

Instrumental Music Services

Results from the IMS
Survey May-July 2017



Contents

Introduction	5
Instrumental Music Services Charging Policies and Procedures	7
Charging rates	7
Concessions	9
Percentage of IMS pupils receiving concessions/exemptions	10
Number of IMS Pupils	15
Selection Procedures	20
Other Variations in IMS Policies	22
Revenue and Budget Allocations	24
Instrumental Music Instructors	26
Reviewing Practices	28
Monitoring Standards/Quality of Tuition	30
Summary	32



Introduction

The National Instrumental Music Survey was first introduced in 2013 to share information regarding the provision of local authority-led Instrumental Music Services in Scotland. This is the fifth consecutive year of the annual survey which includes information on tuition fees, concession rates, instrument hire and loan procedures, pupil numbers, costs of services, instructor numbers, and additional activities. A new question was introduced in 2017 to capture how services monitor quality and performance—this information will be used to consider opportunities for the introduction of quality measures in future iterations.

The survey is carried out by the Improvement Service on behalf of Heads of Instrumental Teaching Scotland (HITS). The following report highlights key results from the 2017 survey which was issued to Instrumental Music Service managers in May 2017 for the year 2016/17. Changes in policies and practices over the past five years are monitored where applicable.

Instrumental Music is a discretionary service provided by all local authorities in Scotland and is separate to the music curriculum taught within the classroom. This survey concentrates solely on these discretionary services, outwith Youth Music Initiative (YMI) funded tuition and the music curriculum.



Instrumental Music Services Charging Policies and Procedures

Charging policies for instrumental music tuition vary broadly across Scotland: from no charges in some local authority areas to over £300 per year in others. The following section outlines current and previous tuition fees and concession policies.

Charging rates

Although the survey primarily concerns the previous academic year—2016/17—any known updates regarding charging policies are also provided for the current year. Twelve¹ local authorities changed their tuition rates for the current academic year (2017/18). Among these authorities, tuition fees in:

- Renfrewshire were removed. Tuition is now provided free of charge
- Aberdeenshire, Inverclyde, Stirling, and Argyll & Bute increased roughly in line with inflation
- Shetland increased by £5 (3.7%) for group lessons to £135 per pupil, and by £10 (5.6%) for individual lessons to £190 per pupil
- East Dunbartonshire also increased by £5 to £170 per pupil, per year
- Moray increased by 5% to £264.60 per pupil, per year for group lessons, and £378 per pupil, per year for individual lessons
- Scottish Borders increased by 6% to £140 per pupil, per year
- Clackmannanshire and Highland increased by approximately 10% to £258.50 and £318 respectively
- Fife increased by £40 (22%) to £220 per pupil, per year

Among local authorities that charge for tuition, the average fee for group lessons in 2017/18 (£212 per pupil, per year) increased by approximately 4.7% on 2016/17 fees (£203). This follows an increase of 10.5% the previous year. In general, larger changes in tuition fees were experienced in 2016/17 than 2017/18. Charging rates within several local authorities increased significantly in 2016/17 and have remained the same in 2017/18.

The current cost of tuition for group lessons, among charging local authorities, ranges from £117 to £318. Table 1 displays current and previous instrumental music tuition fees across local authorities in Scotland.

¹ This includes local authorities that increase their fees in line with inflation every year

Table 1: Instrumental music tuition charges, 2012-2017

Cost per pupil, per year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Highland	£252	£252	£264	£264	£290.40	£318
East Renfrewshire	£160	£180	£200	£250	£300	£300
Aberdeen City	£272 group, £340 individual	£272 group, £340 individual	£272 group, £340 individual	£272 group, £340 individual	£272 group, £340 individual	£272 group, £340 individual
Moray	£201 group, £300 individual	£201 group, £300 individual	£210 group, £300 individual	£210 group, £300 individual	£252 group, £360 individual	£264.60 group, £378 individual
Clackmannanshire	£220	£222	£228	£230	£235	£258.50
Stirling	£189 group, £309 individual	£189 group, £309 individual	£240 group only	£246	£252	£258
Perth & Kinross	£245.85	£245.85	£245.85	£245.85	£245.85	£245.85
Angus	£183	£192	£201 + £30 hire	£210 + £30 hire	£231 + £30 hire	£231 + £30 hire
Argyll and Bute	£138	£142.15	£146.40	£150.80	£226.20	£232.98
Fife	£125	£125	£125	£140	£180	£220
Aberdeenshire	£192 group, £284 individual	£196 group, £292 individual	£200 group, £300 individual	£204 group, £304 individual	£208 group, £308 individual	£216 group, £316 individual
South Lanarkshire	£180 (£60 per lesson block)	£180	£180	£210	£210	£210
Dumfries & Galloway	£130 + £47.15 hire	No charge, hire	No charge, £48.50 hire	No charge, £48.50 hire	£200	£200
North Ayrshire	£120	£140	£160	£180	£180	£180
East Ayrshire	£100 group, £150 individual	£100 group, £150 individual	Single fee £150	£180	£180	£180
East Dunbartonshire	£140	£140	£160	£160	£165	£170
Falkirk	£44.40 group, £178.20 individual + £20.40 hire	£140*	£140	£140	£156	£156
North Lanarkshire	£150	£150	£150	£150	£150	£150
Shetland	£140	£140	£160	£129 group, £172 individual	£135 group, £180 individual	£140 group, £190 individual
Scottish Borders	£125	£125	£125	£125	£132	£140
Inverclyde	£95.50	£98	£100	£110	£114	£117
Dundee City	£132 + £83 hire	No charge, £83 hire	No charge, £83 hire	No charge, £83 hire	No charge, £83 hire	No charge, £83 hire

Cost per pupil, per year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Eilean Siar	No charges for lessons in Wind, Brass, Gaelic Singing or Piping. In the 2016/17 session pupils were charged for fiddle and guitar lessons in the Nicolson including those sitting SQA exams on those instruments. Charges for these lessons were set at £12.50 per lesson. There are on average 32 lessons per year, costing £400 per pupil per year. Group lessons were £200 per pupil per year.					
Renfrewshire	£150	£150	£150	£150	£150	No Charge
Midlothian	£150	£160	£168	£84	No Charge	No Charge
Orkney	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge
Edinburgh	No charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge
Glasgow	No charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge
South Ayrshire	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge
East Lothian	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge
West Dunbartonshire	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge
West Lothian	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge

* Instrument loan provided free of charge for up to a year

Similar to previous years, all Instrumental Music Services in Scotland also provide at least some form of instrument loan or hire policy. These policies vary: within some local authorities instruments are available for all instrumental music pupils for the duration of their tuition; within others an instrument is available for a pupil's first year of tuition, while within others there is a limited supply of instruments available. In the case of the latter, music services often try to support pupils through purchasing schemes or assisting with private hire providers. Several services also consider individual circumstances and try to accommodate for pupils who are unable to purchase their own instrument. A couple of music services charge an additional fee (from £30 to £83 per year) for hiring an instrument but these are available for all pupils for the entire duration of their tuition. Details of these policies are available in the appended summary tables.

All Instrumental Music Services in Scotland also provide a range of additional activities. These activities include school and regional orchestras; ensembles; bands and groups, and concerts and residential courses. Although in some areas some of these activities incur an additional fee—for example, for residential courses—the majority are provided free of charge. Over the course of 2016/17 at least 16,603 pupils participated in additional activities run by Instrumental Music Services. Further details including staff allocations, funding, and pupil numbers for these activities are available in the appended summary tables.

Concessions

All charging local authorities provide some form of concession for pupils from low-income households and pupils sitting SQA music exams. Several also offer discounted rates for second and subsequent siblings receiving instrumental tuition with their service. The majority provide complete exemption from charges for pupils from low-income households, often determined by Free School Meal Entitlement (FSM).

Within the three local authorities that do not offer complete exemption, discounts apply:

- Falkirk offers concession rates of £60.45 per year for pupils entitled to Free School Meals and/or Clothing Grant.
- Clackmannanshire offers a 50% concession rate for pupils from households entitled to Housing Benefit or Income Support (£117.50 per pupil, per year in 2016/17, £115 per pupil, per year in 2015/16).
- Stirling offers two concessionary rates. Pupils in receipt of free school meals and/or clothing grant are offered a concessionary rate of £66 per year (£22 per term). Pupils whose families are in receipt of housing benefit, council tax reduction/benefit or education maintenance allowance are offered a concessionary rate of £189 per year (£63 per term).

A number of local authorities provide a variety of other concessions. Among these:

- North Lanarkshire Council offers full exemption from tuition fees for pupils with Additional Support Needs and a 50% discount on a second instrument.
- Inverclyde Council offers full exemption for Primary School Pupils.
- Argyll and Bute offers a 50% discount for pupils learning the bagpipes (Argyll Piping Trust Subsidy).
- Renfrewshire and Inverclyde offer 1-year free tuition to new starts and Shetland offers a free first term.
- Scottish Borders offers a discount rate of £80 per year for new starts.
- In Highland, exemptions may be requested from the Highland Instrumental Unit. The process requires support from the music instructor or head teacher.
- North Ayrshire and Shetland Islands offer full exemption from tuition fees for children who are looked after by the local authority.

There is a unique case in Comhairle nan Eilean Siar whereby some pupils in some schools choose to attend fiddle, piano or guitar lessons during school hours, provided by independent tutors. Up to the end of 2016/17 all pupils, including those sitting SQA music exams, paid for this tuition (£12.50 per lesson). At the time of writing the Instrumental Music Service was hoping to ensure that in the future there would be no charges for pupils sitting SQA music exams. The Instrumental Music Service itself does not charge for lessons, all other lessons (including those in wind, brass, Gaelic singing, and piping) are provided free of charge for all instrumental music pupils.

In Dundee, instrumental music tuition is provided free of charge to all pupils but hire fees still apply if pupils choose to hire an instrument. This fee is waived for pupils living in low income households (less than £15,800 per year) and for pupils studying SQA music.

Percentage of IMS pupils receiving concessions/exemptions

Table 2 displays the number and percentage of instrumental music pupils who received concessions or exemptions from fees in 2016/17. The number of instrumental music pupils includes all pupils who received instrumental music lessons with the local authority service at some point over the course of 2016/17. These figures include pupils who received lessons in music centres if these lessons were part of the core service but do not account for other pupils who took part in additional activities.

Table 2 - Number of IMS pupils who received concessions/exemptions

Local Authority	No. of IMS pupils 2016/17	No. of IMS pupils who received concessions/exemptions in 2016/17	Total no. and % of IMS pupils who received concessions
Aberdeen City	3371	1369	1369 (41%)
Aberdeenshire	3060	402 SQA music pupils	1091 (36%)
		159 FSM	
		530 Sibling Discount	
Argyll and Bute	1141	104 SQA Music Pupils	167 (15%)
		63 Benefit Exempt	
Clackmannanshire	392	137 SQA music pupils	148 (38%)
		11 concession rate	
Dumfries & Galloway	1166	202 SQA Pupils	320 (27%)
		118 FSM	
East Ayrshire	1242	143 SQA Music Pupils	424 (34%)
		196 Benefit Exempt	
		85 Sibling Discount	
East Dunbartonshire	1382	176 SQA music pupils	344 (25%)
		56 FSM	
		112 Sibling Discount	
East Renfrewshire	1732	378 SQA music pupils	637 (37%)
		66 FSM	
		193 Sibling Discount	
Falkirk	2057	320 SQA	441 (21%)
		121 FSM/Clothing Grant	
Fife	4434	428 SQA music pupils	1150 (26%)
		722 FSM	
Highland	3100	145 SQA music pupils	539 (17%)
		42 Special Exemption	
		352 Benefits	
Inverclyde	958	162 SQA Music Pupils	763 (80%)
		211 Trialist	
		341 Primary	
		49 FSM and/or Clothing Grant	

Local Authority	No. of IMS pupils 2016/17	No. of IMS pupils who received concessions/ exemptions in 2016/17	Total no. and % of IMS pupils who received concessions
Moray	815	82 SQA music pupils 65 FSM	147 (18%)
North Ayrshire	1555	343 SQA Music pupils 308 Free School Meals 1 Looked After Child 11 Sibling Discount	663 (43%)
North Lanarkshire	3409	926 SQA Music Pupils 603 FSM/CG 79 Sibling Discount 52 ASN 407 1-year YMI 46 Second instrument	1706 (50%) (exc. 407 YMI)
Perth & Kinross	1762	SQA music pupils FSM	
Renfrewshire	1532	c.400 SQA Music Pupils 162 FSM 29 Sibling Discounts 402 new recruits exemption	c. 993 (65%)
Scottish Borders	906	134 SQA Music Pupils 80 FSM 40 Clothing Grant 8 Siblings	262 (29%)
Shetland	721	103 SQA 39 FSM/CG	142 (20%)
South Lanarkshire	2990	1500 SQA music pupils 70 FSM 550 P5 exemptions (YMI)	1570 (53%) (exc. 550 YMI)

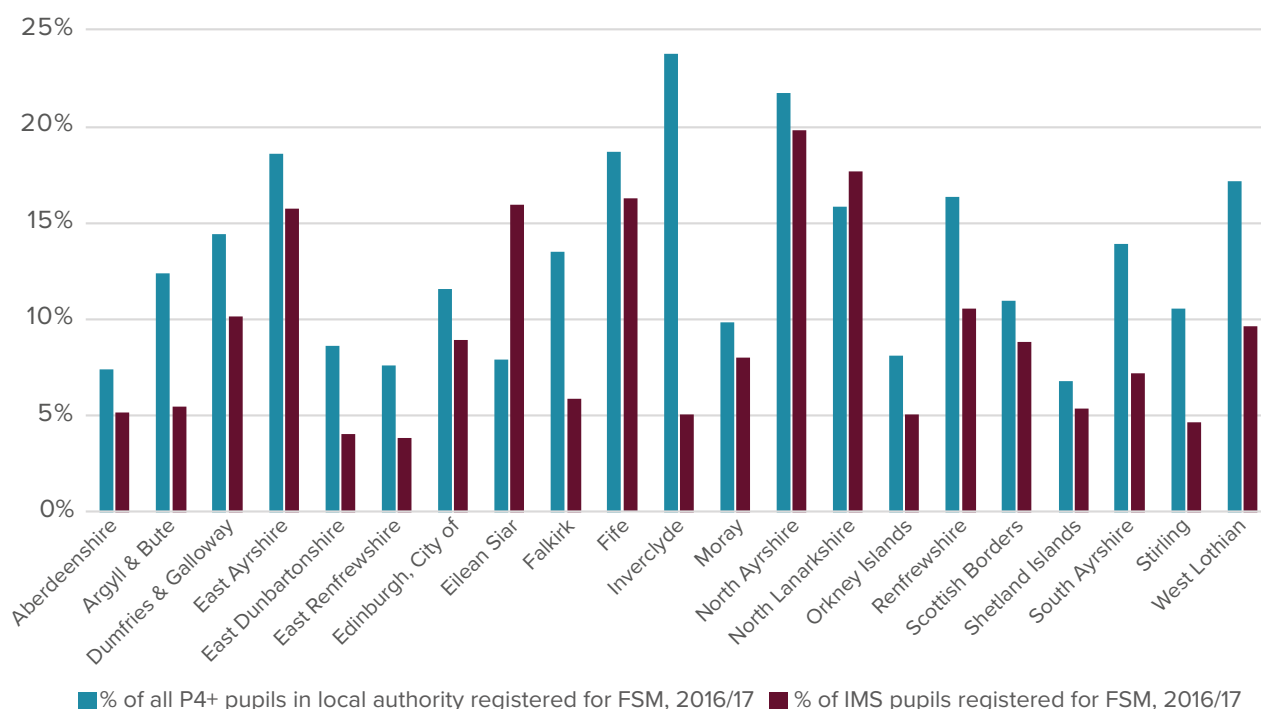
Across Scotland 61,615 young people participated in instrumental music lessons at some point over the course of 2016/17. Among these at least 12,876 (21%) pupils received some form of concession or exemption from tuition fees.

Free School Meal Entitlement (FSM)

Figure 1 displays the percentage of instrumental music pupils registered for free school meals

compared to the total percentage of pupils—in Primary 4 (P4) and above²—registered for free school meals in the local authority. This gives an indication of whether pupils registered for free school meals are under- or over-represented in the service. Please take caution when comparing these percentages: many local authorities are unable to provide robust figures for free school meal entitlement, particularly those that do not charge for instrumental music tuition. Although many other authorities record this information for concession purposes, it is not necessarily documented if other exemptions already apply (for example, for pupils sitting SQA music exams); real figures are therefore likely to be significantly higher.

Figure 1 - % IMS FSM compared to total % FSM in the local authority



The percentage of pupils registered for free school meals (FSM) varies between Instrumental Music Services and local authority areas. In some cases the percentage of instrumental music pupils registered for FSM is relatively similar to or higher than the proportion for the whole authority but in others it is significantly lower. As noted, however, these figures should be used with caution.

A number of Instrumental Music Services now maintain an SIMD profile of Instrumental Music pupils in order to monitor uptake and access by levels of deprivation. These figures are compared with the broader local authority profile to evaluate whether some areas are under- or over-represented in the service.

² The percentage was taken from Primary 4 and above because all pupils in Primary 1-3 are entitled to Free School Meals in Scotland.



Number of IMS Pupils

In 2016/17 61,615 pupils participated in instrumental music lessons with their local authority service at some point over the course of the year. This equates to approximately 9.1% of the total 2016 primary and secondary school roll.

Table 3 displays annual numbers of pupils who received instrumental music lessons from 2012/13 to 2016/17. These figures include pupils who may have dropped out over the course of the year and exclude YMI and additional activities. Pupils who took part in additional activities but did not receive instrumental lessons are not included in these figures.

Table 3 - Number of Instrumental Music Pupils

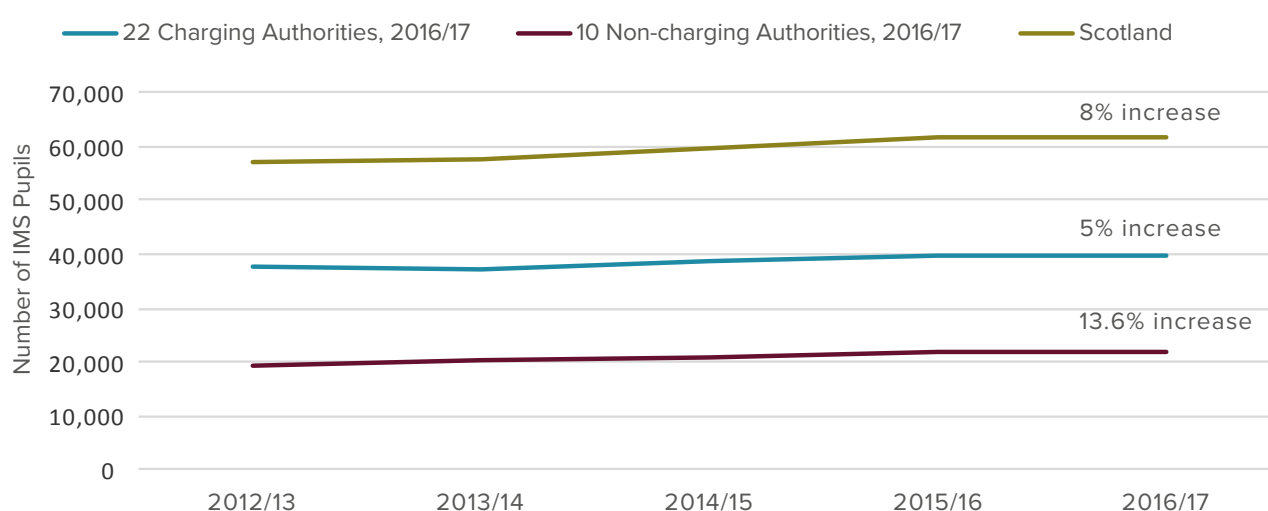
Local Authority	Number of IMS Pupils				
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Aberdeen City	2760	2642	2255	2500	3371
Aberdeenshire	3389	3025	2955	2576	3060
Angus	1500	1200	1434	1146	932
Argyll & Bute	1258	1435	1334	1226	1141
Clackmannanshire	432	448	345	444	392
Dumfries & Galloway	1210	1317	1552	1294	1166
Dundee	2200	2669	2938	3538	3677
East Ayrshire	1147	783	823	1002	1242
East Lothian	1284	1318	1327	1331	1341
East Renfrewshire	1942	1938	1904	2010	1732
Edinburgh	4758	4912	5215	5,100	5,089
Eilean Siar	360	500	500	766	2323 (inc. Gaelic Singing)*
Falkirk	1142	965	1376	1950	2057
Fife	3494	3161	3332	4415	4434
Glasgow	4538	4551	4573	4597	4919
Highland	3100	3200	3400	3450	3100
Inverclyde	1015	1300-1400	1677	1388	958
Midlothian	1100	1100	1221	1312	1302
Moray	850	850	893	910	815
North Ayrshire	1570	1627	1554	1487	1555
North Lanarkshire	3853	3670	3685	3599	3409
Orkney	498	500	531	581	646

Local Authority	Number of IMS Pupils				
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Perth & Kinross	1590	1605	1690	1711	1762
Renfrewshire	1050	1280	1534	1546	1532
Scottish Borders	716	862	895	995	906
Shetland Islands	662	561	570	724	721
South Ayrshire	1222	1319	1240	1126	1266
South Lanarkshire	2957	3029	3035	3050	2990
Stirling	810	844	844	898	950
West Dunbartonshire	964	891	941	926	1034
West Lothian	2448	2395	2468	2397	2194

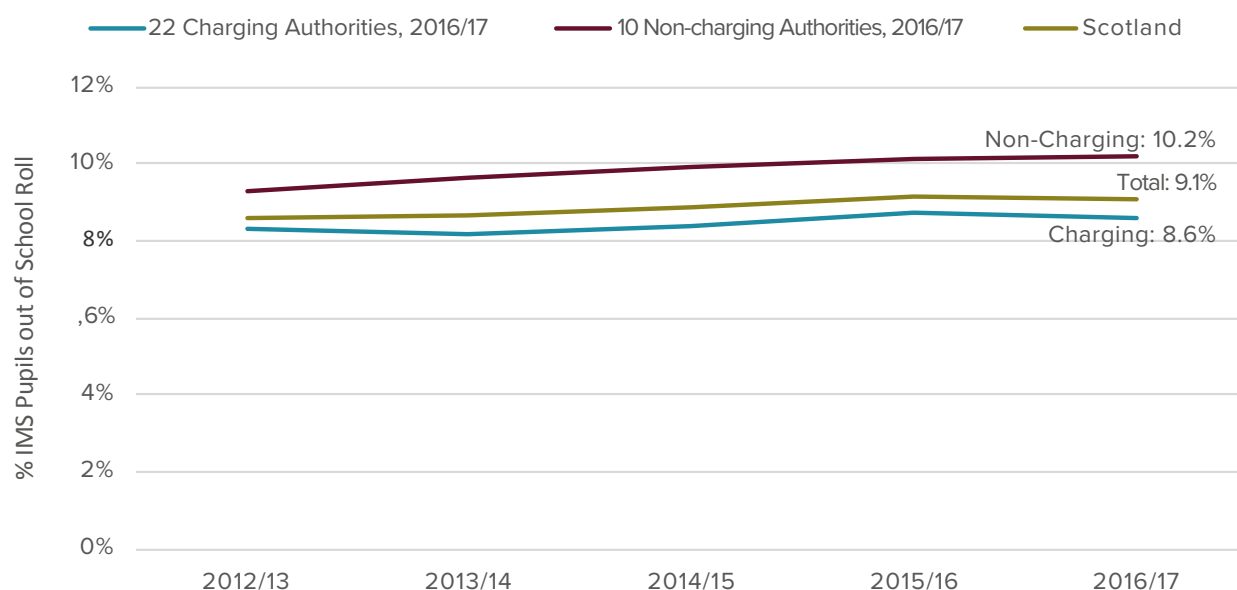
* 540 exc. Gaelic Singing

The line graph in Figure 2 displays changes in the number of pupils who received instrumental music lessons between 2012/13 and 2016/17. Overall, since 2012/13 instrumental music pupil numbers increased particularly among non-charging local authorities. Non-charging refers to all local authorities that did not charge for IMS tuition in 2016/17, including those which removed tuition fees over the previous 5 years. Within some of these local authority areas, therefore, removing fees may have boosted participation levels.

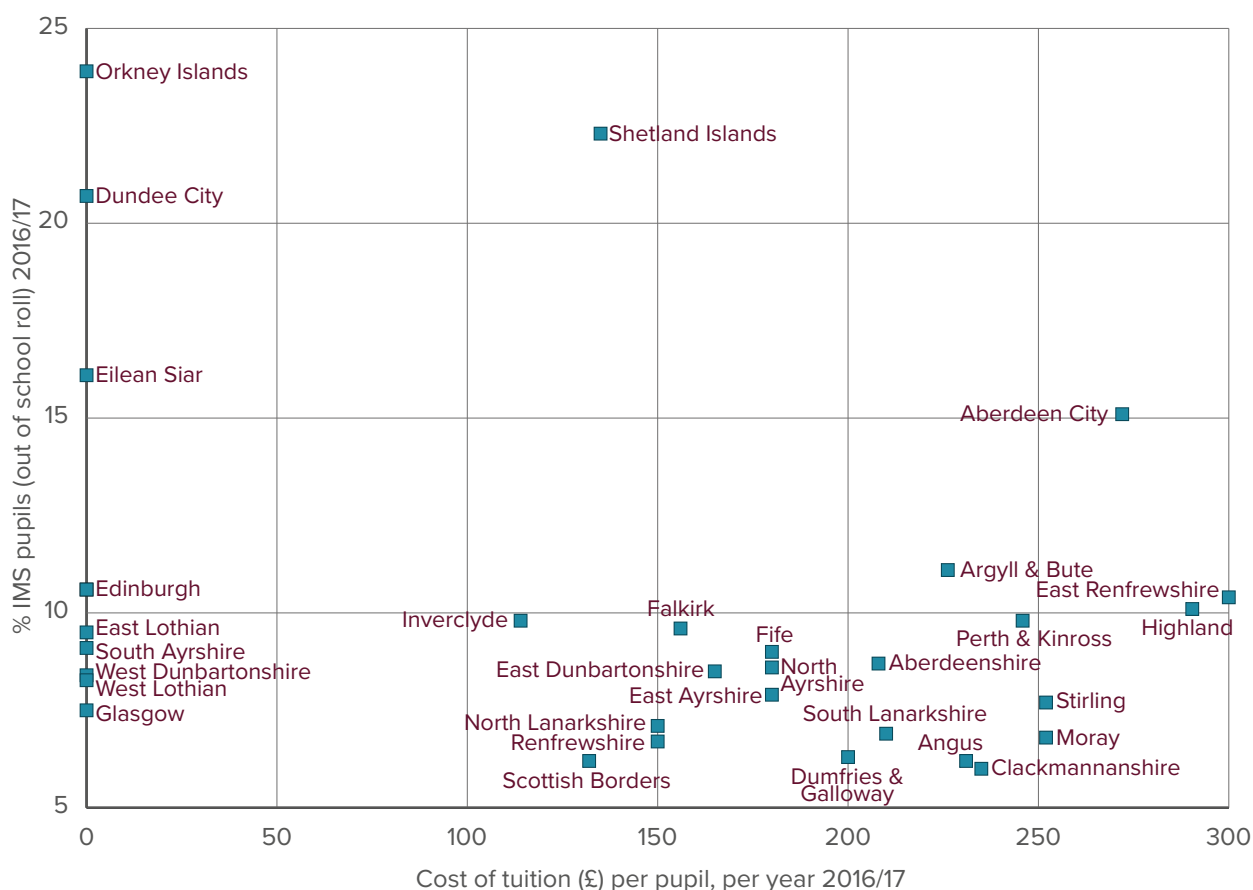
Figure 2 - IMS pupil numbers changes 2012/13 -2016/17



In relative terms, non-charging local authorities also have a slightly higher percentage of pupils within the service. In 2016/17 10.2% of school pupils participated in Instrumental Music Lessons within non-charging authorities, compared to approximately 8.6% among charging authorities.

Figure 3 - Percentage of pupils participating in IMS, 2012/13 - 2016/17

Despite these overall differences, as with previous years, on a local authority level there is still no direct link between tuition fees and percentage of uptake in Instrumental Music services. The scatter plot in Figure 4 displays the percentage of pupils who took instrumental music tuition in 2016/17 (out of the whole school roll) compared with the cost of tuition among local authorities.

Figure 4 - Percentage of IMS pupils by cost of tuition, 2016/17

Similar to previous years, there is no statistically significant correlation between the variation of tuition fees and the percentage of pupils who took instrumental music tuition across local authorities in Scotland in 2016/17.

This does not mean that the costs of fees do not influence parents' decision as to whether pupils partake in lessons but it does indicate that there are many other influences on the percentage of uptake on a local authority level. The majority of local authorities cannot provide tuition for all pupils who apply for instrumental music and the figures listed here do not necessarily reflect the percentages of interested pupils. Further, this analysis does not indicate whether pupil numbers vary between different socio-economic areas and backgrounds.



Selection Procedures

For the majority of local authority-led Instrumental Music Services demand outweighs staff capacity, teaching time and/or instrument availability. This varies between schools and selected instruments but some form of selection process is often required. About a third of local authorities do not have any form of testing for this, making use of waiting lists instead; some test but only to establish a starting point or to match appropriate instruments with pupils, and others use tests or trial periods to select successful applicants. These tests often involve some form of assessment in rhythm, pitch and physical suitability, and/or a trial period. In some local authorities these procedures only take place if demand outstrips availability, while in others they are used to assess suitability of instrument but not within the selection itself.

In 2016/17 four local authorities were able to provide tuition for all interested pupils over the course of the year. In Eilean Siar, for example, all children and young people have the option of participating and in primary schools all pupils are encouraged to take up an instrument. In some cases tutors provide e-lessons via schools' video conferencing systems to overcome geographical challenges. This enables the service to offer instruction in schools where it was previously not available.

Full descriptions of selection procedures within each local authority are available in the appended summary tables.

It should be highlighted that all primary school pupils will also have the opportunity to learn an instrument for one year through Youth Music Initiative (YMI) provision. This survey is focussed on Instrumental Music Instruction provided outwith YMI funding and, therefore, does not account for this provision.



Other Variations in IMS Policies

As established, there are a wide variety of instrumental music policies between local authorities in Scotland, not only regarding tuition fees, concession rates, and selection procedures but also regarding when pupils can first apply for tuition and whether pupils can apply for tuition on more than one instrument with the service. Within 10 local authorities pupils can apply for tuition on more than one instrument; in some of these local authorities this only applies if it does not prohibit any other pupil receiving tuition. In sixteen other local authorities, pupils may take a second instrument but only in special or exceptional circumstances, for example if pupils are applying to higher music education. Six other local authorities only offer tuition on one instrument per pupil, largely to widen access to as many pupils as possible.

Although it varies between and within local authorities as to when pupils can first apply for instrumental music tuition, the majority start offering tuition on some instruments, for example in strings, around Primary 4. Whilst some instruments are started at a later age, all local authorities offer lessons on at least one instrument from Primary 6 onwards.

Similarly, the number of minutes per instrumental lesson also varies across and within local authorities. The average is approximately 25 minutes per week over a period of at least 30 weeks. Local authorities tend to provide tuition for the whole school term, which often results in several more weeks than the minimum requirement.

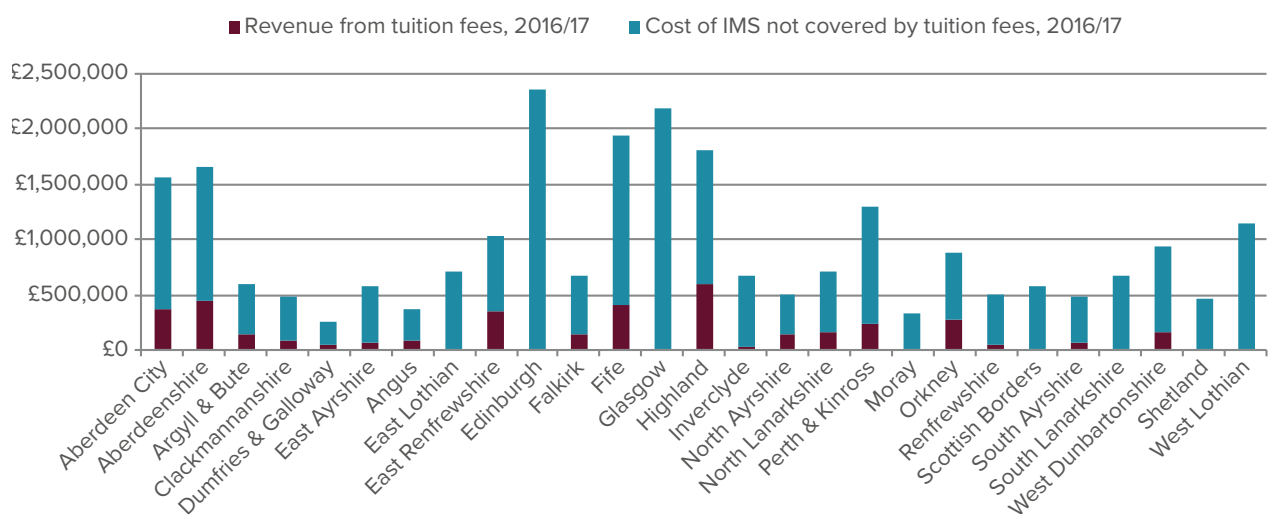
Very few of these policies have changed since previous surveys.



Revenue and Budget Allocations

All Instrumental Music Services across Scotland are subsidised by their local authority. Revenue from tuition fees does not cover the total cost of the service in any local authority (rather, it covers between around 2 and 58% of the total cost). Overall the combined revenue from charging Instrumental Music Services in 2016/17 amounted to approximately 23%³ of the total cost for these services (excluding non-charging local authorities). This is similar to 2015/16 but slightly increased relative to previous years (19-20% 2012/13 - 2014/15).

Figure 5 - Revenue from tuition fees compared to gross cost of IMS, 2016/17



The bar chart in Figure 5 displays the total revenue from instrumental music tuition fees and the remaining gross cost of the Instrumental Music Service not covered by these fees. Local authorities that do not charge tuition fees and so do not receive revenue are not included in the figure.

Additional private sponsorship arrangements include:

- Funding from The Scottish Schools Pipes and Drums Trust (SSPDT) in a selection of local authority areas, including: Aberdeenshire, East Ayrshire, East Lothian, Eilean Siar, Renfrewshire, North Ayrshire and South Ayrshire. Some of these arrangements are for specific projects. South Ayrshire Council, for example, entered a partnership in 2016/17 with the SSPDT and the William Grant Foundation to fund a 3-year piping and drumming project in the Girvan area;
- Funding from the Argyll Piping Trust for a piping tutor in Old Argyll;
- Grant funding from the Macaulay Trust to enable Eilean Siar's Pipe Band to perform at national events and workshops;
- Funding from the local community in North Ayrshire to purchase new drums for the Pipe Band;

³ Among the 19 local authorities able to provide figures:
 - revenue from tuition fees: £3,824,224
 - total gross cost: £16,892,705

- Private donations in North Lanarkshire to contribute towards the running costs of music groups activities;
- Funding from the Rhona Reid Trust to sponsor Young Musician Events in North Ayrshire Council;
- Stagecoach Orkney, which provides free bus passes to help pupils travel to and from rehearsals;
- A partnership arrangement between Dundee City Council's IMS and Travel Dundee to provide a number of free transport passes annually to be issued to pupils who otherwise would be unable to attend central music centre activities;
- Sponsorship through the Perth and Kinross Music Foundation (the Young Musicians' Parents' Association) to support lessons, central groups and music camp in Perth and Kinross;
- Support from the Gannochy Trust towards Perth Youth Orchestra;
- Private donations towards the self-funding Moray Schools Youth Orchestra the first week of the summer holidays.

Several other Instrumental Music Services obtain private sponsorship for additional activities through parent support bodies and other charities and companies. The Friends of East Renfrewshire Schools Music, for example, raise funds for additional activities and facilities: providing additional instruments and sheet music, subsidising residential trips, and providing hardship funding for children from disadvantaged backgrounds to participate in trips. Fife Youth Music Activities Charitable Trust (FYMA) also supports music activities organised by the Instrumental Music Service in Fife. FYMA funds are disbursed in a variety of ways including to provide assistance where the cost of participating would otherwise prevent a pupil's involvement in Fife Music Activities. Similarly, Borders Young Musicians support extra-curricular activities in the Scottish Borders.

More information on revenue from charges, instrumental music budgets and private sponsorship is available in the appended summary tables.

Instrumental Music Instructors

The majority of local authority Instrumental Music Services provide a wide range of instrumental instruction including tuition in strings, woodwind, brass, guitar, percussion and traditional instruments.

Table 4 - FTE by discipline, 2013/14 - 2016/17

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Strings – FTE	180.3	175.3	174.0	168.2
Woodwind – FTE	124.5	123.3	123.5	119.6
Brass – FTE	120.8	125.2	123.1	119.8
Percussion/ Drum Kit – FTE	64.4	62.2	64.4	64.7
Guitar – FTE	56.8	60.6	61.1	58.9
Traditional Instruments (exc. Piping & H. Drumming) – FTE			9.3	7.5
Bagpipes/Chanter – FTE			33.1	34.8
Highland Drumming – FTE			4.6	5.1
Traditional Instruments (inc. Piping & H. Drumming) – FTE	37.5	46.5	47	47.4
Voice – FTE	17.8	19.3	21.5	27.4
Piano/Keyboard – FTE	43.6	41.8	43.7	41.3
Other – FTE	4.8	2.4	7.3	6

In 2016/17 there were approximately 640.6 FTE instrumental music instructors across Scotland; this includes 413 full-time instructors and 392 part-time instructors. This compares to approximately 660 FTE instructors in 2015/16.

Table 5 - Total Instrumental Instructor Numbers 2013/14 - 2016/17

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
FTE	651.9	657.2	660.3	640.6
Full Time	412	411	415	413
Part Time	483	465	433	392



Reviewing Practices

There are a variety of procedures and policies for reviewing, engaging, and sharing information across instrumental music services in Scotland. Detailed examples are available in the appended summary tables.

Charging and concession policies for instrumental music services tend to be revised alongside other charging structures within local authorities, often as part of the Annual Budget Setting process within the council or department. Other examples include:

- The procedure in East Ayrshire where charging rates are reviewed on a needs-basis, depending on how much funding the service receives from the authority;
- Falkirk's Instrumental Music Service which makes use of equity and poverty impact assessments while also comparing fees with other local authorities in Scotland;
- The Instrumental Music Service in Fife which holds an annual review following confirmation of the budget for the following year;
- The Instrumental Music Service in Perth & Kinross seeks consultation with all customers and user groups, the public and colleagues through: annual parent pupil and staff evaluations, the instrumental music service review, guidance for instrumental teaching in Scotland, and the review of charges group (Perth & Kinross Council);
- Eilean Siar's Instrumental Music Service currently have a part-time music development officer to work with colleagues to review current service provision, recruitment policy, charging and funding opportunities.
- A review of Stirling's Instrumental Music Service was also undertaken in May/June 2016. The recommendations were put to the council's Education Committee and a working group established. This is an ongoing process.

Procedures to engage with parents or carers tend to involve a combination of some of the following: information booklets, contract guidelines and/or publicity leaflets; record books/diaries; tuition progress reports; parents evenings and meetings; parent committees and support groups; surveys; concerts and events; information shared on the council/IMS website, as well as more bespoke communication via social media, letters, telephone, and email.

The Heads of Instrumental Teaching Scotland (HITS) network continues to help facilitate the sharing of information between local authorities as do other initiatives and events, such as the Music Education Partnership Group (MEPG) and national conferences.



Monitoring Standards/Quality of Tuition

A new question was introduced in the 2017 survey to capture how instrumental music services currently monitor standards in provision, including procedures to measure progress in pupils' performance and/or quality of tuition.

For the majority of Instrumental Music Services a combination of procedures and measures are adopted to monitor standards, progression and quality of tuition. Quality of tuition, for example, is often assured through lesson observations and Personal Review and Development meetings. Pupil progression and standards are most frequently measured through a combination of SQA/ external exam entries and results, pupil progress reports, as well as attendance in national organisations and competitions. A couple of music services also undertake a detailed IMS census, which includes information such as pupil numbers by SIMD, FSM registrations, SQA, drop-out rates, and progression. A full list of these measures and procedures are available in the summary tables.

This information will be used to help develop a quality measure to be included in future iterations of the Instrumental Music Survey. Caution will be taken and, most likely, a combination of measures will be adopted as it is evident that services, and potentially instructors, prioritise aspects of instrumental music differently. One service or instructor, for example, might focus on entries/ performance in external exams and national organisations, while another may focus on SQA attainment and/or general progression. Geography could also influence pupils' ability to be involved in national organisations and competitions.



Summary

Overall the number of pupils receiving instrumental music lessons with Scottish local authority led services has remained largely consistent over the past 5 years. In 2016/17 approximately 61,615 pupils received lessons; at least 16,603 pupils also participated in additional activities run by these services.

These services strive to provide opportunities to as many young people as possible, for example by organising numerous auxiliary activities such as bands, ensembles, orchestras, concerts and residential courses. Despite maintaining pupil numbers overall, the majority of Instrumental Music Services are limited by resource and teaching capacity, and are unable to provide lessons for all interested pupils. In 2016/17 there was an overall decline in instructor numbers employed by these services. These reductions were mainly within Strings, Woodwind and Brass. These figures will be monitored to consider how this impacts on tuition and participation rates.

The lack of correlation between pupil numbers (as a proportion of the school roll) and the cost of tuition indicates the importance of considering additional factors influencing participation across Scotland. This includes (but is not limited to) resource, teaching capacity, class sizes, selection procedures, geographic spread, and availability of instruments, as well as other regional differences. Nonetheless, the cost of tuition should be continually monitored to ensure equity of access.

Survey results highlight that as a whole, Instrumental Music Services in Scotland are continually improving in terms of monitoring standards, undertaking reviews, and ensuring parent contact time. Moreover, communication between services has been observed to improve year on year, resulting in better information sharing and learning from other Instrumental Music Services.

This survey and report is intended to support Instrumental Music Services in Scotland, enabling them to compare provision in other local authority areas, share ideas and innovation whilst monitoring components such as pupil and teacher numbers.



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