

Royal Dublin Society: Invite to Tender

Project Development Plan for RDS Music Education Programme

The Royal Dublin Society (RDS) wishes to engage an external consultant to undertake a Project Development Plan for a potential RDS Music Education Programme to support primary school teachers to teach music in schools. This project will form part of the RDS Foundation Programme, which supports the Society's mission to further the cultural and economic development of Ireland in the areas of agriculture, arts, equestrianism, industry and science. Specifically the strategic priority for the RDS Foundation is to support Irish Society by acting as a catalyst for the next five years to ensure that the coming generations can fulfil their potential.

The main aim of the Study is:

- To determine if there is a need for, and to develop a project plan for a strategic music project to support the teaching of music in primary schools.

The consultant will be expected to undertake a thorough study to examine a potential music programme which will achieve the stated goal of supporting primary school teachers to teach music. The RDS requires the consultant to formulate a plan to include specific measures of success and impact over a five year time frame and a pilot phase and also to examine potential costs.

Purpose of the Project Development Plan:

The purpose of the Project Development Plan is to determine if there is a need for an RDS-led music project to support the teaching of music at primary school level. The study will provide a comprehensive overview of the range of supports currently available to primary school teachers and how a possible new project will fit with these. The plan should recommend which model(s) would be the best to undertake. In addition, the Project Development Plan should include a pilot (with evaluation measures) and consider the five year development of the project.

More specifically, the purpose of the Study is:

- To determine what the core focus of the music programme should be
- To make a judgment on whether or not the proposed project will attract sufficient uptake and interest to achieve the objectives of the Foundation
- To examine options for delivery of such a project and make recommendations on the best model of delivery (a comparable science project within the Foundation Programme should be considered as one possible model)
- To suggest the various elements that might be included
- To identify the key partners and stakeholders the RDS should seek to collaborate with on such a project

- To conduct a competitor analysis
- To benchmark against similar existing international models
- To determine measures of success and impact for the project
- To determine the likely budget with estimates of expenditure

Requirements of the Project Development Plan:

A thorough data gathering and consultation process will be required for this report that will involve the following key elements:

- Working closely with RDS staff in the data collection process.
- Examination and understanding of the strategic priorities in the RDS Foundation Plan (2013-2017).
- Consultation with RDS Committee of Arts and/Music Project Development Working Group Members
- Examination of relevant public policy documents/reports relating to music education.
- Consultation with external stakeholders. These may include amongst others:
 - Department of Education and Science
 - Teacher training colleges
 - Department of Arts
 - Arts Council
 - Local Authority Arts Offices
 - Music Network/Music Generation Music Education Partnerships
 - Primary school teachers
 - Colleges of Music
 - Current providers of CPD courses in music for teachers
- Production of a comprehensive Report and Project Plan.

Tenders

Suitable consultants are now invited to submit proposals to undertake a Project Development Plan for a RDS Music Education Project. Proposals should include the following:

- Evidence of relevant experience
- Detailed methodology including timeframe
- Two references
- Costs (Fees quoted should be inclusive of VAT)

Budget: Maximum budget for the Study is €10,000.

Assessment of Tenders

Tenders will be assessed based on relevant experience, understanding of the brief, overall quality of proposal and value for money. Please note the RDS reserves the right not to award any of the Tenders received.

Timeframe

The request to Tender is released on Friday, November 16, 2012. The deadline for receipt of hard copy proposals, (which should be sent to the contact and address below) is: **5pm, Friday December 14, 2012**. Interviews will be held in early January and it is intended to award the Tender shortly thereafter. It is expected that the final plan will be delivered by the appointed consultant by the end of March 2013.

Any queries for further information should be made to:

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