



Post	Researcher: Music in Education, Social Care, and Health (MESH), West Midlands Pilot Project
Commissioning Organisations	Live Music Now, Music of Life, Sounds of Intent
Fee	£8,000 Fixed fee contract
Job type	Freelance, fixed-term, over 7 months. Estimated at approximately 32 - 40 days of work
Starting	March 2023
Location	This is freelance position, focused on the West Midlands, however, the post is open to the right candidate anywhere in the UK.
Reports to	Prof Adam Ockelford (University of Roehampton), Prof Graham Welch (UCL Institute of Education) and Anna Rowe (Live Music Now Project Manager)
To Apply	Please upload your CV and a covering letter in English, responding to the brief and articulating your experience and competency to https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/MESH23 by 9am on Monday 13th March, 2023 . Please include the names and contact details of two referees who are in a position to comment on your work professionally, with a brief indication of how long and in what capacity they have known you (referees will not be contacted before preliminary conversations).
Shortlist notification	Week of 13 th March, 2023
Interviews	Week of 20 th March 2023, via Zoom
Notification	We regret we are unable to acknowledge receipt of applications. We will notify you to let you know if you have been shortlisted or not but we regret we are unable to provide feedback unless you are shortlisted.
Language	Due to the nature of this role, ability to write clearly and cogently in English is required, and excellent spoken English communication skills are needed.
	<p>Live Music Now is committed to being an Equal Opportunities employer and as such we actively encourage applications from people who are under-represented in the cultural sector and our organisation, including those facing disabling barriers or who have experienced racism.</p> <p>All Disabled candidates who meet the essential criteria will be interviewed. Short-listed candidates will have the opportunity to discuss their access requirements for the interview.</p> <p>If you require help completing your online application, or if you would like to submit your responses in a different format, please email emily.roberts@livemusicnow.org.uk or call 020 7759 1803.</p>



Live Music Now is a charity that has been working and campaigning since 1977 to create inclusive, measurable social impact through music. By harnessing the connective power of music and evaluating its impact, we advance musical practice and change how we understand and support underrepresented and vulnerable people in our society. Our work enhances quality of life, health and well-being and promotes equity of opportunity by recognising the creative potential of every individual.

At the core of our theory of change is the commitment to **deliver social impact through music**. We create that social impact through musicians, whom we consider to be our most valuable partners and our greatest asset and seek to serve the ever-increasing need from communities facing social exclusion and disadvantage.

We achieve this through three commitments:

1. Supporting the musical lives of people experiencing disadvantage and social exclusion
2. Developing and supporting the workforce of professional musicians to ensure quality of practice, addressing underrepresentation by creating inclusive pathways to viable careers, and delivering the best outcomes for the communities we serve.
3. Advocating and evidencing the transformative benefits of live music on learning, development, health, and wellbeing

We employ and train over 300 professional musicians to work with older people (many living with dementia), children and young people (CYP) facing disabling barriers, early years and families, carers and key workers supporting others.

Our work reaches over 85,000 people, in person and online, performing, collaborating on, and creating music through 1:1 and group sessions, residencies in care settings, special schools & hospitals, and concerts. Our work helps participants communicate & make social connections, develops skills, and increases confidence and resilience.

Our programmes are underpinned by research and cross-sector partnerships, across England, Wales, Northern Ireland and internationally. For more information visit [our website](#)

MESH – Mapping Music in Education, Social Care, and Health in the UK: West Midlands Pilot Project

The M•E•S•H (Music in Education, Social Care and Health) Survey is aiming to map supply and demand in the complex and diverse field of services that use music to deliver educational, social and health outcomes across the UK.

There are many organisations that provide active participatory music activities and interventions in these sectors. Some are specialist, such as Live Music Now, Drake Music and Music of Life. Others are part of music performance organisations, venues, festivals and conservatoires. However, across the UK, provision is ad hoc and lacks coherence. It appears that some people are in receipt of excellent music provision from one provider or more, while many others get nothing at all. For example, Live Music Now, one of the largest providers of tailored music interactions in care

settings, works in around 250 care homes each year – yet there are over 20,000 care homes in the UK.

We believe that all organisations working in the sector should work together to improve what exists. As a first step, a scoping survey needs to be undertaken, and Live Music Now is working in partnership with **Music of Life** and **Sounds of Intent Charity** to commission research on both the provision of services and the potential demand from education, social care and health settings.

The research will be supervised by Professor Adam Ockelford, Professor of Music in the School of Education at the University of Roehampton, and Professor Graham Welch, Chair of Music Education at the UCL Institute of Education. Both are leading international researchers in the field. The project will be led by Live Music Now on a day-to-day basis on behalf of the commissioning organisation and Advisory Group.

As a first step, we are commissioning a pilot study with a focus on the West Midlands. It is anticipated that the research will cover, but not be limited to organisations that are delivering participatory music sessions, either in the community or in settings such as schools and residential care homes, or that bring participants into a venue for active participation.

The expected timeline is as follows:

- Recruitment – February & March 2023
- Initial scoping exercise; – March & April 2023
- Survey design and dissemination – April & May 2023
- Analysis – June & July 2023
- Report writing (first draft) – August 2023
- Final draft, in consultation with Advisory Group – September 2023
- Publication/Press launch – September 2023 on

Brief

Specialist Music Research

- To create an electronic survey for organisations working in the field of participatory music activities
- To identify organisations working in the field of participatory music making in the West Midlands, and to create a database
- Working with regional and local stakeholders, to promote the survey to relevant organisations in the West Midlands to ensure their buy in
- To prepare a qualitative report to describe the main findings of the analysis
- Prepare findings for dissemination via published journals and public conferences
- Offer recommendations and learning for the national rollout of the survey

Data & Research Analysis

- To collate the quantitative and qualitative data obtained
- To analyse the data obtained, using a range of quantitative and qualitative approaches
- Prepare analysis such as charts, data-tables etc, to enable wider understanding of learnings

Final Report

- To provide a summary of the data, key findings, and relevant case studies, clearly and concisely, in a report
- Prepare findings for dissemination via published journals and public conferences
- Offer recommendations and learning for the national rollout of the survey

Your data and privacy

All applicants' data will be held on our system during the interview process for internal use only. After this time, only the personal data and references of the successful applicant will be kept: all data from unsuccessful applicants' will be destroyed or deleted from our records. Live Music Now commits to never sell or give away any individuals' data to external companies. Please see our Data and Privacy Policy for more details.

To be kept up to date with Live Music Now's work and news, please sign up for our newsletter on our website at www.livemusicnow.org.uk



**RESEARCHER Person Specification:
MESH – Mapping Music in Education, Social Care, and Health in the UK:
West Midlands Pilot Project**

	Essential	Desirable	Assessed
Experience - MUST HAVE ONE OR BOTH OF THE BELOW			
PhD in a relevant field within the social sciences		x	Application & interview
Significant experience in research with music sector knowledge		x	Application & interview
Skills/competence			
Experience of creating online surveys	x		Application & interview
The ability to collate and analyse data using quantitative and qualitative methods.	x		Application, test & interview
The ability to frame and present findings to a range of audiences in person and in writing.	x		Application, test & interview
The ability to present statistical data for publication and public presentation.	x		Application & interview
Sound organisational and time-management skills, together with a good telephone and email manner.	x		Application & interview
Excellent communication skills in English, written and verbal, with a ready willingness to engage with a diverse range of partners.	x		Application, test & interview
Knowledge and approach			
A knowledge of participatory music provision in education, social care and/or health	x		Application & interview
Network of contacts across the music industry such as orchestras, opera companies, music charities, and other music organisations.	x		Application & interview
An interest in social welfare and the development of access to the arts for disadvantaged and disabled people.		x	Application & interview
General			
The ability to work on own initiative and as part of a team	x		Application & interview