Great Smith Street
London SW1P 3BT

19 June 2014

Consultation on Savings to the Educational Services Grant for 2015-2016

The Music Publishers Association (“MPA”) welcomes the opportunity to respond to the consultation on proposed cuts to the educational services grant.

We are supporters of the ‘Protect Music Education’ campaign and share the concerns of other members of the music industry with regards to the proposed cuts to music education funding as put forward in the consultation.

The music publishing industry has a long history of supporting music education through the provision of high quality music materials for young musicians. Our community believes passionately in the importance of access to music education for all, and view that the provision of music services by music hubs to be a vital part of the offering we are able to give our children in this country.

The National Plan for Music Education set out some clear principles surrounding the importance of children having access to music services. It was also clear from the plan how the new music hubs should be funded – with a mix of financial support from the Department for Education, schools, parents and local authorities. The proposal in the current consultation that “music services should now be funded through music education hubs..and from school budgets, not from the ESG”, will undoubtedly put yet further pressure on funding for the provision of and access to high quality music teaching for young people.

We ask that the Department for Education withdraw their proposal and recommend that local authorities continue to fund their music services.

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ABOUT THE MPA:

The Music Publishers Association (“MPA”) is the trade association for music publishers in the UK, with over 270 members, representing nearly 4,000 catalogues covering every genre of music. Our members include all three of the UK’s “major” music publishers, independent pop publishers, classical publishers, production music publishers and also printed music publishers. We estimate that our members represent around 95% of publishing activity in the UK.

The vast majority of our member companies are small or medium sized enterprises. Many of our member companies are multi-disciplinary music companies, operating not just as music publishers but as record labels, managers, promoters, producers, manufacturers, distributors and retailers.

The MPA is the owner of the Mechanical Copyright Protection Society (MCPS) and of Printed Music Licensing Limited (PMLL), which licenses the copying of sheet music in schools.