

CONTROLLED

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET MEMBER FOR COUNCIL SERVICES

8 September 2014

Report of the Strategic Director for Corporate Resources

Music Partnership

1 Purpose of Report

To seek approval to transfer the ownership of a domain name for the Music Partnership to Derbyshire County Council (the “Council”).

2 Information and Analysis

- i. The Council and Derby City Council have worked in partnership to deliver a music service since 2009.
- ii. In November 2011, the National Plan for Music Education set out the Government’s vision for a joined up music provision, working together at a local level in a network of Music Education Hubs.
- iii. From September 2012, the Music Partnership took the lead for the Derbyshire Music Education Hub (the “**Hub**”), which is grant funded by the Department for Education through the fundholding body, Arts Council England.
- iv. The Music Partnership facilitates a single music provision across the two authorities, with access to one set of approximately 10,000 instruments and one point of administration.
- v. The Hub has its own website, which is hosted by the Council. A consortium of the music education hubs in the East Midlands region has recently been formed (the Music Education Hubs East Midlands (MEHEM) – (the “**Consortium**”) to deliver a new qualification – the Certificate for Music Educators (CME)).
- vi. The Council will lead the online facilitation of the qualification, but a separate website is needed to provide the Consortium with its own online identity.
- vii. The Consortium website will be administered by the Hub, and is already hosted in the Council’s data centre.
- viii. A domain name **mehem.org** has already been purchased by the Consortium, which is funded by Arts Council England.
- ix. As the Council will host the mehem.org website, the preferred

Council policy is to also own the mehem.org domain name. The Consortium is happy to transfer ownership of the mehem.org domain name to the Council at no additional cost.

x. A number of the top level site domains have been purchased by the Consortium as follows:

- Mehem.org
- Mehem.net
- Mehem.info
- Mehem.org.uk

xi. On 4 November 2003, Cabinet determined that there would be no further acquisition of web domain names or deployment of websites by the Council without specific Cabinet approval. This proposal was to ensure that, where possible, all Council content should be under the domain 'Derbyshire.gov.uk'. However, in the case of the Hub, the current website is already under a separate domain. Therefore, it is considered that the registration of a new domain for the Consortium will have no effect on Derbyshire.gov.uk.

3 Financial Considerations

The costs of registering the domain mehem.org (and the other top level domains) have already been met by the Consortium. The annual costs for the 4 domains are as follows, and will be met by the Music Partnership:

	£
Mehem.org	8.49
Mehem.net	8.49
Mehem.info	8.49
Mehem.org.uk	3.99

4 Legal Considerations

The Financial Regulations states that where the value of the services in question is up to £20,000, three quotations would normally be required. Under Protocol 7 (quotations), it is for the Strategic Director ordinarily to decide whether to approve this level of purchase. In light of the 2003 Cabinet decision relating to domain names, in this specific case, Cabinet Member approval is needed for the ownership transfer of the stated partnership domain names as detailed in the report.

5 Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equality of opportunity; human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

6 Key Decision

No.

7 Call-in

Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report?

No.

8 Officer's Recommendation

For the Cabinet Member to approve the transfer of the ownership of a domain name for the Music Partnership, as set out in this report.

Judith Greenhalgh
Strategic Director of Corporate Resources