



Instrumental Music Services

Results from the IMS Survey,
June 2014

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Introduction

This report documents the results from the 2014 Instrumental Music Survey. This survey was carried out on behalf of the Instrumental Music Implementation Group, which was set up by the Scottish Government last year (September 2013) to oversee the progress of recommendations reported by the Instrumental Music Group in June 2013. The purpose of this report is to provide up-to-date information on the provision of instrumental music services across Local Authorities in Scotland.

Instrumental Music is a discretionary service provided by all Local Authorities and is additional to the music curriculum taught within the classroom. This study concentrates solely on these discretionary services, outwith Youth Music Initiative (YMI) funded tuition and the music curriculum.

This research continues from the study that was published in June 2013.¹ The 2012/13 survey established the wide variety of Instrumental music services across Scotland. Policies not only include variations in tuition charges, but also concession rates, selection procedures, available instruments and hire, and additional activities.

In June 2014 a questionnaire was distributed to all Heads of Instrumental Teaching across Scotland to collect up-to-date information on tuition charges, concession rates, pupil numbers, costs of services, range of instruments, teacher numbers, and additional activities.

1 <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0042/00426353.pdf>

Instrumental Music Charging Policies

As established in 2012/13, there are a wide range of charging policies for instrumental music tuition across Local Authorities in Scotland. The following section outlines changes in tuition costs and concession policies since 2012/13.

Tuition Costs

Changes 2013/14

Between 2012/13 and 2013/14, twelve local authorities in Scotland changed their tuition fees for instrumental music tuition. Among these local authorities:

- Dundee City Council and Dumfries and Galloway Council removed all tuition fees for all pupils.
- Falkirk simplified their charging policy to one flat rate of £140 per pupil, per year (concessions apply).
- Comhairle nan Eilean Siar contracted new instrumental music instructors for strings and guitar. Parents are asked to contribute towards these lessons but the original service provision remains free of charge.
- Clackmannanshire's tuition fees increased by less than 1%.
- Aberdeenshire's instrumental tuition fees increased in line with inflation (as they do every year), approximately 2%.
- East Renfrewshire's instrumental tuition fees increased by £20 (12.5%).
- Midlothian's instrumental tuition fees increased by £10 (approximately 7%).
- Argyll and Bute's fees increased by 3%.
- North Ayrshire's fees increased by £20 (approximately 17%).
- Inverclyde's tuition fees increased from £95.50 to £98 per instrument, per year (2.6% increase).
- Angus increase their tuition fees by 5% every year.

Changes 2014/15

For the current academic year, 2014/15, twelve local authorities increased their charging costs for tuition. Among these:

- Clackmannanshire increased fees by approximately 3%.
- Moray increased their Group tuition fees by approximately 5%.
- Aberdeenshire's fees increased in line with inflation, approximately 2% in 2014/15.
- Angus increased tuition fees by 5% alongside introducing a £30 fee to hire an instrument.
- East Renfrewshire's tuition fees increased by £20 (approximately 11%).
- Argyll and Bute's tuition fees increased by approximately 3%.

- Tuition fees in East Dunbartonshire, Shetland and North Ayrshire all increased by £20, from £140 to £160 per year (approximately 14% increase).
- East Ayrshire introduced a single fee of £150 (instead of £100 for group lessons and £150 for individual lessons).
- Inverclyde increased their fees to £100 per instrument, per year.
- Highland increased their tuition fees to £256.80 per pupil, per year (from £252).
- At the time of completing this survey, Midlothian was awaiting the Council's decision to increase tuition fees by 5%.

Other changes:

- Since August 2014, Stirling no longer offers individual lessons.

Table 1 displays current and previous instrumental music charging costs across all local authorities in Scotland. Currently, ten local authorities do not charge for instrumental music tuition. As mentioned, Dundee City removed tuition fees for all pupils in 2013/14; although their hire fee still applies, they have concession rates in place for pupils from low-income families. Among the local authorities that charge for tuition, fees for group lessons range from £100 per pupil per year in Inverclyde, to £272 per pupil per year in Aberdeen. The average (mean) cost of tuition² per pupil per year among local authorities that charge for tuition is approximately £177³ (£170 in 2013/14).

Table 1: Instrumental music tuition charges

Local Authority	Cost per pupil, per year, 2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Aberdeen City	£272 Group, £340 individual	£272 Group, £340 Individual	£272 Group, £340 Individual
Highland	£252	£252	£256.80
Perth & Kinross	£245.85	£245.85	£245.85
Clackmannanshire	£220	£222	£228
Moray	£201 Group, £300 Individual	£201 Group, £300 Individual	£210 Group, £300 Individual
Aberdeenshire	£192 Group, £284 Individual	£196 Group, £292 Individual	£200 Group, £300 Individual
Stirling	£189 Group, £309 Individual	£189 Group, £309 Individual	Only offer group lessons.
Angus	£183	£192	£201 + £30 hire
South Lanarkshire	£180 (£60 per lesson block)	£180	£180
East Renfrewshire	£160	£180	£200
Midlothian	£150	£160	5% increase pending
Renfrewshire	£150	£150	£150

2 Excluding hire fees where applicable

3 Calculated on groups costs where applicable

Local Authority	Cost per pupil, per year, 2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
North Lanarkshire	£150	£150	£150
Argyll and Bute	£138	£142.15	£146.40
East Dunbartonshire	£140	£140	£160
Falkirk	£44.40 Group, £178.20 Individual + £20.40 hire	£140 (instrument loan provided free of charge for up to a year)	£140
Shetland	£140	£140	£160
North Ayrshire	£120	£140	£160
Fife	£125	£125	£125
Scottish Borders	£125	£125	£125
East Ayrshire	£100 Group, £150 individual	£100 Group, £150 Individual	Single fee £150
Inverclyde	£95.50	£98	£100
Dundee City	£132 + £83 hire	No Charge, £83 hire	No Charge, £83 hire
Comhairle nan Eilean Siar	No charge	Expanded range of instructors in secondary to include strings and guitar. These tutors are contracted on an annual basis as opposed to employed on a contract. Parents are asked to contribute towards the cost of these lessons. There continues to be no charge for lessons on Wind, Brass or Pipes.	
Dumfries & Galloway	£130 + £47.15 hire	No Charge	No Charge
Orkney	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge
Edinburgh	No charge	No Charge	No Charge
Glasgow	No charge	No Charge	No Charge
South Ayrshire	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge
East Lothian	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge
West Dunbartonshire	No Charge	No Charge	No Charge
West Lothian	No charge	No Charge	No Charge

For the majority of Local Authorities the charge presented above includes instrument hire (either combined in the overall charge or as a separate fee) as well as a variety of additional activities provided by the service. These activities include school and regional orchestras; ensembles; bands and groups, and concerts and residential courses. Although some of these activities incur an additional fee in some Local Authorities - for example, residential courses - the majority are provided free of charge. Further details including staff allocations and pupil numbers for these activities are available on page 20 of this report and summary tables 11, 12 and 13.

Concessions

Every Local Authority in Scotland that charges for instrumental music tuition provides concessions on some level. These concessions often apply to pupils from low-income households, pupils sitting SQA music exams, and siblings of pupils already receiving tuition with the service.

Pupils from low-income households

Since August 2014, all charging Local Authorities provide some form of concession for pupils from low-income households. The majority of these Authorities (19 out of 22) provide complete exemption from charges for pupils from low-income households. The measure used to qualify pupils for this concession varies but is usually determined by Free School Meal Entitlement (FSM).

Within the three Local Authorities that do not offer complete exemption, charges are considerably reduced for pupils from low-income households:

- Falkirk offers concession rates of £55 per year for pupils entitled to Free School Meals and/or Clothing Grant.
- Clackmannanshire offers half fees for pupils from households entitled to Housing Benefit or Income Support (£111 per pupils, per year in 2013/14, £114 per pupil, per year in 2014/15).
- Stirling offers a concession rate of £63 per year to pupils entitled to free school meals and/or clothing grant. A new concession rate was devised for 2014/15 for pupils entitled to Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA).

Since 2012/13 two Local Authorities have removed charges for pupils entitled to Free School Meals.

- In 2012/13 Renfrewshire offered a concession rate of £50 per year to pupils entitled to Free School Meals and/or Clothing Grants. They replaced this concession rate to complete exemption from fees in 2013/14.
- In 2012/13 South Lanarkshire did not have any concession for pupils from low-income households. Since August 2014 all pupils entitled to Free School Meals in South Lanarkshire are exempt from instrumental music tuition fees.

SQA

One of the concerns highlighted in 2012 was that in some Local Authorities pupils sitting SQA music exams were charged for instrumental tuition. As of August 2014, all 32 instrumental music services provide free instrumental music tuition to pupils sitting SQA music exams.

In 2012/13 five Local Authorities did not offer these exemptions:

- In Highland and Midlothian all pupils sitting SQA music exams became exempt from tuition fees in 2013/14.
- Aberdeen City introduced an exemption from tuition fees for SQA music pupils in August 2014.
- Renfrewshire dropped their concession rate of £50 per year to complete exemption from fees for SQA music pupils in 2013/14.

- Dumfries and Galloway removed all tuition fees for all pupils in 2013/14.

Although all Local Authorities in Scotland now offer exemption from tuition fees for SQA music pupils, policies still vary. In the Scottish Borders, pupils sitting SQA music exams are exempt from tuition fees but if they require an instrument, a £58 hire fee applies. East Dunbartonshire introduced a charge for the second instrument for SQA music pupils if these pupils already receive lessons with the service on the first instrument. Whether pupils are able to take more than one instrument with the service varies between Local Authorities; details of these policies are available on page 18 of this report and in summary Table 8.

The majority⁴ of Local Authority led Instrumental Music Services offer exemption from tuition fees for SQA music pupils from Secondary 4 (S4) onwards. However, four Local Authorities: East Dunbartonshire, East Renfrewshire, North Ayrshire, and Perth & Kinross, offer this exemption a year earlier, in Secondary 3 (S3). Dundee City and Stirling both offer this exemption predominantly from S4 but occasionally from S3, for example if an S3 pupil is sitting a National 4 course. South Lanarkshire offers exemption from tuition fees for SQA music pupils in the final block of S3. S3 pupils taking SQA music are charged £120 for the year as opposed to the full £180.

Sibling discount

Several Local Authorities (11) also provide reduced charges for second or subsequent siblings receiving instrumental tuition with their service.

Among these Local Authorities:

- Aberdeen City, East Dunbartonshire, North Ayrshire and North Lanarkshire offer a 50% sibling discount. North Lanarkshire also offers a 50% discount for pupils taking a second instrument.
- East Ayrshire offers a 50% reduction to second siblings, and full exemption from fees for third or subsequent siblings.
- Scottish Borders offers exemption from tuition fees for third or subsequent siblings.
- Renfrewshire offers a concession rate of £50 per year to second or subsequent siblings.
- Argyll and Bute offers a £15 reduction per year for siblings or pupils taking more than one instrument with the service.
- East Renfrewshire offers a 25% sibling discount.
- Aberdeenshire Council introduced a 20% sibling discount in 2013/14.
- Angus introduced a 20% discount for second siblings and a 40% discount for third and subsequent siblings in August 2014.

Other concessions

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.
- Inverclyde Council offers full exemption for Primary School Pupils (2012/13)

4 15 out of the 22 Local Authorities that charge for instrumental music tuition

- Argyll and Bute offers a 50% discount for pupils learning the bagpipes - Argyll Piping Trust Subsidy.
- Argyll and Bute, Renfrewshire and Inverclyde (2012/13) offer 1-year free tuition to new starts. East Ayrshire had a similar policy but this was removed in 2014/15.
- Scottish Borders offer a discount rate of £70 per year for new starts.
- Midlothian Council provide 100 extra bursaries for families whose income is under £10,000 above the Free Meal Entitlement limit.
- In Highland families can request free tuition and will be considered under circumstance.

Summary table 5 displays a full list of concession and exemption policies across all Local Authorities in Scotland.

% IMS pupils receiving concessions/exemptions

The percentage of instrumental music pupils who receive concessions or exemptions from charges varies between Local Authorities. In Renfrewshire, for example, approximately 62% of instrumental music pupils in 2013/14 received some form of concession. In contrast, out of the total number of instrumental music pupils in Highland, approximately 13% were exempt from charges in 2013/14. Table 5 displays the number and percentage of pupils that received concessions or exemptions from fees in 2013/14.

Table 5: Number of IMS pupils receiving concessions/exemptions

Local Authority	Number of IMS pupils 2013/14	Number of IMS pupils who received concessions/exemptions in 2013/14	% IMS pupils	Total %
Aberdeen City	2642	448 Free School Meal Entitlement (FSM)/Income Support	17%	22%
		135 Sibling Discount	5%	
Aberdeenshire	3025	426 SQA music pupils	14%	35.6%
		151 FSM	5%	
		500 Sibling Discount	16.5%	
Angus	1200	65 SQA music pupils	5%	29%
		281 FSM	23%	
Argyll and Bute	1435	144 SQA music pupils	10%	24%
		152 Sibling Discount	11%	
		52 FSM	4%	
Clackmannanshire	448	11 pupils on concession rate (families entitled to housing benefit or income support)	2.5%	

Local Authority	Number of IMS pupils 2013/14	Number of IMS pupils who received concessions/ exemptions in 2013/14	% IMS pupils	Total %
Dundee City	2669	137 SQA music pupils	5%	19.5%
		259 FSM	14%	
		125 Clothing grant but not FSM. There are some pupils receiving free school meals but as they are playing an instrument that cannot be hired, i.e. piano I did not check to see if they were receiving FSM 13/14		
East Ayrshire	783	184 SQA music pupils	23.5%	39%
		94 Benefits	12%	
		30 Sibling discount	4%	
East Dunbartonshire	1600	85 SQA music pupils	5.3%	21%
		50 FSM	3.1%	
		206 Sibling Discount	12.9%	
East Renfrewshire	1938	294 SQA music pupils	15%	30%
		114 FSM	6%	
		174 Sibling discount	9%	
Falkirk	965	187 SQA music pupils	19%	26%
		68 FSM and/or Clothing Grant	7%	
Fife	3161	393 SQA music pupils	12%	28%
		487 FSM	15%	
Highland	3200	120 SQA music pupils	4%	13%
		300 Benefits	9%	
Inverclyde	1300 –1400	160 SQA music pupils	11-12%	14 -15%
		38 exemptions	3%	
Midlothian	1100	155 SQA music pupils	14%	30%
		23 Bursaries	2%	
		153 FSM	14%	
Moray	850	100 SQA music pupils	12%	19%
		65 FSM	8%	
North Ayrshire	1627	333 SQA music pupils	20%	45%
		337 FSM	21%	
		60 Sibling discount	4%	

Local Authority	Number of IMS pupils 2013/14	Number of IMS pupils who received concessions/exemptions in 2013/14	% IMS pupils	Total %
North Lanarkshire	3670	1123 SQA music pupils	31%	50%
		568 FSM	15%	
		65 Sibling discount	2%	
		55 ASN	1.5%	
		31 Second instrument	1%	
Perth & Kinross	1605	181 SQA music pupils	11%	11%
Renfrewshire	1280	236 SQA music pupils	18%	62%
		90 FSM	7%	
		31 Sibling discount	2%	
		438 new recruits exemption	34%	
Scottish Borders	862	185 SQA music pupils	21%	33%
		99 Sibling/FSM	11.5%	
Shetland	561	137 SQA music pupils	24%	29%
		24 FSM/CG	4%	
Stirling	844	259 (no charge)	31%	34%
		31 (concession rate)	4%	
South Lanarkshire	3029	1420 SQA music pupils	47%	47%

Among the 57,500⁵ instrumental music pupils across the whole of Scotland in 2013/14 at least 12,069 (21%⁶) of these pupils received concessions or exemptions from tuition fees. This includes 6324 SQA music pupils, 3845 pupils from low-income households and a further 1900 pupils who received other concessions. A further 17,703 instrumental music pupils received tuition within Local Authorities that do not charge for the service. Overall approximately half of instrumental music pupils (52%) across Scotland did not pay full rates for instrumental music tuition in 2013/14⁷.

Free school meal (FSM) entitlement

Figure 1 displays the percentage of instrumental music pupils registered for free school meals by the total percentage of pupils registered for free school meals in the Local Authority. This gives an indication of whether pupils registered for free school meals are under- or overrepresented in the service. Please note, however, that caution should be taken when comparing these percentages: many Local Authorities were unable to provide these figures, particularly those that do not charge for instrumental music tuition. Although many other Authorities record this information for concession purposes, real figures may be higher than those recorded. Dundee City, for example, records FSM in order to offer pupils free hire. However, for instruments that do not require hire,

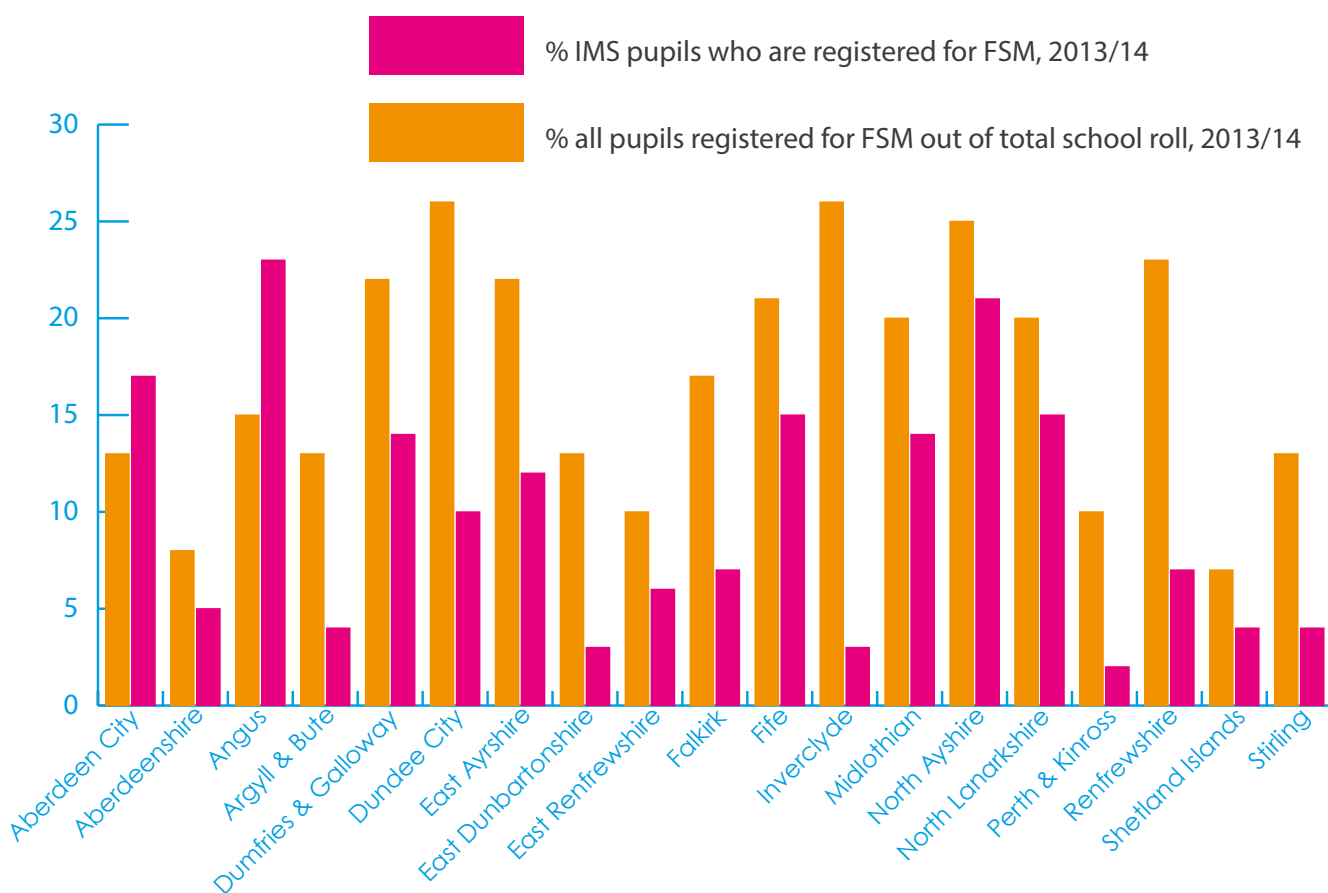
5 There were between 57,497 and 57,597 instrumental music pupils in Scotland in 2013/14

6 Approximately 30% among Local Authorities that charge for tuition

7 This proportion includes all pupils who receive lessons in Local Authorities that do not charge for tuition.

free school meal entitlement is not recorded. In light of this, several other Local Authorities may not record this information for pupils sitting SQA exams because these pupils already receive free tuition (this is the case, for example, in East Ayrshire). It is likely that for several Local Authorities the percentages of FSM IMS pupils are higher than the figures presented.

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



Notably, Angus and Aberdeen City have higher proportions of FSM pupils in their instrumental music services than across their Local Authorities overall. Although Aberdeen City has the highest tuition fees among Local Authorities in Scotland, it also has one of the highest proportions of IMS pupils who are registered for free school meals. This indicates that concession and exemption policies can be used to effectively protect opportunity for low-income households. More information on IMS pupils registered for free school meals in 2012/13 and 2013/14 is available in summary table 7.

As mentioned previously, Local Authorities that do not charge for instrumental music lessons do not record this information. There are, however, examples of policies in place within some of these Authorities to encourage pupils from lower income backgrounds to take part in instrumental music. In South Ayrshire, for example, funds have been put in place to support larger teaching groups in schools with the highest levels of free school meal entitlement in the Local Authority. Also, within the City of Edinburgh different strategies are employed in positive action schools and schools in more deprived areas to ensure pupils are supported to access the opportunity.

Number of IMS Pupils

Across the whole of Scotland in 2013/14, between 57,497 and 57,597 pupils took instrumental music tuition with Local Authority led services. This equates to approximately 8.6% of the 2013 Primary and Secondary School roll. This is proportionally the same to the number of IMS pupils among Local Authorities in 2012/13: 57,120 pupils (8.6%).

Table 7 displays numbers of instrumental music pupils who received instrumental music lessons in 2013/14 and 2012/13. 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. The percentages provided below are calculated out of the whole primary and secondary school roll⁸. It must be noted that whilst instrumental music lessons start at different stages in different Local Authorities, the majority do not start until at least Primary 4. This does not therefore reflect the percentage of IMS pupils out of the population of entitlement, which would likely be considerably higher for all Local Authorities.

Table 7: Number of Instrumental Music Pupils

Local Authority	IMS pupils 2012/13	IMS pupils 2013/14	Primary & secondary school roll, 2012	Primary and secondary school roll, 2013	% IMS pupils 2012	% IMS pupils 2013
Aberdeen City	2760	2642	21288	21502	13%	12%
Aberdeenshire	3389	3025	33829	34185	10%	9%
Angus	1500	1200	15127	15065	10%	8%
Argyll and Bute	1258	1435	10741	10659	12%	13%
Clackmannanshire	432	448	6584	6611	7%	7%
Dumfries & Galloway	1210	1317	19123	18917	6%	7%
Dundee City	2200	2669	17109	17287	13%	15%
East Ayrshire	1147	783	15835	15767	7%	5%
East Dunbartonshire	1301	1600	15799	15908	8%	10%
East Lothian	1284	1318	13466	13658	10%	10%
East Renfrewshire	1942	1938	16050	16123	12%	12%
Edinburgh	4758	4912	44392	45266	11%	11%
Eilean Siar	360	500	3501	3434	10%	15%
Falkirk	1142	965	20684	20862	6%	5%
Fife	3494	3161	47725	48088	7%	7%
Glasgow	4538	4551	62959	63512	7%	7%
Highland	3100	3200	30781	30772	10%	10%

⁸ <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2013/12/4199>

Local Authority	IMS pupils 2012/13	IMS pupils 2013/14	Primary & secondary school roll, 2012	Primary and secondary school roll, 2013	% IMS pupils 2012	% IMS pupils 2013
Inverclyde	1015	1300-1400	10032	9936	10%	13%-14%
Midlothian	1100	1100	11716	11730	9%	9%
Moray	850	850	11961	12009	7%	7%
North Ayrshire	1570	1627	18214	18105	9%	9%
North Lanarkshire	3853	3670	48005	47969	8%	8%
Orkney	498	500	2666	2643	19%	19%
Perth & Kinross	1590	1605	17466	17517	9%	9%
Renfrewshire	1050	1280	22975	22979	5%	6%
Scottish Borders	716	862	14717	14572	5%	6%
Shetland	662	561	3228	3237	21%	17%
South Ayrshire	1222	1319	14113	14074	9%	9%
South Lanarkshire	2957	3029	42829	42850	7%	7%
Stirling	810	844	12337	12234	7%	7%
West Dunbartonshire	964	891	12129	12190	8%	7%
West Lothian	2448	2395	25809	25838	9%	9%

Several Authorities were able to provide the percentage of IMS pupils out of the school population from when instrumental music tuition begins. Again, these percentages do not necessarily reflect the percentage out of the true population of entitlement. Within several Local Authorities the stage at which pupils may apply for instrumental tuition varies between schools, instruments, and instructors. The following percentages in Table 8 are calculated out of the total school population from when instrumental music tuition is first available in the Local Authority. For example, not all instrument disciplines in West Lothian are offered to all schools or to all school stages. The percentage was taken from all pupils in Primary 4 onwards, as this is the first access year in a small number of schools for one instrument discipline.

Table 8: % of IMS pupils out of the total number of pupils entitled to Instrumental Music⁹

Local Authority	2013/14	% Population of entitlement	% IMS pupils out of school roll from P4 onwards 2013	% IMS pupils out of whole school roll 2013
Aberdeen City	2642	17.9	17%	12%
Aberdeenshire	3025	10.6	12%	9%

⁹ All the percentages in column 4 are calculated out of the total number of pupils in primary and secondary schools from Primary 4 onwards. Please note that this is only for comparison. Several authorities do not introduce tuition until at least Primary 5 and others introduce charges earlier in Primary 3 (see summary table 8 for more details).

Local Authority	2013/14	% Population of entitlement	% IMS pupils out of school roll from P4 onwards 2013	% IMS pupils out of whole school roll 2013
Angus	1200	9.5	11%	8%
Argyll and Bute	1435	15	17%	13%
Clackmannanshire	448		9%	7%
Dumfries & Galloway	1317	12	9%	7%
Dundee City	2669	21	21%	15%
East Ayrshire	783	8	7%	5%
East Dunbartonshire	1600		13%	10%
East Lothian	1318	14.2	13%	10%
East Renfrewshire	1938		15%	12%
Edinburgh	4912	15.21	15%	11%
Eilean Siar	500		19%	15%
Falkirk	965	6.4	6%	5%
Fife	3161	9.96	9%	7%
Glasgow	4551		10%	7%
Highland	3200		14%	10%
Inverclyde	1300-1400		17-19%	13%-14%
Midlothian	1100		13%	9%
Moray	850	10	9%	7%
North Ayrshire	1627	10.6	12%	9%
North Lanarkshire	3670	11.4	10%	8%
Orkney	500	25	25%	19%
Perth & Kinross	1605	13.69	12%	9%
Renfrewshire	1280	12	7%	6%
Scottish Borders	862	8.5	8%	6%
Shetland	561		23%	17%
South Ayrshire	844		9%	7%
South Lanarkshire	1319	9.5	12%	9%
Stirling	3029	12	9%	7%
West Dunbartonshire	891	9.8	10%	7%
West Lothian	2395	12.7	13%	9%

A series of analyses were carried out to investigate the relationship between the variation of tuition fees and the percentage of pupils who took instrumental music tuition across Local Authorities in Scotland. Details from these analyses are available on page 24 of this report.

Selection Procedures

Several Local Authorities carry out selection procedures to identify pupils with aptitude and pupils who will benefit from tuition. These selection procedures vary across and, in some cases, within Local Authorities. A number of Local Authorities do not have any form of testing, some test but only to establish a starting point or to match appropriate instruments with pupils, and others use tests to select successful applicants. Although some services try to accommodate all interested pupils, in many Local Authorities this is not possible because demand highly outweighs resources.

In 2013/14, 20 Local Authorities used some form of test or trial period as part of the pupil selection process. These tests vary but often involve some form of assessment in rhythm, pitch, and physical suitability followed by a trial period.

Five other Local Authorities maintain waiting lists if the number of interested pupils outweighs spaces available. Pupils are selected in chronological order from when they applied. Only two Local Authorities are able to accommodate all interested pupils: Eilean Siar and Angus. Within some of these Local authorities tests are used to establish a starting point or for matching appropriate instruments but not within selection itself. City of Edinburgh, South Ayrshire, and Falkirk are in the process of changing/reviewing their selection procedures. Falkirk is moving away from testing and the City of Edinburgh - having collaborated with instructors - is revising a new guidance policy this year. Full descriptions of selection procedures within each Local Authority are available in Summary Table 10.

Other Variations in IMS Policies

As established, instrumental music policies vary substantially between Local Authorities in Scotland, not only regarding tuition fees, concession rates, and selection procedures but also when pupils can first apply for tuition and whether pupils can apply for more than one instrument. Within 13 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. Policies also vary as to whether concessions and exemptions apply for the second instrument. In 11 other Local Authorities, pupils may take a second instrument but only in special or exceptional circumstances, such as if pupils are applying to higher music education. Eight other Local Authorities only offer tuition on one instrument per pupil, largely so as to provide tuition to as many pupils as possible.

Are pupils able to apply for lessons on more than one instrument with the IMS?

	Yes	No	In some circumstances
Local authorities that charge for tuition (22)	12	5	5
Local authorities that do not charge for tuition (10)	1	3	6

Proportionally, many more charging than non-charging Local Authorities offer a second instrument. Dundee City is currently the only non-charging Local Authority that offers lessons on more than one instrument (beyond special or exceptional circumstances). Six other non-charging instrumental music services, nonetheless, offer a second instrument in special circumstances.

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 around Primary 4. Whilst some instruments are started at a later age, all Local Authorities offer lessons on at least one from Primary 6 onwards. More details are available in Summary Table 8.

Similarly, the number of minutes per instrumental lesson also varies across and within Local Authorities. The majority provide between 25 and 30 minutes of tuition per week, with a minimum number of 30 weeks. Local Authorities tend to provide tuition for the whole school term, which often results in several more weeks than the minimum requirement. More information is available in Summary table 9.

Additional Activities

Instrumental Music Services in all Local Authorities in Scotland provide additional activities alongside instrumental music tuition. At least 15,700 pupils took part in these activities in 2013/14¹⁰, including pupils who are also taking instrumental music lessons. Summaries of the full range of activities, and the numbers of pupils engaging in these, are provided in tables 11 and 12, respectively.

The majority of additional activities are provided, and largely funded, by the Local Authority instrumental music service. Summary table 13 in the appendix includes information on the cost for pupils to take part in additional activities as well as staff allocations. Very few Local Authorities receive any private sponsorship for these activities; examples of such are listed below.

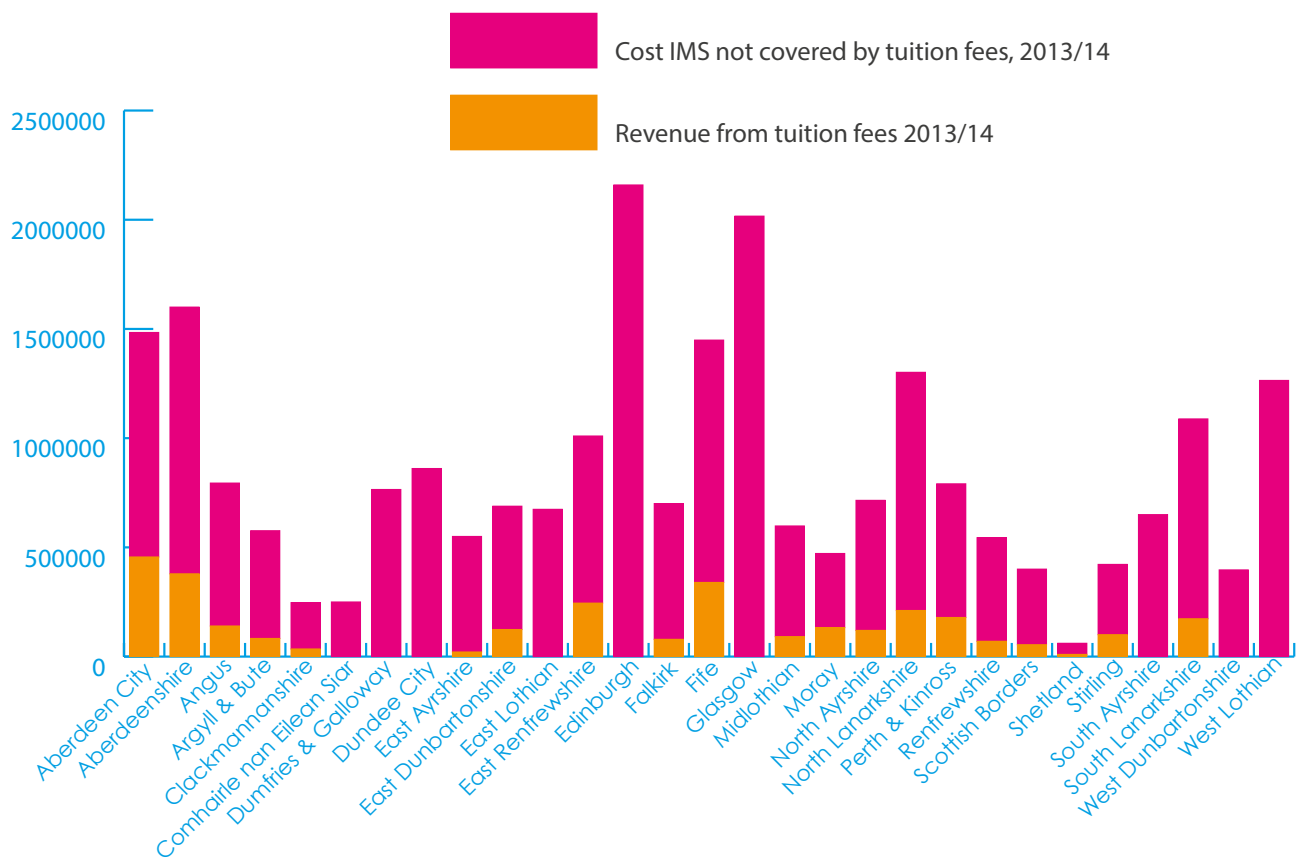
- Argyll and Bute's pipe bands work in partnership with Kintyre and Netherlorn Piping Associations. Parental groups also collaborate with some bands to support costs, such as transport.
- Hillfoots Music for Youth (HMFY) is run by a parents committee and collaborates with Clackmannanshire Council to provide large ensemble music making activities in Clackmannanshire. The Local Authority fund music staff and use of premises for these activities but HMFY manages all other funding.
- The Friends of East Renfrewshire Schools Music fundraise on the instrumental music service's behalf and donate funds to help pupils attend courses which they may not otherwise afford. They also help purchasing different types of equipment/instruments on a regular basis.
- Fife Youth Music Activities Trust - parent support body which fundraises to support Fife Music Activities, offering financial assistance to children and young people who otherwise may not be able to take part in these groups.
- The Moray Schools Youth Orchestra receives donations from individuals and local community music groups for the running of the Orchestra.
- Rhoda Reid Charitable Trust provides £2000 for excellence in music in North Ayrshire. This is used for awards such as Young Musician, Young Singer and Young Traditional Musician. Parent support groups also provide approximately £4000 to support North Ayrshire's orchestras and bands.
- North Lanarkshire currently has 5 sponsors who provide close to £3300 per annum for music groups.
- Stagecoach in Orkney provides bus passes to pupils living outwith Kirkwall for travel to/from rehearsals.
- Perth Youth Orchestra is supported by the Gannochy Trust
- "Borders Young Musicians" is a parent support group in the Scottish Borders which subsidises additional music activities.

¹⁰ Several Local Authorities were unable to provide precise figures

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 from around 4 to 31% of the total cost, with East Ayrshire and Aberdeen City comprising the respective end-members). Overall the combined revenue from charging Instrumental Music Services amounts to 20.5% of the total cost for these services (excluding Inverclyde, Highland and non-charging Local Authorities).

Figure 2 - Revenue from tuition fees compared to Gross cost of IMS, 2013/14



The bar chart in Figure 2 displays the total revenue from instrumental music tuition fees and the remaining gross cost of the Instrumental Music Service not covered by these fees. For example, the total revenue generated from tuition fees in Angus in 2013/14 was £140,000, which was 18% of the gross cost of £794,342. Only two Authorities receive any private sponsorship for their Instrumental Music Service; East Lothian and Argyll and Bute both receive funding from local piping trusts for piping instruction in their local authority areas. More information on revenue from charges and instrumental music budgets is available in summary table 2.

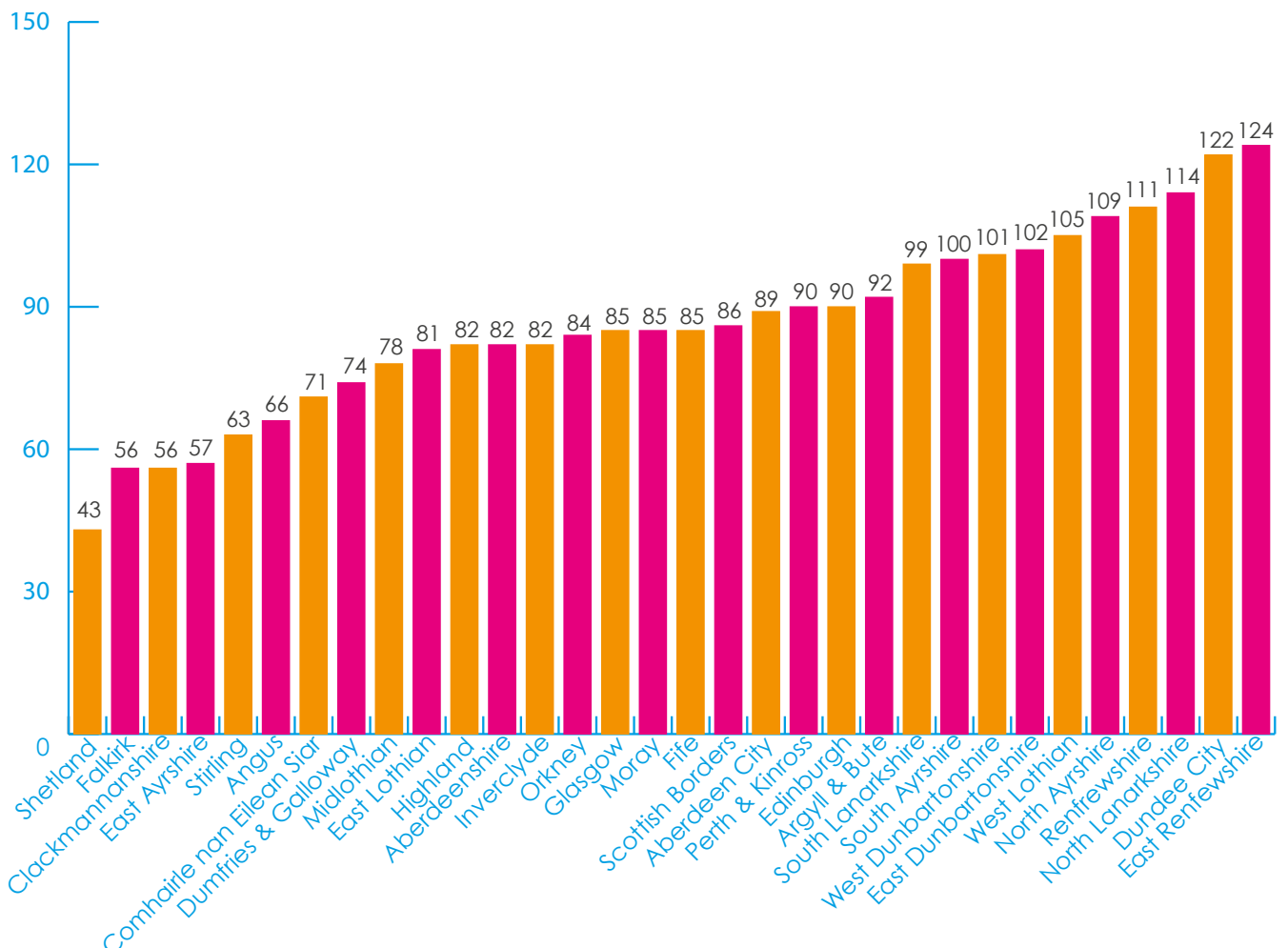
Instrumental Music Instructors (IMI)

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 – see summary table 4. This may be more challenging within smaller Local Authorities. As mentioned, the Western Isles offers instruction on more instruments than it did previously; however, the costs of these additional instruments have to be contributed to by parents/carers.

Further changes among IMS staff include the merging of management posts in Midlothian. In July 2014 the posts of Head of Instrumental Teaching and that of Arts Team Manager in Midlothian were dispensed with and merged into one post handled by an Education Support Officer.

In recent years the City of Edinburgh IMS has experienced a similar situation. Two years ago there were two dedicated Principal Officers for Instrumental Music; there are now two Principal Officers for Creative Learning - one in Performing Arts and one in Visual Art, Film and Literature - who both have team-wide responsibilities. There is no longer a dedicated IMS manager; instead, an IMS Business and Development Manager was appointed to oversee all business support and operational development. This splits the previous Principal Officer Instrumental Music remit into different jobs, matching appropriate skill sets. The new Arts and Creative Learning Team has been fully operational since June 2014.

Figure 3 - pupils per FTE instructor



In 2013/14 there were approximately 652 FTE instrumental music instructors across Scotland; this includes 412 full-time instructors and 483 part-time instructors (excluding the Western Isles). The number of pupils per IMI varies between Local Authorities. These rates are displayed in the chart in Figure 3, and range from 43 pupils per 1 FTE IMI in Shetland to 124 pupils per 1 FTE IMI in East Renfrewshire. Pupil to teacher ratios differ across music services in Scotland but the challenges and needs within each authority also vary. Different Authorities use different practices to meet these needs and maintain their service, it should be noted that there may be very high pupil to teacher ratios in some Local Authorities to try to maximise provision and opportunity. This is a consideration for each individual Authority but may not be appropriate or possible in all areas.

Reviewing Practices

There are a variety of procedures and policies for reviewing, engaging and sharing information across instrumental music services in Scotland. Examples of these procedures are available in summary tables 14, 15, 16 and 17.

Charging and concession policies for instrumental music services tend to be revised alongside other charging structures within Local Authorities, often part of the Annual Budget Setting process within the Council or Department. Instrumental Music Services may have to address the Education committee during the charging review. One Local Authority indicated that the 2013 IMG report was consulted in this respect. Two other Authorities refer to feedback questionnaires to review such policies.

Procedures to engage with parents or carers of pupils utilising instrumental music services include a range of take-home media, such as information leaflets, record books or diaries, and progress reports. Further, IMS websites and online social media are used, as well as parent councils, parent evenings, and surveys.

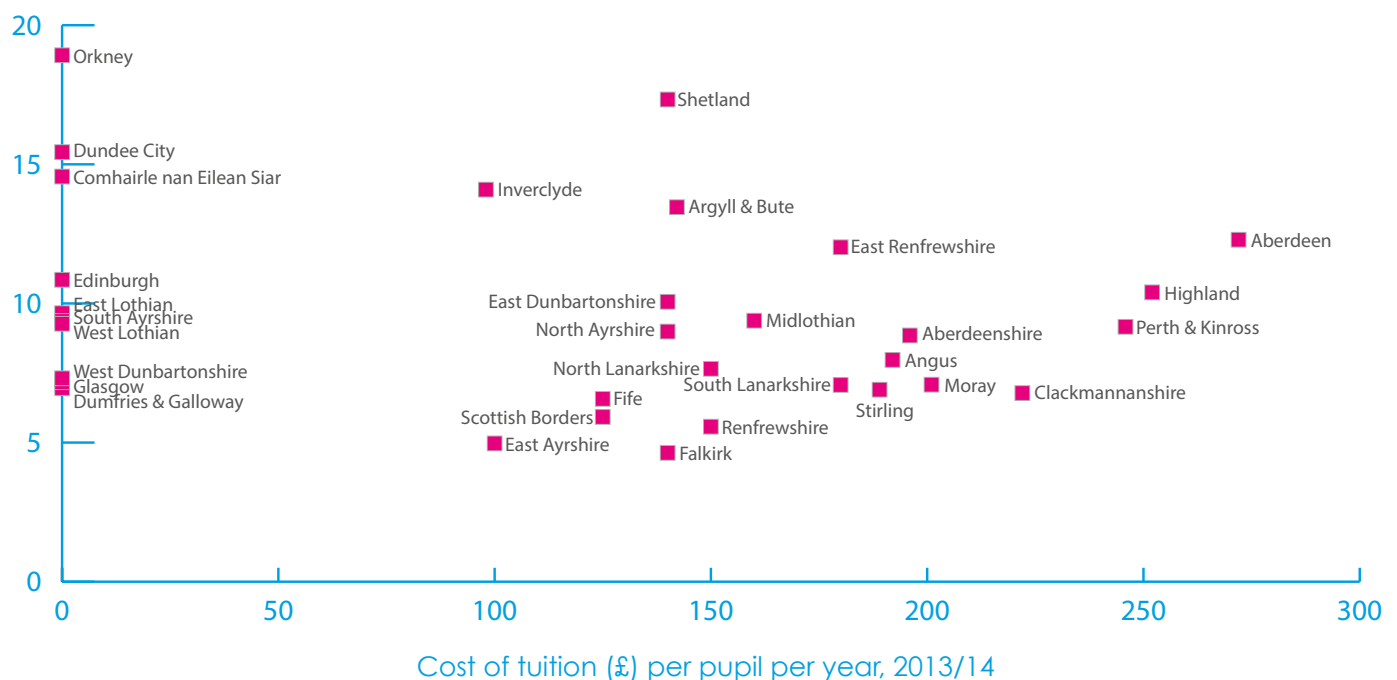
One feature highlighted repeatedly for sharing information between Local Authorities is the value of HITS (Heads of Instrumental Teaching Scotland). The collaboration of heads and managers of instrumental music enables Local Authorities to share policies and learn from other service's experiences.

All Local Authority-led instrumental music services that currently do not share information with other Authorities stated that they would be willing to do so. It should be noted that several Local Authorities that stated they did not have procedures for reviewing, engaging or sharing information may have similar policies in place but did not recognise these procedures as such.

Impact of charging and other variables

A series of analyses were conducted to address the impact of charging structures on pupil numbers and equity among instrumental music services in Scotland. The scatter plot in Figure 4 displays the percentage of pupils who took instrumental music tuition in 2013/14 (out of the whole school roll) against the cost of tuition among different Local Authorities. Evidently Orkney - a non-charging service - had the highest percentage of pupils who took instrumental music in 2013/14, closely followed by Shetland which charged £140 per pupil for 2013/14.

Figure 4 - % IMS pupils by Cost of tuition



Similar to 2012/13¹¹, there is no significant relationship between the variation of tuition fees and the percentage of pupils who took instrumental music tuition across Local Authorities in Scotland in 2013/14. Therefore, Instrumental Music Services with relatively high tuition fees did not necessarily have a lower percentage of pupils that took Instrumental Music in 2013/14 than Local Authorities that offer free tuition.

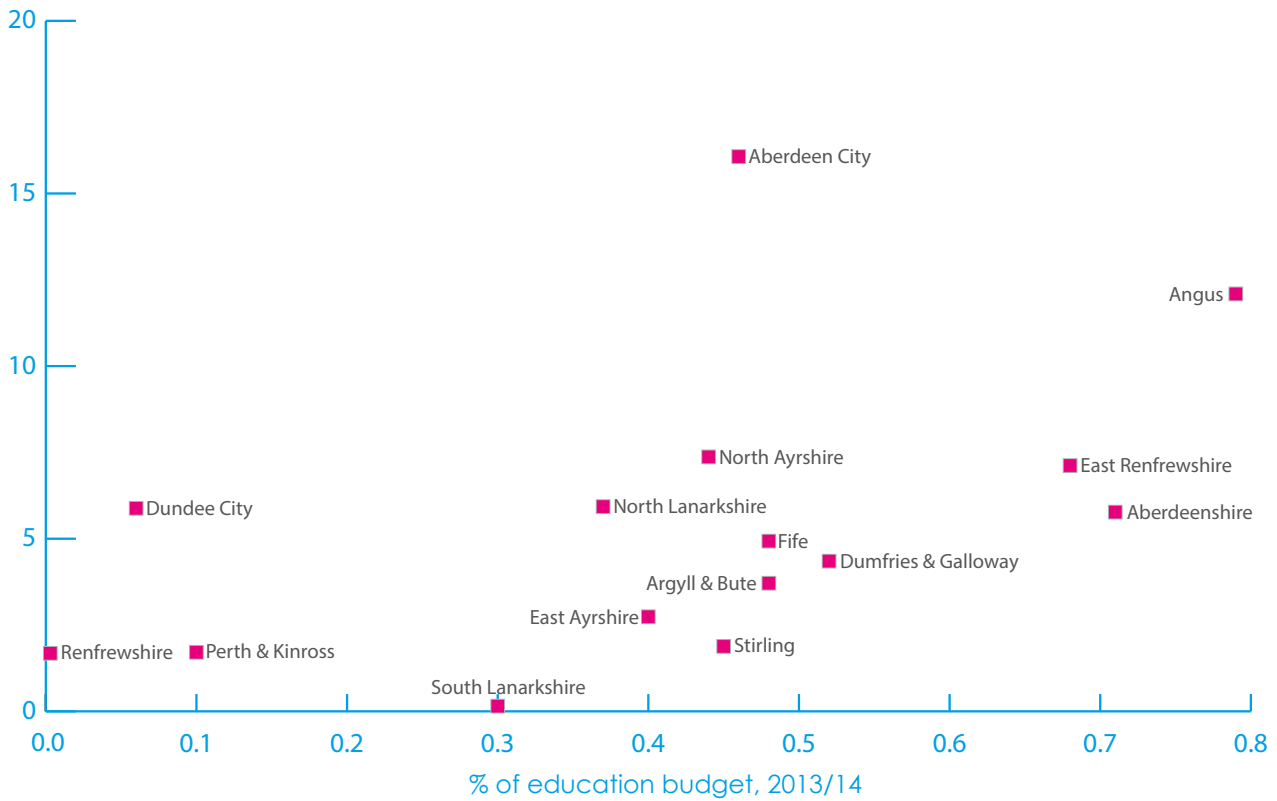
This does not suggest that the cost of fees do not influence parents' decision as to whether pupils take up instrumental music; charging policies need to be continuously reviewed to ensure opportunities are not closed for particular pupils. It does indicate, however, that there are many other influences on pupil numbers, beyond charging costs. As mentioned previously, the majority of Local Authorities cannot provide tuition for all pupils who apply for instrumental music. The percentage of pupils as listed above, therefore, do not necessary reflect the percentage of interested pupils.

11 ($p > 0.1$)

It also does not demonstrate whether there are variations in pupil numbers from different areas or socio-economic backgrounds. As demonstrated previously, some Local Authorities with relatively high instrumental music tuition fees, such as Aberdeen City, also have proportionally high percentages of Instrumental Music pupils registered for Free School Meals. Unfortunately comparisons with Local authorities that do not charge tuition are not currently available, but it does indicate that concessions/exemptions can be used to protect opportunities. In retrospect, however, pupils most at risk of exclusion may be those from households that narrowly miss out from these concessions. This should be revised by Local Authorities to ensure equality of opportunity. Midlothian’s Instrumental Music Service, for example, has 100 additional bursaries available for pupils in this circumstance.

The scatterplot in Figure 5 displays the percentage of pupils registered for free school meals who took instrumental music in 2013/14 by the estimated percentage of the education budget allocated to instrumental music.

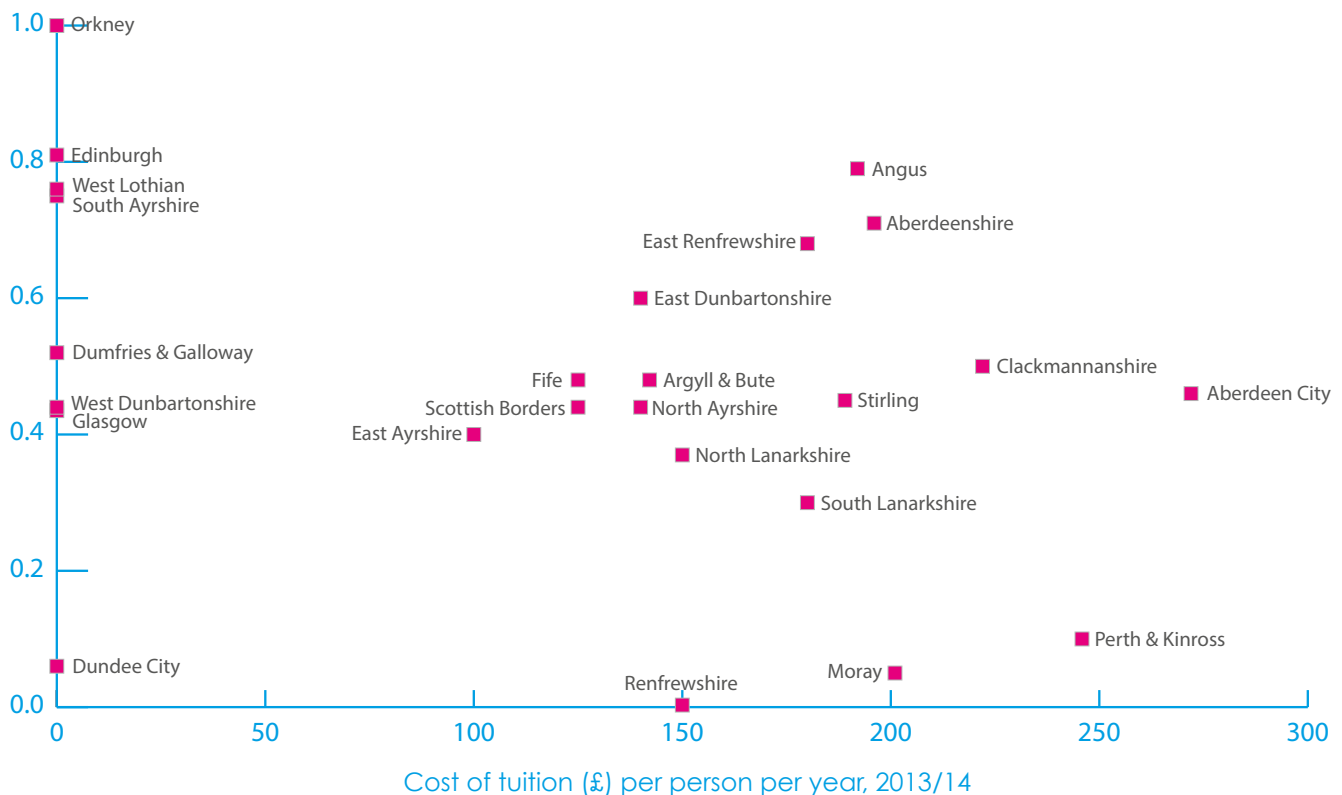
Figure 5 - % pupils registered for FSM by education budget, 2013/14



There is also no significant association between these variables, although Angus (which allocates a relatively high proportion of its budget towards the service) shows a relatively high proportion of pupils registered for free school meals in the service. These figures may in fact depend on where Local Authorities are prioritising their funds, or whether there are policies in place to encourage particular pupils into the service.

The scatter plot in Figure 6 displays the estimated percentage of the education budget for instrumental music against the cost of tuition for instrumental music pupils.

Figure 6 - best estimate % education budget sorted by Cost of Tuition



Similar to 2012/13, there is no significant association¹² between the variation of tuition fees and the percentage of education budget used for Instrumental Music Services (best estimate). Many high-charging Local Authorities also put a relatively high proportion of their education budget towards the service. As discussed in the 2012/13 report, this indicates that charging for instrumental tuition does not imply any less of a commitment from a Local Authority. Revenue from tuition fees do not cover the cost of the instrumental music service in any Local Authority in Scotland, rather they are all heavily subsidised by Local Authorities.

These combined analyses highlight that instrumental music tuition costs are only one variable among Local Authority-led instrumental music services. With the information currently available there is no evidence that charging for instrumental music is detrimental to access and equality in opportunity. Charging policies should be reviewed in order to protect pupils' opportunities, particularly those who cannot afford tuition fees. In the 2012/13 study several Authorities mentioned a drop in pupil numbers when charges were introduced or increased, but this was also the case for drops in teacher numbers and provision. As different Authorities have differing demand on their services it remains their responsibility to accurately determine which policies will best support such demands.

12 (p>0.1)

Summary and Implications

Since 2012/13 there have been several changes in instrumental music service provision across Scotland. All Local Authorities now offer exemption from tuition fees for SQA music pupils. Tuition fees have increased across this period, but the number and types of concessions/ exemptions available have also increased. All Local Authorities now offer some form of concession for pupils from low-income households. The number of pupils remains consistent but should be continually monitored.

As established herein, there is currently no evidence that charging for instrumental music tuition has a detrimental impact on pupil numbers or equality in opportunity. From the information gathered in 2012/13 and 2013/14 there are no systematic connections between the cost Local Authorities charged for instrumental tuition and the proportion of pupils who took instrumental music, or between the cost of tuition and the estimated percentage of education budget allocated for the service. Some charging Local Authorities have high proportions of IMS pupils and put a relatively high percentage of their education budget towards the service. In terms of equality, a couple of non-charging Local Authorities mentioned direct policies employed to encourage instrumental music within lower-income areas. This suggests that increasing opportunity goes beyond a free service for all pupils. It should not be ignored, however, that within several households charging costs may have serious implications in terms of finances and access to instrumental music tuition. In light of this, concession and exemption procedures must be addressed to be as inclusive as possible. Charging policies should be reviewed in relation budget and equal access to optimise opportunity.

As mentioned, it is very difficult to determine equality measures between Instrumental Music Services. A comparable measure would be valuable for individual reviews as well as determining best practice across Local Authorities in Scotland. As budget cuts continue, as they are likely to in the foreseeable future (CPPR¹³, 2013), discretionary services, such as instrumental music, may come increasingly under pressure. Determining the value of instrumental music in Scotland could help protect these services in the long run. If instrumental music improves pupil achievement in education overall, there would be a very strong argument for reinforcement in this area, particularly for pupils from lower income areas where educational attainment tends to be lower (The Improvement Service, 2011¹⁴). Currently, this survey records policy and practice across Local Authorities but does not include indication of outcomes and benefits. A detailed study in this respect would require more in-depth analyses of pupils' qualifications across Scotland.

13 Centre for Public Policy for Regions (2013) UK Spending Review 2013 & the Scottish Government's budget

14 Making better places, making places better: distribution of positive and negative outcomes in Scotland



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