

Janet Finch–Saunders AM
Chair, Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

13 March 2020

Dear Janet

Petition P–05–880 Wales is Rapidly Losing its Musical Reputation and Heritage

Thank you for your letter dated 9 March regarding the above petition.

As outlined in your letter, the Minister for Education attended a meeting of the Committee on 16 January to discuss the Music Services Feasibility Study. The Music Service Feasibility Study was commissioned by the Welsh Government in response to recommendations made by the Committee in its 2018 report on funding for and access to music education in Wales.

Following the meeting on 16 January, we felt that progress relating to the Music Services Feasibility Study seems to be taking longer than anticipated. We therefore wrote to the Minister setting out this concern and to seek further information.

We received a response to this letter on 28 February and considered it at our meeting on 5 March. The letter stated that a meeting of stakeholders in music services took place on 29 January giving them an opportunity to provide feedback on the Music Services Feasibility Report and consider next steps. According to the Minister, Welsh Government officials are currently

considering the views from this meeting and will be able to update the Committee once the feedback received has been fully evaluated.

At our meeting we agreed to monitor progress and write to the Minister for another update once the next meeting of the stakeholders in music services has taken place.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Helen Mary Jones". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Helen Mary Jones AM

Chair of the Committee