

BATHGATE MUSIC HUB

“The home of Bathgate Band”

Business Case

Executive Summary

Bathgate Music Hub is a visionary project aimed at creating a vibrant centre for music education, performance, and community engagement in Bathgate. Led by **Bathgate Band**, a charitable organisation with over 180 years of musical heritage, the hub aims to bring together local musicians, educators, and community groups to foster creativity, cultural enrichment, and social well-being.

Key Objectives:

- Provide accessible music education through one-to-one lessons, group rehearsals, and workshops for people of all ages and backgrounds.
- Support the development of local musical talent, especially among young people, through mentorship, performance opportunities, and professional-grade facilities.
- Strengthen community ties by offering a central space for cultural activities, enhancing Bathgate's musical tradition and community pride.
- Promote mental health and well-being by offering a space for creative expression, stress relief, and social connection through music.

Key Features:

- Acoustically treated music booths, rehearsal rooms, and versatile performance spaces equipped with modern instruments and recording facilities.
- Strong partnerships with local organisations such as Bathgate Youth Band, Bathgate Concert Orchestra and Bathgate Sings to offer a wide array of music programmes.
- Community-focused events, workshops, and performances designed to engage residents and attract visitors, contributing to the local economy.

Financial Strategy:

The hub's financial sustainability will be secured through membership fees, space rentals, grants, and sponsorships from sources like the National Lottery Community Fund and Creative Scotland. Bathgate Band's proven track record in managing community projects, alongside strong collaboration with local authorities, ensures that the hub can be delivered effectively.

Conclusion:

Bathgate Music Hub will be a lasting cultural asset for the town, offering musical education, community engagement, and economic benefits. By bringing together local musicians and residents, the hub will inspire creativity, strengthen community pride, and contribute to Bathgate's cultural legacy.

We invite stakeholders, funders, and community members to join us in making this vision a reality and to support Bathgate Music Hub's mission to inspire, educate, and enrich through the power of music.

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BATHGATE
MUSIC HUB

Business Case

Introduction:

Bathgate, a town rich in musical heritage, is home to Bathgate Band, a non-profit charitable organisation established around 1842. Last year, the band achieved a major milestone by ascending to the Championships Section of the Scottish Brass Band Association, demonstrating its dedication to musical excellence.

The Bathgate Music Hub, a non-profit, community-driven initiative, will be led by Bathgate Band, collaborating with local music groups such as the Bathgate Foundry Band, Bathgate Youth Band, Bathgate Buzzers, Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia Pipe Band, Bathgate Orchestra, Bathgate Sings, and the East of Scotland Brass Band Association. Envisioned as a vibrant centre for musical learning, performance, and community connection, the Hub will serve as a space where all ages and abilities can access music education, engage in creative exploration, and enjoy opportunities for personal growth and social enrichment.

This business case presents the rationale for establishing the Bathgate Music Hub, focusing on its community contributions through cultural enrichment, economic impact, and support for local talent. As a not-for-profit organisation, the Hub's offerings—including flexible spaces like short-term rental music rooms, one-to-one lessons, and professional rehearsal and performance areas—are designed to meet the diverse musical needs of the community, with all revenue reinvested to sustain and expand its mission.

Background:

Bathgate Band, with roots dating back to 1842, has long played a pivotal role in West Lothian's cultural scene, providing both musical performances and educational programmes to the local community. Last year's promotion to the Championships Section of the Scottish Brass Band Association reflects its ongoing commitment to excellence.

The Bathgate Music Hub will be led by Bathgate Band, working collaboratively with local organisations including Bathgate Foundry Band, Bathgate Youth Band, Bathgate Buzzers, Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia Pipe Band, Bathgate Orchestra, Bathgate Sings, and the East of Scotland Brass Band Association. Together, these groups are united in a desire to create a centre dedicated to music education, community engagement, and the development of local talent, while ensuring Bathgate's musical legacy continues to thrive.

Reasons for Establishing the Bathgate Music Hub:

Bathgate Music Hub will be being established to serve as a centre for musical excellence, community engagement, and cultural enrichment. This project, led by Bathgate Band, will support local talent, enhance the community's well-being, and contribute to the cultural and economic vitality of Bathgate. The key reasons for creating the hub are outlined below:

➤ Alignment with West Lothian Council's Strategic Priorities

The Bathgate Music Hub will actively support West Lothian Council's (WLC) five strategic priorities in the following ways:

1. Raising Educational Attainment

- The Hub will provide accessible, lifelong music education through one-to-one tuition, workshops, and ensemble training for all age groups.
- It will support youth attainment by fostering early music engagement via partners such as Bathgate Youth Band and Caterpillar Music Lothian.
- It will contribute to academic improvement, as numerous studies link music participation with enhanced performance in literacy, numeracy, and self-confidence.

2. Strengthening Care and Support for Children, Adults, and Older People

- Music programming at the Hub will be tailored to promote mental health and emotional wellbeing across all life stages.
- Early years music sessions, adult choirs, and senior group engagement will offer safe, inclusive spaces for social interaction and resilience-building.

3. Investing in Skills and Jobs

- The Hub will serve as a skills development centre for the creative sector, offering teaching opportunities, freelance gigs, and access to professional rehearsal and recording facilities.
- It will nurture pathways to employment in music, administration, sound engineering, and event coordination.
- Volunteering and mentoring schemes will promote community leadership and workforce readiness.

4. Helping to Create Strong and Sustainable Communities

- The Music Hub will function as a civic anchor for Bathgate, offering a shared cultural space that celebrates local identity and fosters collaboration.
- It will promote sustainability through the adaptive reuse of existing infrastructure and encourage active citizenship through governance roles and programme co-creation.
- Strong links with local stakeholders, including Bathgate Community Council and Bathgate Together, will ensure ongoing relevance and inclusion.

5. Tackling Homelessness, Poverty, and Inequality

- The Hub will remove access barriers by offering free or subsidised lessons, inclusive programming, and targeted outreach to disadvantaged groups.
- It will serve as a protective space for youth development, helping at-risk individuals build confidence, social networks, and transferrable skills.
- Future partnership working with services such as housing, employability, or mental health providers will further support social reintegration and equity.

➤ Cultural Enrichment and Community Pride

Bathgate has a long-standing musical tradition, and the Music Hub will continue this legacy by offering a diverse range of musical experiences. By bringing together multiple music groups, including the Bathgate Foundry Band, Bathgate Youth Band, Bathgate Sings, Boghall & Bathgate

Pipe Band. and others, the hub will offer opportunities for residents of all ages to engage with various genres—brass, bagpipe, orchestral, and vocal music.

The hub will not only preserve and promote Bathgate’s rich cultural heritage but also foster community pride. As a beacon of cultural vibrancy, it will provide residents with a sense of identity and belonging through participation in music, whether as performers or audiences.

➤ **Community Engagement and Social Impact**

Bathgate Music Hub will be designed as a dynamic space where the community can connect through music. It will actively engage with local residents by offering:

- **Rehearsal and Performance Spaces:** The hub will host regular rehearsals and public performances, giving musicians a professional environment to hone their skills and allowing the community to enjoy local talent through concerts and events.
- **Music Education for All Ages:** Music education will be a core offering of the hub, ensuring that people of all ages and skill levels have access to high-quality music lessons. Programmes will include one-to-one lessons, group rehearsals, workshops, and masterclasses, making the hub an inclusive space for music learning.
- **Collaborative Events and Workshops:** The hub will encourage community participation through collaborative musical events, workshops, and other cultural activities, strengthening social bonds among Bathgate’s residents. These events will bring together diverse audiences, fostering a deeper appreciation for the arts and community cohesion.

➤ **Supporting Local Talent**

A key objective of Bathgate Music Hub is to support and nurture local talent, particularly emerging musicians. Through one-to-one lessons, mentorship programmes, and performance opportunities, the hub will provide young and aspiring musicians with the resources, guidance, and platforms they need to grow.

The hub will serve as an incubator for talent, offering facilities such as professional-grade rehearsal spaces, recording opportunities, and access to experienced tutors. This will enable local musicians to develop their skills and perform at a higher level, contributing to Bathgate’s standing as a town that values and fosters musical excellence.

➤ **Mental Health and Well-being**

The benefits of music extend beyond cultural enrichment and skill development—music has a profound impact on mental health and well-being. Bathgate Music Hub will use music as a tool to support the emotional and mental health of local residents, providing a space where individuals can express themselves creatively, reduce stress, and build emotional resilience.

Young people will benefit from a safe, supportive environment where they can develop not just their musical abilities but also their confidence and leadership skills. Adults will enjoy the mental and emotional benefits of participating in musical activities, while elderly residents will find opportunities for social engagement, cognitive stimulation, and emotional expression through the hub’s offerings.

➤ Economic Benefits and Local Growth

The establishment of Bathgate Music Hub will have a positive impact on the local economy. By hosting events, concerts, and performances, the hub will attract visitors from Bathgate and beyond, increasing footfall to local businesses, shops, and restaurants.

In addition, the hub will contribute to Bathgate's economic development by offering a space for local musicians, educators, and cultural organisations to rent, providing a steady source of revenue to support the hub's sustainability. Furthermore, the hub will create opportunities for volunteering, engaging the local population in meaningful roles that enhance community ties and offer valuable experience.

➤ Summary

By bringing together cultural, educational, social, and economic elements, Bathgate Music Hub will serve as a cornerstone of community life. It will celebrate Bathgate's rich musical heritage while creating a forward-looking space for talent development, mental well-being, and cultural enrichment. Through active community engagement, the hub will enhance the quality of life in Bathgate and contribute to the town's cultural and economic prosperity for generations to come.

One to One Lessons

One-to-one music lessons at Bathgate Music Hub will offer personalised instruction, allowing individuals to develop their musical skills at their own pace. These lessons will be tailored to the student's needs, providing focused guidance on instrumental or vocal techniques, musical theory, and composition.

Key Benefits:

- **Personalised Instruction:** Lessons will be customised to meet the student's specific goals and skill level, ensuring targeted feedback and progress.
- **Skill Development:** Students will explore a variety of musical genres, including classical, contemporary, jazz, and more, while honing their technical and creative abilities.
- **Performance Opportunities:** Recitals, competitions, and events provide platforms for students to gain confidence and showcase their progress.
- **Flexible Scheduling:** Lessons will be offered at times that suit the student's availability, allowing for adaptability in lesson frequency.
- **Feedback and Correction:** Direct, immediate feedback ensures that students can correct mistakes and refine their technique efficiently.
- **Career and Examination Preparation:** For those pursuing exams or careers in music, structured preparation, performance techniques, and industry insights are offered.
- **Lifelong Enjoyment and Emotional Benefits:** Whether as a hobby or professional pursuit, music lessons foster a lifelong passion for music, contributing to personal satisfaction, self-confidence, and emotional well-being.

In summary, one-to-one music lessons provide a comprehensive and flexible approach to music education, fostering individual growth and a deep love of music.

Music Booths/Rooms

The music booths/rooms at the hub will offer musicians, both individuals and groups, acoustically controlled spaces for rehearsals, recordings, and creative exploration. These rooms will be available for short-term rental, providing a convenient environment for focused musical work.

Key Benefits:

- **Immersive Sound Environment:** Acoustically treated rooms ensure high-quality sound for rehearsals and recordings.
- **Creative Haven:** Dedicated spaces allow musicians to concentrate on their craft, encouraging creativity and collaboration.
- **Convenient Equipment Access:** With instruments, amplifiers, and recording facilities on-site, musicians can easily access professional-grade tools without the hassle of transporting their own gear.
- **Flexible Rehearsal Hours:** Extended hours, including evenings and weekends, accommodate busy schedules, ensuring musicians can rehearse when it suits them.
- **Community Hub:** The booths foster networking and collaboration among local artists, helping to build a supportive, vibrant music community.

In summary, these music booths will offer a professional, flexible space for musicians at all stages of their careers, providing the tools and environment needed for creativity and growth.

Rehearsal/Performance Spaces:

Bathgate Music Hub's rehearsal and performance spaces will be designed to accommodate a wide range of musical expressions and ensemble sizes. These versatile spaces will be equipped with innovative technology, creating an ideal environment for rehearsals, performances, and recordings.

Key Benefits:

- **Versatile Layouts:** The flexible design of these spaces caters to various ensemble sizes and musical genres, providing a dynamic and inclusive environment.
- **State-of-the-Art Facilities:** Equipped with modern instruments, amplifiers, and recording technology, the spaces enhance both rehearsal and performance experiences.
- **Recording Capabilities:** Facilities are available for high-quality recordings, making it easier for musicians to capture their work.
- **Convenient Scheduling:** Flexible hours ensure that musicians can access the spaces during evenings, weekends, or other suitable times.
- **Collaborative Environment:** These spaces function as a hub for networking and collaboration within the local music scene, bringing musicians together for creative and community-driven projects.
- **Performance Venues:** The spaces seamlessly transform into intimate concert venues, providing musicians with an engaging setting for live performances.

In summary, Bathgate Music Hub's rehearsal and performance spaces offer an innovative, well-equipped environment that fosters creativity, collaboration, and professional-level music-making.

Strategic Delivery Partners:

➤ **Bathgate Band:**

Bathgate Band proudly represented Bathgate, West Lothian, and Scotland in the National Brass Band Championships of Great Britain, showcasing their dedication to musical excellence. This year, we were promoted to the Scottish Brass Band Association's Championship Section, positioning us amongst Scotland's top ten brass bands. Our achievements reflect the hard work and talent of dedicated members, who are committed to enriching the cultural vibrancy and prestige of the community.

➤ **Bathgate Youth Development Program:**

The Bathgate Youth Development Programme is a cornerstone of our commitment to nurturing local talent. We offer young musicians in West Lothian, including Bathgate, access to quality ensemble-based music education, free of charge. Through lessons, instrument loans, and mentorship, we empower young individuals to realise their potential. Notably, several of our current band members are proud products of this programme, highlighting its positive impact. The Bathgate Music Hub will enhance our efforts by providing accessible and diverse educational opportunities, fostering essential life skills, and inspiring the next generation of musicians.

➤ **Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia Pipe Band**

Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia Pipe Band has proudly represented West Lothian and Scotland on the world stage since its formation in 1972. In 2023, the band achieved a historic milestone by winning the World Pipe Band Championships, cementing its place among the elite in Grade 1 competition. This success reflects decades of dedication, musical excellence, and community spirit, driven by generations of talented pipers and drummers. The band continues to inspire pride across Bathgate and beyond, upholding a legacy of cultural distinction and international acclaim.

➤ **Bathgate Concert Orchestra:**

Founded in 1952, Bathgate Concert Orchestra comprises around 30 members, blending amateur and professional musicians. Their contribution to the Bathgate Music Hub will enhance the diversity of musical offerings, promoting classical and orchestral music within the community. They are committed to providing valuable educational and collaborative opportunities, enriching the musical experience for both performers and the broader community.

➤ **Bathgate Sings:**

Bathgate Sings, an extension of Broxburn Sings, is a community-based choir set to launch in Bathgate in 2025. Community choirs foster musical development, social connection, and personal growth, playing a vital role in enhancing the cultural and social fabric of the community. By providing individuals with the joy of singing and a sense of belonging, Bathgate Sings will contribute significantly to the Bathgate Music Hub, celebrating the shared passion for music.

➤ **Caterpillar Music Lothian:**

Caterpillar Music Lothian specialise in providing fun, educational music and sensory sessions for babies and young children. Their focus on early musical development through interactive play, singing, and movement creates a nurturing environment where young children can explore rhythm, sound, and coordination. By joining Bathgate Music Hub, Caterpillar Music Lothian will offer an engaging programme that supports cognitive, emotional, and social growth in children from an early age, fostering a love for music that can last a lifetime. This partnership will help the Hub expand its offerings to include tailored musical experiences for Bathgate's youngest residents, encouraging early engagement with the arts and laying the groundwork for future musical development.

➤ **Munday Club:**

The Munday Club are a six-piece folk band who are active in the local community and would be interested in providing tuition to interested parties on traditional folk instruments. Guitar, Mandolin, Banjo, Penny Whistles, Low Whistles and Harmonica. They are actively looking for a facility for rehearsal purposes, tuition and performances.

➤ **Brass Band Associations:**

The Scottish Brass Band Association (SBBA) and the East of Scotland Brass Band Association (EoSBBA) are organisations that promotes and supports brass bands and music across Scotland and in the East of Scotland region, respectively. These associations often look for opportunities to promote brass music and our location in the centre of Scotland is a desirable location for the following:

- **Competitions and Festivals:** SBBA & EoSBBA often organise and promote brass band competitions and festivals. These events provide opportunities for brass musicians to showcase their skills, receive feedback from judges, and compete against other musicians or ensembles.
- **Workshops and Masterclasses:** SBBA & EoSBBA may host, or support workshops and masterclasses conducted by experienced brass musicians and instructors. These events offer musicians a chance to improve their skills and learn from professionals.
- **Youth Development Programs:** The Brass Band Associations place a strong emphasis on youth development. They promote programs, such as youth bands or training ensembles, to encourage young musicians to get involved with brass music.
- **Networking:** Associations like SBBA & EoSBBA provide valuable networking opportunities for brass band members and enthusiasts. These connections can lead to collaborations, performance opportunities, and sharing of best practices.

➤ **Other Potential Organisations:**

In addition to the organisations we have already approached, we recognise that Bathgate is home to various music, arts, cultural, and heritage groups. These local entities may wish to

engage with and support the establishment of the Bathgate Music Hub, contributing valuable perspectives and resources to the project.

We are particularly enthusiastic about engaging with the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (RCS) and its outreach programme. While RCS is not based in Bathgate, their outreach initiatives have previously delivered similar services in Armadale and Livingston. Their expertise and resources could significantly enhance our project, enriching the range and quality of offerings and further contributing to the cultural landscape of our community.

Bathgate as a Beneficiary:

We recognise the importance of Bathgate as a key beneficiary of this asset. Bathgate is not only our home but also a community with its own unique character and needs. Bathgate residents will directly benefit from our presence and activities. We are committed to actively engaging with Bathgate's community organisations and schools to provide supplementary musical education and cultural experiences that enhance the lives of its residents. This commitment to community engagement will lead to several profound impacts.

The Bathgate Music Hub's multifaceted impact—encompassing physical and mental health benefits, economic growth, and enhanced cultural vibrancy—underscores its significance as a community asset. We passionately believe that this project will not only contribute to the well-being of our residents but also position Bathgate as a model for fostering the holistic development of its community members through the power of music, enriching the lives of all who call Bathgate home.

Financial Viability:

Bathgate Band is in a strong financial position with a solid track record. The Bathgate Music Hub's financial viability will be secured through a combination of income streams and strategic funding sources:

- **Membership Fees:** Member organisations and individuals using the Hub's facilities will contribute through membership fees and rental charges for specific spaces.
- **Space Rental:** A key component of our revenue model involves providing flexible and affordable space rental options. Musicians, educators, and community groups can access our state-of-the-art facilities for rehearsals, performances, and educational programmes.
- **Grants and Sponsorships:** We will actively seek commitments from local organisations and potential sponsors who recognise the value of this community initiative.
- **Public and Private Funding:** We will pursue public and private funding opportunities to support ongoing operations and future expansions.
- **Commercial Innovation, Outdoor Meeting Pods:** In addition to community-focused rentals, we are exploring the development of outdoor meeting pods as a higher-value commercial offering. These pods would utilise available external space to provide flexible, bookable workspaces for freelancers, small businesses, and remote workers. This initiative offers several benefits:
 - Generates higher rental income to subsidise community access to indoor rehearsal and tuition spaces

- Creates a dedicated revenue stream for reinvestment in building improvements, equipment upgrades, and programme expansion
- Enhances the Hub's role as a multifunctional civic asset, supporting both cultural and economic development in Bathgate
- The meeting pods would be designed to complement the Hub's core mission, ensuring that commercial activity directly supports community outcomes. We will assess feasibility, demand, and planning requirements as part of our phased development strategy.

In addition to these income streams, Bathgate Music Hub's financial and strategic model aligns with national frameworks that promote inclusive, high-quality music education and sustainable community infrastructure. This includes:

- **Youth Music's Business Case for Inclusion:** Evidence from Youth Music shows that inclusive music programmes can:
 - Secure new income through strategic partnerships and commissioned services
 - Improve teaching quality and workforce development
 - Reduce costs associated with pupil exclusion and alternative provision
- **Music Hubs Programme, Arts Council England:** While primarily focused on England, the Music Hubs framework offers a strategic model for inclusive music education and partnership-led delivery. Bathgate Music Hub reflects these principles, enhancing our case for funding from aligned cultural and educational bodies, including Creative Scotland and the Youth Music Initiative.

This alignment strengthens our proposition for funders and stakeholders, demonstrating both policy relevance and long-term viability. It also reinforces our commitment to delivering measurable social impact, educational outcomes, and cultural enrichment across Bathgate and West Lothian.

Capacity to Deliver:

Bathgate Band is well-positioned to manage the project and achieve our objectives for Bathgate Music Hub through the following approach:

- **Feasibility Study and Research:** We have conducted a comprehensive feasibility study involving our band, partner organisations, Amersham Brass Band (who have completed a similar project in England), and consultations with the wider Bathgate community. This study has provided valuable insights into the viability and potential impact of the project.
- **Community Engagement:** We believe that Bathgate Music Hub presents a unique opportunity for cultural enrichment and musical education in the community. To ensure that the project meets community needs and expectations, we have engaged with local stakeholders and will continue to seek their input throughout the process. Our community engagement analysis will be updated as we progress, incorporating feedback and addressing any concerns.
- **Collaboration with West Lothian Council:** We recognise the importance of leveraging support from key stakeholders such as Martin Thomson, West Lothian Council Social

Enterprise Adviser. Should West Lothian Council decide to proceed with our Community Asset Transfer application, we will collaborate closely with him to refine our business case. We will use the available modelling tools to assess the financial, social, and health benefits of the project.

Development of Key Documents:

- **Business Plan:** We will continue to develop our detailed business plan that outlines our strategy for managing the project, including financial projections, operational plans, and risk management strategies.
- **Community Engagement Analysis:** This analysis will be refined to include ongoing community feedback and demonstrate how we plan to address the needs and expectations of local residents.
- **Skills Audit:** We will conduct a skills audit to identify the capabilities of our team and partner organisations, ensuring we have the necessary expertise to manage the project effectively. This will be continuously updated as we progress through the Community Asset Transfer process.

By following this structured approach, we are confident in our ability to manage the project efficiently and achieve our objectives, delivering a valuable resource for the Bathgate community.

Conclusion:

Bathgate Music Hub stands as a symbol of our town's rich musical tradition and its evolving cultural landscape. By providing a dedicated space for musical education, performance, and community engagement, the Hub will be a lasting asset for Bathgate.

As a central hub for cultural enrichment, the Hub will cater to all ages and abilities, offering one-to-one lessons, rehearsal and performance spaces, and opportunities for creative collaboration. Through these diverse offerings, the Hub will foster local talent, strengthen community bonds, and enhance well-being.

Our financial strategy is built on a foundation of sustainability, with revenue generated from membership fees, space rentals, and support from grants and sponsorships. This ensures the Hub's long-term viability and its ability to continue serving the community for years to come.

We invite stakeholders, funders, and community members to support the Bathgate Music Hub, helping us realise this vision of a space where music can inspire, educate, and enrich the lives of all who call Bathgate home. Together, we can build a legacy of musical excellence and community pride that will endure for generations.

Appendix 1 – Forecast Operating Costs

Forecast operating costs are subject to disclosure by the building's previous owners and will be a reasonable assumption based on our anticipated usage, and should include the following:

- **Utilities:** Estimate costs for electricity, water, gas, and other essential utilities. Consider energy efficiency improvements to reduce consumption.
- **Business Rates:** Include business rates payments, which vary depending on the property's location, size, and usage.
- **Insurance:** Budget for property insurance and any necessary liability coverage.
- **Repairs and Maintenance:** Allocate funds for routine maintenance and repairs, including heating, plumbing, roofing, and general upkeep.
- **Cleaning Services:** Account for regular cleaning services and periodic deep cleaning.
- **Security:** Factor in security costs, including alarm systems, surveillance, and security personnel if needed.
- **Landscaping and Grounds Maintenance:** Budget for outdoor maintenance, such as gardening, lawn care, and snow removal.
- **Reserve Fund:** Set aside funds for unforeseen expenses and major future renovations or repairs.
- **Legal and Professional Fees:** Include fees for legal and accounting services, as well as other professionals as required.
- **Waste Management:** Budget for waste disposal and recycling services.
- **Technology and Communication:** Include expenses for internet, phone lines, and other communication services.
- **Compliance and Permits:** Account for costs associated with adhering to local building regulations and obtaining permits.
- **Energy Efficiency Upgrades:** Consider investments in energy-efficient systems for long-term cost savings.
- **Miscellaneous Expenses:** Be prepared for unexpected costs during building operation and maintenance.
- **Inflation and Escalation:** Recognise that many costs will increase over time due to inflation or contractual escalations.

Appendix 2 - Potential Funding Sources:

To cover the costs associated with the acquisition, renovation, and ongoing management of the property, we aim to secure funding through the following avenues:

- **National Lottery Community Fund – Scottish Land Fund:** The Scottish Land Fund will be a key source of support for the acquisition and development of the property, helping us create a sustainable and accessible community resource that enhances local cultural life.
- **Investing in Communities Fund – Scottish Government Empowering Communities Programme:** As a community anchor organisation, we will seek funding from the Scottish Government’s Empowering Communities Programme. This fund will support our efforts to improve local interests, provide meaningful engagement opportunities, and promote long-term sustainability for the Music Hub.
- **People’s Postcode Trust:** We will apply to the People’s Postcode Trust to secure funding for specific initiatives within the Music Hub project. This funding will help us deliver targeted programs with a measurable impact on the Bathgate community, such as music education, outreach, and performance opportunities.
- **Trusts and Foundations:** In addition to the People’s Postcode Trust, we will approach several other charitable trusts and foundations such as the **Foyle Foundation**, **Garfield Weston Foundation**, and the **Robertson Trust** for specific programme funding, building development, and equipment acquisition. These foundations support community projects that align with our mission of fostering cultural enrichment and educational opportunities.
- **Arts and Cultural Funds:** We will apply for arts and cultural funds such as the PRS Foundation and Help Musicians UK. These funds are crucial for musical development and outreach. Additionally, while primarily focused on England, the Music Hubs framework (Arts Council England) offers a strategic model for inclusive music education and partnership-led delivery. Bathgate Music Hub reflects these principles, strengthening our case for support from aligned cultural and educational bodies.
- **Creative Scotland, Youth Music Initiative (YMI):** To support our youth engagement efforts, we will seek funding from the Youth Music Initiative. This will help in delivering high-quality music education programs to young people in Bathgate and West Lothian, ensuring that future generations are inspired and empowered through music.
- **Heritage Lottery Fund (If Applicable):** If the project involves elements of heritage preservation, such as working with the historical aspects of Bathgate Music Hub, the Heritage Lottery Fund could provide financial support for the preservation and promotion of local heritage through music and culture.
- **Corporate Sponsorship and Local Business Support:** We plan to engage with local businesses and national companies for sponsorship opportunities. By offering corporate sponsors visibility through performances, events, and marketing, we can attract significant



financial and in-kind support. Potential partners include local businesses and larger entities like **Scottish Power Foundation** or **Royal Bank of Scotland**, which have a history of supporting community and cultural initiatives.

- **Local Donations and Fundraising:** We are committed to raising additional funds through local donations and grassroots fundraising. By engaging with local benefactors, businesses, and community groups, we will build a strong base of local financial support. We will also organise fundraising events, concerts, and campaigns to raise awareness and generate ongoing financial contributions.
- **Volunteering and In-Kind Support:** Volunteers will play a crucial role in the success of the Bathgate Music Hub. We will leverage the skills and energy of local residents to reduce operational costs in areas such as refurbishment, administration, and programme delivery. This engagement will not only enhance the Hub's community focus but also strengthen ties with local supporters.

Appendix 3 – Commercial Innovation

Outdoor Meeting Pods

Overview

As part of Bathgate Music Hub's commitment to financial sustainability and multifunctional civic use, we are exploring the development of outdoor meeting pods. These modular, bookable workspaces will be situated in available external areas of the site and designed to serve freelancers, remote workers, microbusinesses, and community organisations seeking flexible, affordable workspaces.

Strategic Rationale

The meeting pods initiative aligns with our broader goals of inclusive access, economic development, and long-term viability:

- Provides a higher-yield commercial offering to subsidise community access to rehearsal and tuition spaces
- Creates a dedicated income stream for building improvements, equipment upgrades, and programme expansion
- Positions the Hub as a hybrid cultural and economic asset, supporting Bathgate's creative economy and local enterprise
- Ensures commercial activity reinforces—not competes with—core community outcomes

Proposed Features

- Modular, weather-resistant pods with acoustic treatment, power, Wi-Fi, and ergonomic furnishings
- Hourly, daily, and monthly rental options via an online booking platform
- Step-free access and inclusive design, with proximity to indoor facilities
- Sustainable construction using recycled materials and solar panels (where feasible)

Implementation Phases

Phase	Description	Timeline	Dependencies
Feasibility	Site assessment, demand analysis, planning consultation	Q4 2025	Local authority input, community feedback
Design & Procurement	Finalise pod specifications, secure suppliers	Q1 2026	Budget allocation, supplier vetting
Pilot Deployment	Install 1–2 pods, monitor usage and feedback	Q2 2026	Planning approval, infrastructure readiness
Full Rollout	Expand pod offering, integrate with Hub operations	Q3–Q4 2026	Evaluation of pilot, funding availability

Risk & Mitigation

Risk	Mitigation Strategy
Planning constraints	Early engagement with West Lothian Council and phased rollout
Low initial uptake	Targeted outreach to freelancers, SMEs, and creative networks
Community perception	Transparent messaging that pods subsidise access and enhance the Hub’s mission
Maintenance costs	Include upkeep in rental pricing and reinvestment strategy

Stakeholder Engagement

We will consult with local enterprise groups, creative freelancers, and community organisations to ensure the pods meet real-world needs. Feedback will inform design, pricing, and operational policies. This initiative will be framed as a community-benefiting commercial innovation, reinforcing the Hub’s role as a sustainable, inclusive civic asset.

Appendix 4 – Property Requirements

REQUIREMENT DESCRIPTION	THRESHOLD SPECIFICATION	OBJECTIVE SPECIFICATION
Overall Description of Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Main rehearsal room to accommodate full band rehearsals. ➤ Toilet facilities to meet legal requirements. ➤ Storage facilities for instruments, music, and other equipment. ➤ A tuition room to facilitate one-to-one or small group rehearsal whilst larger groups use the main rehearsal room. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Additional tuition rooms to facilitate one-to-one or small group rehearsal whilst larger groups use the main rehearsal room. ➤ A kitchenette facility for preparation of refreshments.
Main Rehearsal Room	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Minimum 80m² ➤ Minimum linear dimensions 8m x 10m ➤ Minimum ceiling height 2.4m 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 200m² would facilitate larger groups or a small audience. It would also improve opportunities for multi-functional use of the facility. ➤ Vaulted ceiling combined with suitable sound treatment would improve acoustic and facilitate recording in premises.
Tuition Rooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ One room approx. 6m x 4m with reasonable sound separation from main rehearsal room to allow individual or small group tuition whilst rehearsals are ongoing in the main room. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ One or more additional rooms in varying sizes.
Storage Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Secure storage: minimum 15m² for instruments and equipment. ➤ Additional 15m² area to accommodate desk, photocopier and 7 standard filing cabinets for music. ➤ Separate lockable storage for cleaning equipment and materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Additional storage would be beneficial, both for the band and for use of the facility by other groups.



REQUIREMENT DESCRIPTION	THRESHOLD SPECIFICATION	OBJECTIVE SPECIFICATION
Toilet Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ To meet current regulations for a publicly accessible multipurpose facility.	
Kitchenette	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Facility adequate to prepare and serve tea and coffee. Sink with drinkable water supply.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ A more extensive facility would be beneficial for multipurpose use of building. A segregated facility would reduce H&S risks.
Lighting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Interior lighting in main rehearsal hall and tuition rooms to be min 300 lux, evenly distributed.➤ Emergency lighting to meet legal requirements.➤ Exterior lighting to ensure safe entry and egress from parking and/or street.	
Heating & Ventilation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Adequate heating and ventilation to allow year-round use of the facility, maintaining reasonable levels of comfort for up to 40 players rehearsing for 2hrs.➤ Systems to be compliant with all relevant H&S regulations.➤ Where ventilation requires leaving doors and windows open, rehearsal must not cause nuisance to occupants of neighbouring properties	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Systems to be designed for low running cost and low environmental impact.
Power Outlets	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Min 4 x double outlets in main rehearsal hall➤ Min 1 x double outlet in tuition room(s).➤ Outlet in suitable location for water boiler.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Fixed water boiler preferred.

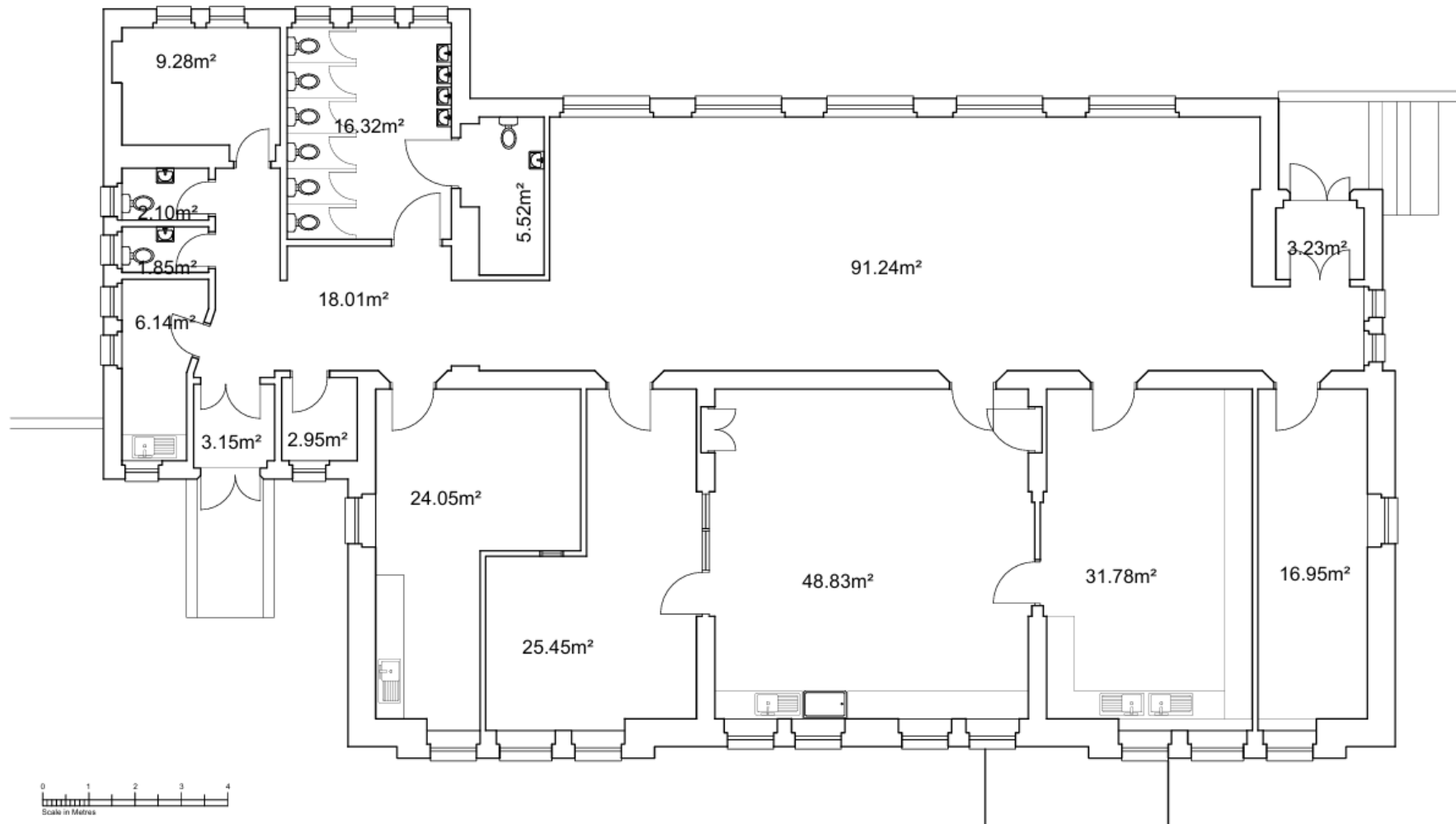
REQUIREMENT DESCRIPTION	THRESHOLD SPECIFICATION	OBJECTIVE SPECIFICATION
Acoustics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Acoustic of main rehearsal hall must not be excessively live such that clarity is lost, and rehearsing becomes uncomfortable. ➤ Acoustic separation between main rehearsal room and tuition room(s) adequate to allow individual / small group tuition to be undertaken whilst larger groups are using the main rehearsal room. Note. Natural acoustic characteristics can be treated if needed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Professional acoustic design or retrospective treatment to create ideal rehearsal and occasional recording facilities.
Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Premises must be able to be secured sufficient to meet insurance company requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Additional measures to reduce likelihood of break-in, theft, or vandalism.
Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Within 5-mile radius of Bathgate. ➤ Sufficient separation from residential property to avoid noise affecting neighbours (particularly in summer when windows may be open). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Within reasonable walking distance of good transport links to reduce reliance on private vehicles. ➤ A location within Bathgate would be preferable. This would be of particular benefit for parents of Youth Band members. It would increase the potential use of the facility for other purposes. It would also strengthen links with the town. ➤ A location with minimal background noise (away from busy roads or rail lines) would offer potential to use the facility for recording by the bands or other local groups



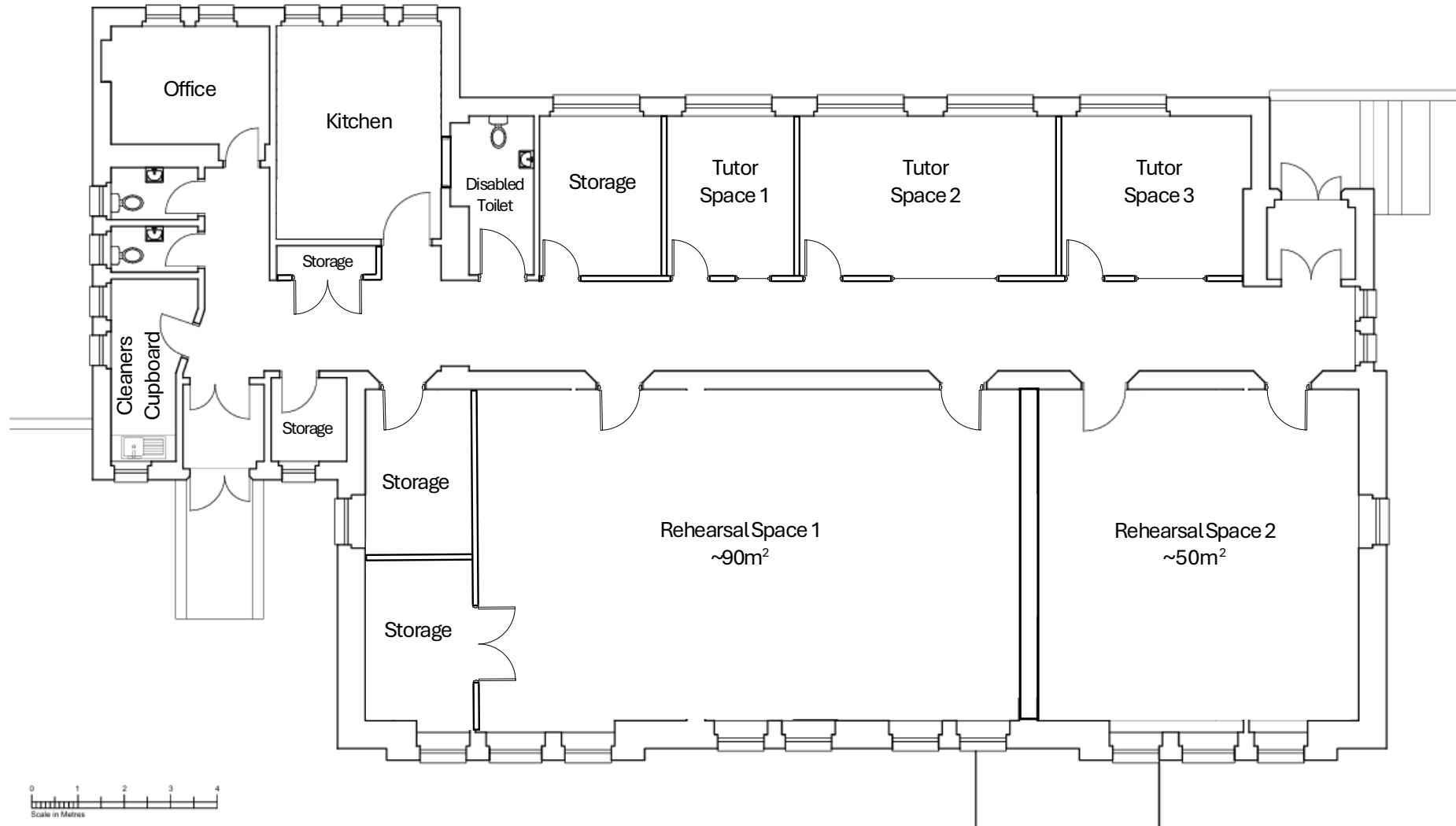
REQUIREMENT DESCRIPTION	THRESHOLD SPECIFICATION	OBJECTIVE SPECIFICATION
Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ The facility must be fully accessible in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.➤ Use by the Bathgate Band and Bathgate Youth Band initially a minimum 2- evenings per week plus additional evening and weekend rehearsals. (Occasionally increasing to 4 or 5 evenings and weekends).➤ Access to music and equipment as required for concerts and events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Intention is to increase usage by Bathgate Band and other local musical groups.
Car Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Access to parking for min 5 cars within 30m of building for disabled and players of larger instruments.➤ Access to parking for a further 20 cars within 100m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Parking for min 20 cars on premises. Additional free or low-cost parking within 200m.
Sharing With Other Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Strong preference would be for Bathgate Band to have control of the facility with an option to sub-let space to other groups. If shared control or a sub-let arrangement were the only option, the following would apply:➤ Bathgate Band currently rehearse Monday and Thursday evenings and will require access at other times.➤ Where a facility has multiple function rooms, used by other groups at the same time as the band may be impracticable unless there is effective acoustic separation between rooms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Facility under control of Bathgate Band with option to sub-let space to other groups.

Appendix 5 – Indicative Plans - Bathgate West Nursery





CURRENT FLOOR PLAN



INDICATIVE FLOOR PLAN

Appendix 6 – Potential Renovation Costs

The following table provides an indicative cost towards renovation of an existing building, but would be subject to current state of repair and desired outcome:

Estimated Renovation Costs based on 100 m2				
Item	Qty	Unit Cost	Material Costs	Labour Costs
Lighting				
600x600 LED lighting panels	33	£30.00	£990.00	£495.00
LED Emergency lighting battery packs	10	£30.00	£300.00	£150.00
Hager Klik 12 Outlet Marshalling Box	3	£125.00	£375.00	£187.50
Hager Klik 6A 4 pin Plugs	36	£5.00	£180.00	£90.00
Emergency Exit Lighting	2	£50.00	£100.00	£50.00
3 gang Light Switch	1	£25.00	£25.00	£12.50
Cabling (estimate)	1	£300.00	£300.00	£150.00
Sundries	1	£200.00	£200.00	£100.00
General Power				
2 gang socket outlets	10	£15.00	£150.00	£75.00
Cabling	1	£250.00	£250.00	£125.00
Sundries	1	£200.00	£200.00	£100.00
Power Distribution				
Distribution Board	1	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£500.00
Sundries	1	£200.00	£200.00	£100.00
Suspended Ceiling				
Acoustic Suspended Ceiling Kit – Rockfon Artic 600 x 600mm (100 m2)	1	£1,800.00	£1,800.00	£900.00
Sundries	1	£300.00	£300.00	£150.00
Shadow gap	50	£2.50	£125.00	£62.50
Flooring				



Flooring coverings	100	£25.00	£2,500.00	£1,250.00
Sundries	1	£300.00	£300.00	£150.00
Decoration				
Paint per sq. M of wall	120	£12.00	£1,440.00	£720.00
Sundries	1	£250.00	£250.00	£125.00
Subtotal			£10,985.00	£5,492.50
			Materials	£10,985.00
			Labour	£5,492.50
			VAT	£3,295.50
			Total	£19,773.00

As a registered charity, we would endeavour to reach out to the community to bring labour into the hub through goodwill, thereby reducing our potential renovation costs.

Appendix 7 – Potential Income Forecast

Potential Annual Income

Space Name	Capacity	Hourly rate (£)	Estimated Average Hrs/Week	Average Weekly Income (£)	Average Monthly Income (£)	Annual Income over 48 wks (£)
Rehearsal Space 1	40	20	12	£ 240	£ 960	£ 11,520
Rehearsal Space 2	20	15	36	£ 540	£ 2,160	£ 25,920
Tutor Space 1	3	8	20	£ 160	£ 640	£ 7,680
Tutor Space 2	8	12	20	£ 240	£ 960	£ 11,520
Storage	20m ³	0.25	168	£ 42	£ 168	£ 2,016
TOTAL				£ 1,222	£ 4,888	£ 58,656

5 Year Forecast

Space Name	Capacity	Hourly rate (£)	Estimated Average Hrs/Week (Year 1)	Year 1	Year 2 5% Growth	Year 3 5% Growth	Year 4 5% Growth	Year 5 5% Growth
Rehearsal Space 1	40	20	12	£ 11,520	£ 12,096	£ 12,701	£ 13,336	£ 14,003
Rehearsal Space 2	20	15	36	£ 25,920	£ 27,216	£ 28,577	£ 30,006	£ 31,506
Tutor Space 1	3	8	20	£ 7,680	£ 8,064	£ 8,467	£ 8,891	£ 9,335
Tutor Space 2	8	12	20	£ 11,520	£ 12,096	£ 12,701	£ 13,336	£ 14,003
Storage	20m ³	0.25	168	£ 2,016	£ 2,117	£ 2,223	£ 2,334	£ 2,450
TOTAL				£ 58,656	£ 61,589	£ 64,668	£ 67,902	£ 71,297

Since Bathgate Band is a not-for-profit charity, any surplus from rental of the facility would be re-invested in innovative technology and/or enhancement of services offered from the Music Hub. In addition to the above, we want to explore commercial rental opportunity for available external space, with a view to potentially providing meeting pods for external rentals.



	Rehearsal Space 1 (40 Persons)			Indicative		Rehearsal Space 2 (20 Persons)						
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday					
10:00												
11:00												
12:00												
13:00												
14:00												
15:00												
16:00												
17:00												
18:00												
19:00												
20:00												
21:00												



Tutor Space 1 (2-3 Persons)			Indicative		Tutor Space 2 (8-10 Persons)			
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
10:00						1-2-1 Lessons	Perc Academy	SBBA/EoSBBA (Monthly)
11:00						1-2-1 Lessons		
12:00						1-2-1 Lessons		
13:00								
14:00	Private Hire			Private Hire			Private Hire	
15:00								
16:00	1-2-1 Lessons	1-2-1 Lessons	1-2-1 Lessons	1-2-1 Lessons		1-2-1 Lessons		
17:00	1-2-1 Lessons	1-2-1 Lessons	1-2-1 Lessons	1-2-1 Lessons		1-2-1 Lessons		
18:00	1-2-1 Lessons	1-2-1 Lessons	1-2-1 Lessons	1-2-1 Lessons	Bathgate Buzzers	1-2-1 Lessons		
19:00				Munday Club			Munday Club	
20:00	Private Hire	Chanter Class						
21:00								

Appendix 8 – Cashflow Forecast

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Income from rental of space	£58,656	£61,589	£64,668	£67,902	£71,297
Fundraising & Grants	£11,500	£11,500	£11,500	£11,550	£11,603
Trading %	84%	84%	85%	85%	86%
Total income	£70,156	£73,089	£76,168	£79,452	£82,899
Total expenditure	£37,672	£39,046	£40,986	£42,973	£45,058
Profit or (loss)	£32,484	£34,043	£35,182	£36,479	£37,841
Operating Cash Flow					
Without grants	£20,984	£22,543	£23,682	£24,929	£26,238
With grants	£32,484	£34,043	£35,182	£36,479	£37,841

The commercial rental of external space, including the possible provision of meeting pods, may affect the forecasts mentioned above. However, further analysis is necessary before making any decisions regarding this option.

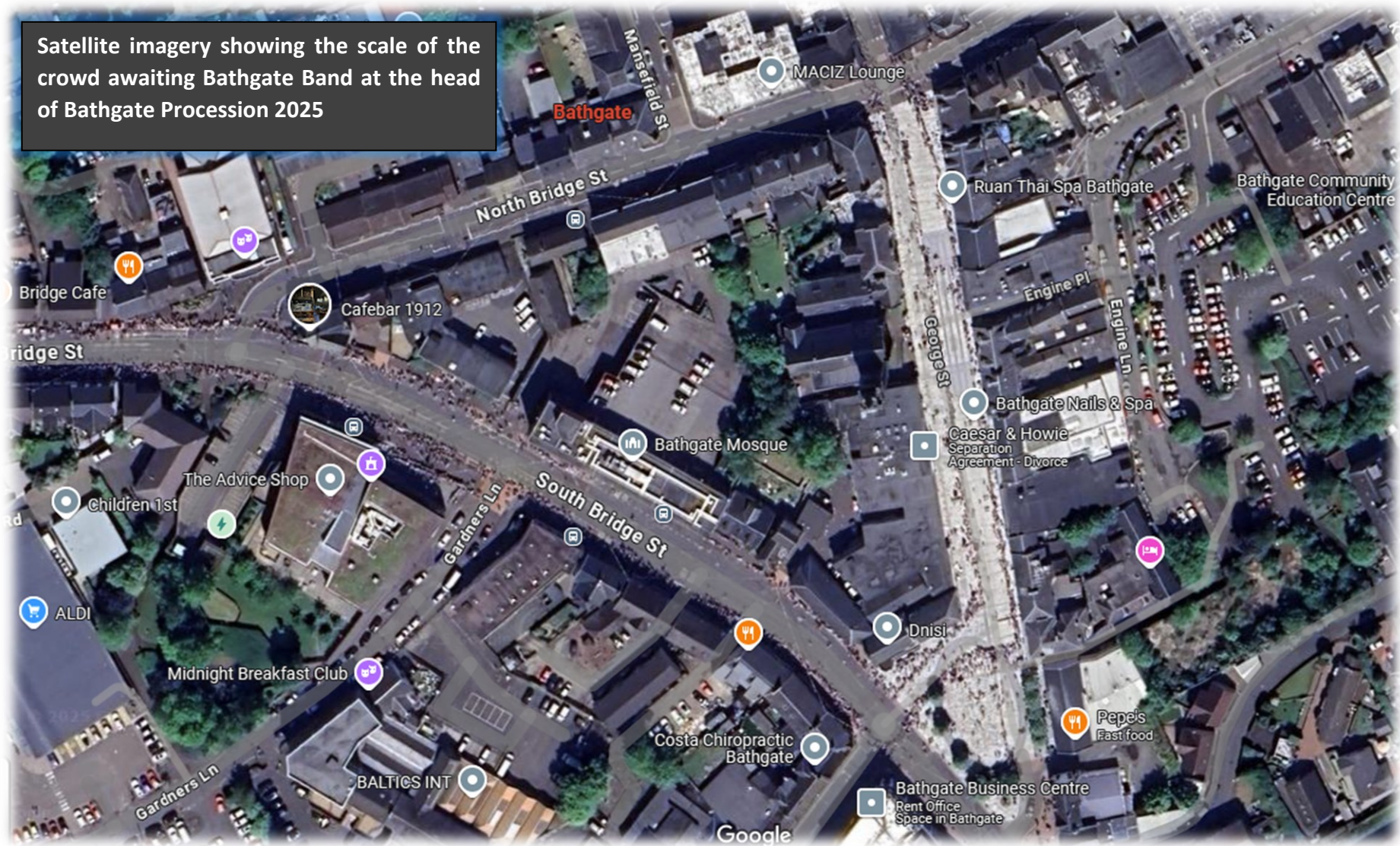


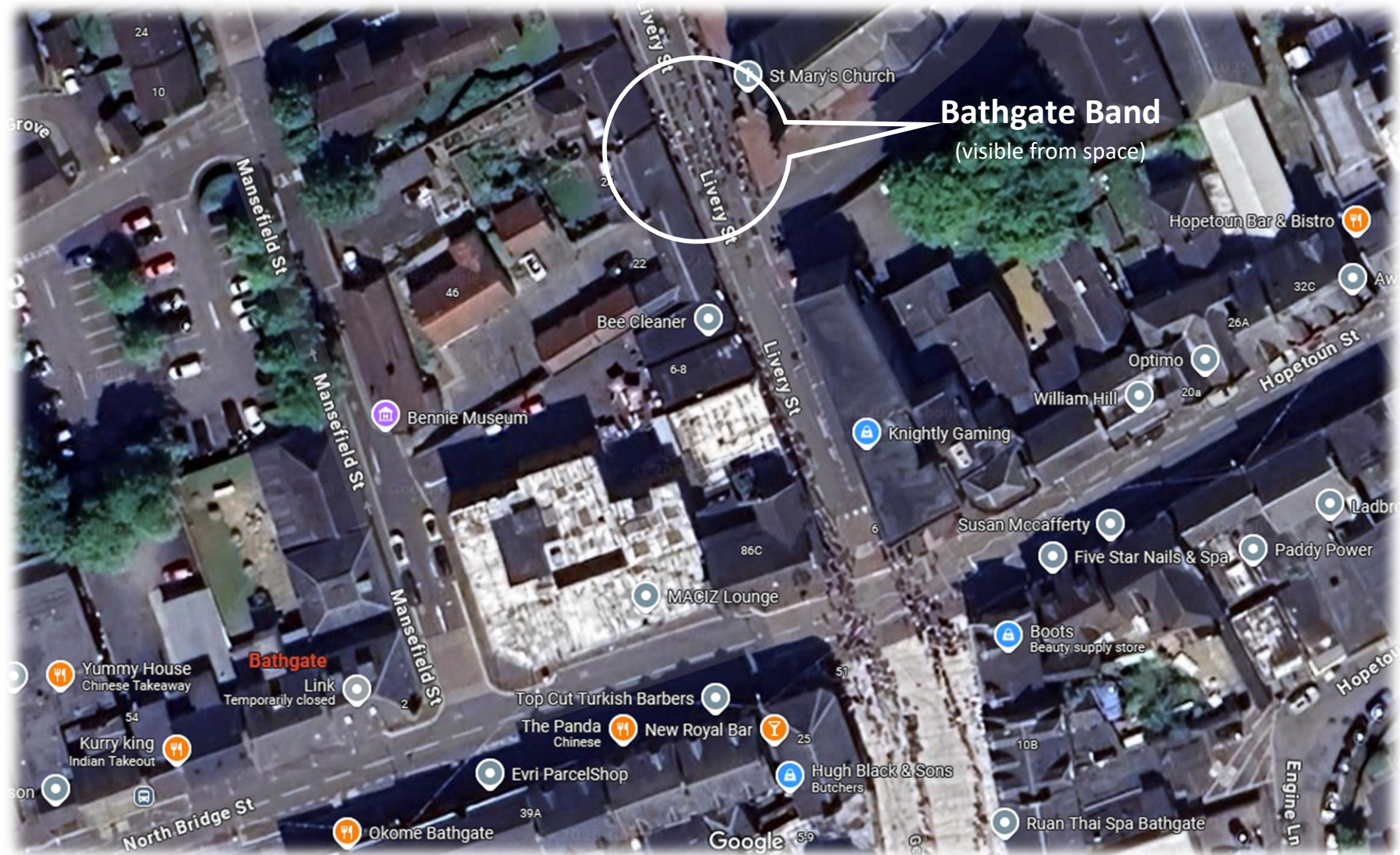
Appendix 9 – Community Impact Assessment

Whilst the trustees work with Community Enterprise to develop more accurate and recognisable Community Impact Assessments, we are, in the interim, submitting the following assessment as an indicator of the estimated benefit, based on data obtained from the Department of Media Culture and Sport and Event Scotland websites.

Benefit Area Volunteer Hours	Average Hours (Per Month)	Total Hours Committed Per Annum	Total Benefit in Kind (£)	Assumptions
Management Volunteer Hours	368	4,416	£ 78,207.36	Calculated based on a volunteer hour at £17.71 (the average wage in West Lothian)
Youth Development Management Volunteer Hours	48	576	£ 10,200.96	
SUBTOTAL	416	4,992	£ 88,408.32	ONS Earnings Dataset
Wellbeing Benefit Area	No of Member	Wellbeing Value (£)	Total Benefit in Kind (£)	Assumptions
Bathgate Band Members	30	£ 1,000.00	£ 30,000.00	Calculated based on the DCMS £1,000/year wellbeing value for regular cultural engagement
Bathgate Youth Band Members	15	£ 1,000.00	£ 15,000.00	
SUBTOTAL	45	1,000	£ 45,000.00	Frontier Economics research for DCMS
Community Impact Benefit Area	No of Attendees across all events	Cultural Engagement Value (£)	Total Benefit in Kind (£)	Assumptions
Community Impact (Events)	84820	£ 5.00	£ 424,100.00	While not formally published by DCMS or Event Scotland, £5–£10 per attendee range is commonly used in local authority and third-sector evaluations to estimate the social value of one-off or casual cultural engagement.
SUBTOTAL	84820		£ 424,100.00	
TOTAL			£ 557,508.32	

Satellite imagery showing the scale of the crowd awaiting Bathgate Band at the head of Bathgate Procession 2025





Some photos from events throughout 2025



Bathgate Procession 2025



Linlithgow Marches 2025



Ryan Quigley Concert, Glasgow 2025



Rosemount Gardens, Bathgate 2025



Beamish March & Hymn Contest 2025



That Winning Feeling 2025

Appendix 10 – SWOT Analysis

STRENGTHS

- **Large and Enthusiastic Membership:** A strong, resolute, and enthusiastic membership base, united by a shared love of music and community, providing a solid foundation for the Hub's activities.
- **Unity and Friendship:** The close-knit relationships and camaraderie among members foster a supportive and collaborative environment, strengthening the group's cohesion and teamwork.
- **Discipline and Respect:** High levels of discipline, mutual respect, and commitment contribute to the band's continued success and ensure productive and harmonious collaboration.
- **Passion and Talent Pool:** A deep passion for music, combined with access to a wide pool of skilled musicians, experienced conductors, and resolute tutors, enhances the Hub's creative potential.
- **Established Reputation:** With a long-standing presence and recognition in the local and national music scene, the Bathgate Band and its partners bring credibility to the Hub, inspiring confidence in potential collaborators and participants.
- **Strong Administrative Structure:** A robust organisational framework ensures smooth operations, effective management of resources, and long-term sustainability of the Hub's activities.
- **Health and Well-being Benefits:** Participating in music-making promotes stress relief, improves mental health, and enhances lung capacity, providing significant health benefits to members and the wider community.
- **Higher Academic Achievement:** Studies show that involvement in instrumental music is linked to higher academic performance, making the Hub an important educational resource for the community.
- **Community Engagement and Support:** Strong local support and active involvement from community members ensure that the Hub remains connected to and enriched by the people it serves.
- **Diverse Partnerships:** Collaborations with a wide range of musical organisations and genres expand the Hub's offerings, fostering creativity and providing opportunities for cross-genre exploration.
- **Cultural Enrichment:** By promoting a variety of musical traditions, the Hub contributes to the cultural vibrancy of Bathgate, making it a central hub for artistic and musical expression.

WEAKNESSES

- **Limited Funding Sources:** Initial funding may be constrained, relying heavily on donations, grants, and sponsorships. This could limit the Hub's ability to fully support all its programming, especially in the preliminary stages. Long-term financial stability will be essential for sustainability.
- **Volunteer Dependence:** Heavy reliance on volunteers could lead to inconsistencies in operations and programming. Availability of volunteers may vary, which might hinder the smooth running of the Hub, making it important to consider strategies for consistent staffing.
- **Limited Use of Modern Technology:** There may be underutilisation of technology for music production, online engagement, and outreach. This gap could reduce the Hub's capacity to engage digitally with both local and wider communities, especially for remote learning or virtual performances.
- **Challenges in Coordinating Diverse Activities:** Bringing together diverse music groups and genres could present logistical and scheduling challenges. Coordinating rehearsals, performances, and events across different ensembles might lead to conflicts or underuse of the space.
- **Space Limitations:** The Hub may face space constraints depending on the available facilities. This could limit its capacity to host large groups, full orchestras, or public performances, making it difficult to serve multiple groups simultaneously.
- **Insufficient Instruments and Equipment:** There may not be enough quality instruments or accessories to meet the needs of a large and diverse membership. This could impact the quality of lessons, rehearsals, and performances, especially for beginner musicians or those without their own instruments.
- **Lack of Standard Recording Facilities:** Without professional recording spaces or equipment, the Hub may find it challenging to create high-quality audio or video recordings. This could limit opportunities for musicians to produce demos or for the Hub to promote its activities effectively.
- **Inadequate Rehearsal and Performance Spaces:** The physical spaces available for rehearsals may not meet the requirements of all groups. Issues such as poor heating, lighting, or acoustics, especially during winter months, could affect the quality of rehearsals and performances.
- **Limited Accessibility for All Community Members:** If the Hub is not fully accessible (physically or financially), it may not reach all members of the community, especially individuals with mobility issues or lower-income residents. Ensuring inclusivity is crucial to the Hub's mission.
- **Resource-Intensive Start-Up Phase:** Establishing a new hub involves significant planning, resource allocation, and time. The early phases could be resource-intensive and require substantial effort from both leadership and volunteers to get the project off the ground.

OPPORTUNITIES

- **Strengthening Partnerships:** Build and enhance relationships with local schools, music organisations, and businesses to create mutual benefits, increase visibility, and provide more comprehensive music education and performance opportunities.
- **Grants and Sponsorships:** Apply for arts, cultural, and educational grants while seeking sponsorships from local businesses and larger organisations to increase funding and ensure the long-term financial sustainability of the Hub.
- **Expanding Digital Presence:** Develop a robust online presence through social media platforms, a dedicated website, and live-streamed or virtual performances. This will help the Hub reach a broader audience and engage with people beyond the local community.
- **Hosting Workshops and Events:** Organise workshops, masterclasses, and community events that cater to musicians of all levels. This will help engage new members, provide educational opportunities, and increase community participation.
- **Youth Programs:** Establish music programs specifically designed for young musicians, providing them with mentorship, instrument loans, and training. This will nurture new talent and ensure the next generation's involvement in Bathgate's musical community.
- **Cross-Genre Collaborations:** Explore unique musical projects that blend various genres, such as classical, jazz, brass, and modern music, to attract a broader audience and encourage innovation among musicians.
- **Outreach to Underserved Communities:** Develop outreach programs aimed at underserved or marginalised communities, promoting accessibility to music education, and offering opportunities for wider participation in musical activities.
- **Establishing a Recording Studio:** Set up a recording and production facility within the Hub to support musicians in creating high-quality recordings, producing content, and distributing their work. This could also offer a revenue stream through studio rentals.
- **Community Support and Fundraising:** Engage with local donors through fundraising events, donation campaigns, and sponsorship drives to rally community support and increase funding.
- **Exposure and Growth:** Leverage opportunities to perform at local, national, and international events, which will not only boost the Hub's recognition but also foster growth in membership and collaboration opportunities.

THREATS

- **Financial Constraints:** Limited financial resources could hinder the Hub's ability to acquire new instruments, equipment, or fund large-scale projects, affecting its growth and capacity to deliver high-quality services.
- **Unforeseen Circumstances:** Unexpected events like economic downturns or public health crises (e.g. pandemics) could severely disrupt operations, reduce attendance, or limit funding opportunities.
- **Maintenance Costs:** The ongoing expense of maintaining, repairing, and upgrading instruments, equipment, and facilities could become a financial burden, potentially diverting funds from other crucial activities.
- **Member Retention:** Keeping members engaged over the long term, especially as they graduate, move away, or shift to other personal commitments, could present challenges in maintaining a stable and consistent membership base.
- **Competition from Local Groups:** Competing music groups and entertainment venues in the region may draw attention away from the Hub, reducing attendance at performances and membership in programs.
- **Economic Factors:** Economic instability in the wider region could reduce the availability of funding from grants, sponsorships, and donations, while also potentially affecting audience size and participation.
- **Shifting Interests:** Changes in musical tastes, cultural trends, or community preferences may affect the Hub's appeal, requiring continuous adaptation to stay relevant and attractive to all age groups and demographics.
- **Regulatory Changes:** Alterations in government or council regulations around arts funding, community spaces, or charitable organisations could impact the Hub's ability to secure financial support or manage its operations efficiently.
- **Sustainability and Burnout:** Ensuring the long-term sustainability of the Hub's operations, while preventing burnout among key organisers, volunteers, and musicians, is a potential challenge that could affect ongoing success.

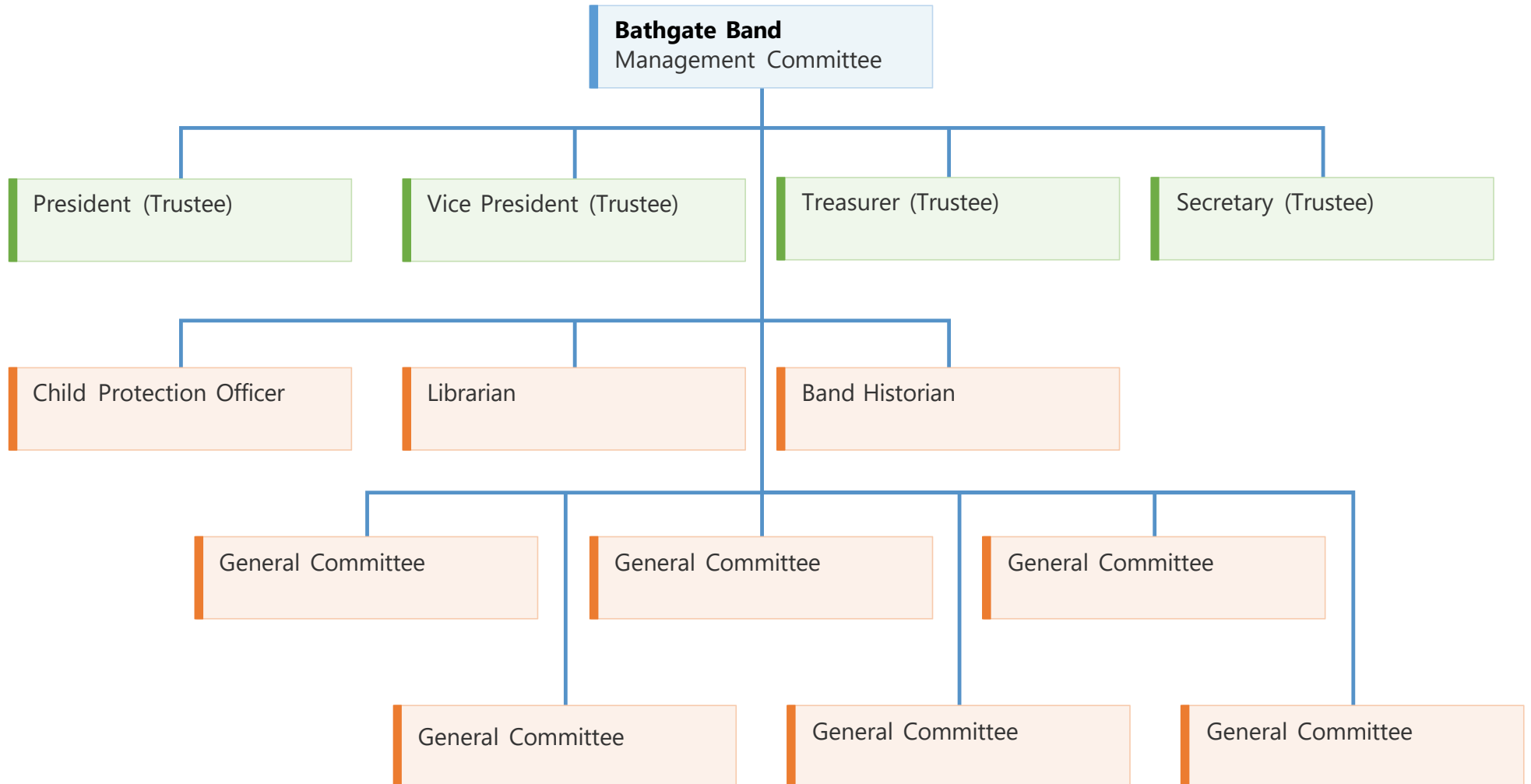
Appendix 11 - Risk Assessment

RISK CATEGORY	POTENTIAL RISKS	IMPACT	LIKELIHOOD	MITIGATION STRATEGIES
Financial Risks	Funding Shortfalls: Not securing enough funding	High	Medium	Diversify funding sources, establish contingency plans, develop strong grant proposals.
	Cost Overruns: Exceeding budgeted amounts	High	Medium	Develop detailed cost estimates, include contingency funds, and review financial projections regularly.
Operational Risks	Project Delays: Delays in construction or milestones	High	Medium	Create a detailed project plan with timelines, identify potential delays early, and have backup plans.
	Resource Availability: Insufficient personnel/materials	Medium	Medium	Plan for resource needs in advance, establish agreements with suppliers/contractors, and have a recruitment strategy.
Regulatory & Compliance Risks	Planning and Permitting Issues: Delays or obstacles with approvals	High	Medium	Engage early with planning authorities, ensure compliance with local regulations, and include time buffers.
	Health and Safety Compliance: Non-compliance with regulations	High	Low	Develop and enforce strict health and safety protocols, provide training, and conduct regular audits.
Community and Stakeholder Risks	Community Opposition: Opposition from residents/groups	Medium	Medium	Engage with the community early, address concerns transparently, and demonstrate project benefits.
	Stakeholder Conflicts: Conflicts with partners	Medium	Low	Define roles and responsibilities clearly, maintain open communication, and establish conflict resolution mechanisms.



RISK CATEGORY	POTENTIAL RISKS	IMPACT	LIKELIHOOD	MITIGATION STRATEGIES
Operational Risks	Maintenance and Upkeep: Inadequate maintenance leading to deterioration	Medium	Medium	Develop a maintenance plan, allocate budget for upkeep, and schedule regular inspections.
	Staffing and Management: Staffing shortages or management issues	Medium	Medium	Implement a recruitment and training plan, establish clear management structures.
Market and Demand Risks	Low Participation: Lower than expected community engagement	High	Medium	Conduct market research, develop targeted marketing strategies, and offer programmes that meet community needs.
	Competition: Competition from other similar facilities	Medium	Medium	Differentiate the Music Hub with unique offerings, build community relationships, and adapt to market trends.
Legal Risks	Contractual Disputes: Disputes with contractors or partners	Medium	Medium	Use clear contracts, seek legal advice, and establish a dispute resolution process.
	Intellectual Property: Issues related to IP use	Medium	Low	Ensure proper licensing and agreements are in place for intellectual property.
Environmental Risks	Environmental Impact: Negative impacts from renovation/operation	Medium	Low	Conduct environmental assessments, comply with regulations, and implement sustainability practices.

Appendix 12 – Organisation Structure



Appendix 13 - Support and Endorsement

Bathgate Band has gathered substantial support for our project from a range of local community groups and individuals, reflecting broad-based enthusiasm for the project. Our Community Asset Transfer application has received wide-ranging and enthusiastic backing from across the community.

Key support has come from established local organisations such as Bathgate Community Council, Bathgate Together, Bathgate Concert Orchestra, and emerging groups like Broxburn Sings, who are working to develop a Bathgate Sings initiative. We are also grateful for the endorsement of respected cultural bodies, including Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia Pipe Band, Caterpillar Music, the Scottish Brass Band Association, and the East of Scotland Brass Band Association. This breadth of backing demonstrates the community's strong belief in the value, relevance, and long-term benefits of the project.

In addition to endorsements from organisations, our commitment to community engagement is evidenced by tangible grassroots support. Our community feedback form has received over 200 thoughtful entries, offering invaluable perspectives and revealing a genuine appetite for the Music Hub. Complementing this, more than 100 individuals have added their names to our paper petition, underlining the widespread local enthusiasm and desire to see the project come to fruition.

To ensure that those most directly affected had a voice, our trustees undertook door-to-door engagement with all neighbouring properties. The response was overwhelmingly positive, with residents consistently expressing support for the Music Hub and its potential to enrich the community. These numbers and experiences reflect not just agreement, but a shared sense of ownership and belief in the positive impact of the proposed asset transfer.

Support for Bathgate Band's proposal also includes:

- **Bathgate Community Council:** Provided a statement of endorsement, recognising the potential benefits of Bathgate Music Hub for local cultural enrichment and community engagement.
- **Bathgate Together:** Committed to collaborating with us to ensure the project aligns with community needs, based on the anticipated social and educational benefits.
- **Local Residents and Community Groups:** Feedback from consultations and surveys shows substantial interest and approval for a dedicated space for musical activities and cultural events.
- **Partner Organisations:** Backing from Amersham Brass Band and other partners with experience in similar projects adds further credibility to our proposal.

In addition to these groups and partner organisations, formal letters of support have been received from a range of elected representatives, civic leaders, and parent organisations,

highlighting recognition at multiple levels of governance and further validating the strategic importance of Bathgate Music Hub. The following letters are attached to this bid:

- **3rd July 2025 Harry Cartmill (Councillor)**
- **9th July Kirsteen Sullivan MP**
- **25th July 2025 Fiona Hyslop MSP**
- **28th July 2025 Carrie Boax (SBBA)**
- **30th July 2025 Pauline Stafford (Councillor)**
- **31st July 2025 The cooperation band**
- **31st July 2025 Whitburn Band**
- **6th August David Russel (Councillor)**
- **8th August St David's Brass Band**
- **12th August Bathgate Together**
- **14th August Angela Wheelan**
- **14th August Denny & Dunnipace Pipe Band**
- **15th August Amersham Band**
- **15th August Jenny Young (Prospective Parliamentary Candidate)**

The widespread support from these stakeholders, together with the strong grassroots engagement and formal endorsements, underscores the community's collective desire for Bathgate Music Hub and reinforces our commitment to delivering a project that meets local expectations and enhances cultural opportunities in Bathgate.

Additional supporting evidence for this extensive support and engagement can be found in Appendices 22–24.

Enclosed Appendixes

Appendix 14 – Bathgate Band Case Studies

Enclosed case studies document the lived experiences of Bathgate Band members, highlighting music's role in fostering discipline, confidence, and community belonging. These examples illustrate the long-term impact of sustained musical engagement and underscore the need for a permanent hub.

Appendix 15 – Community Outreach Plan

The enclosed outreach plan outlines a proactive, inclusive strategy to engage diverse community groups. It details proposed programming, access pathways, and partnership models designed to ensure the Hub serves as a shared resource for all.

Appendix 16 – Video Clips

This appendix contains videos featuring messages from young musicians and our president outlining our vision, however due to the size we are unable to attach the files directly, but these are accessible via the following links: [APPENDIX 16 - Videos](#)

Appendix 17 – The Power of Music to Change Lives

The enclosed research summary draws on national and international evidence of music's transformative effects on mental health, education, and social cohesion. It reinforces the Hub's potential as a wellbeing and inclusion catalyst.

Appendix 18 – National Plan for Music Education Case Studies

Included case studies demonstrate alignment with the UK's National Plan for Music Education, showcasing best practices in youth development, progression pathways, and community-led delivery models relevant to Bathgate's vision.

Appendix 19 – Quantifying and Valuing the Wellbeing Impacts of Sport and Culture

This appendix contains economic modelling and proxy values that quantify the wellbeing benefits of cultural participation. The enclosed data supports the Hub's social value proposition with funder-defensible metrics.

Appendix 20 – Quantifying the Social Impacts of Culture and Sport

Building on Appendix 19, the enclosed analysis explores broader social returns, such as reduced isolation, increased volunteering, and civic pride, strengthening the rationale for public investment in cultural infrastructure.

Appendix 21 – Our Strategic Partners

The enclosed strategic partner infographic confirm multi-group backing for the Hub, including Bathgate Concert Orchestra, Boghall & Bathgate Caledonia Pipe Band, and the Munday Club. Their involvement reflects shared ownership and long-term commitment.

Appendix 22 – Community Consultation

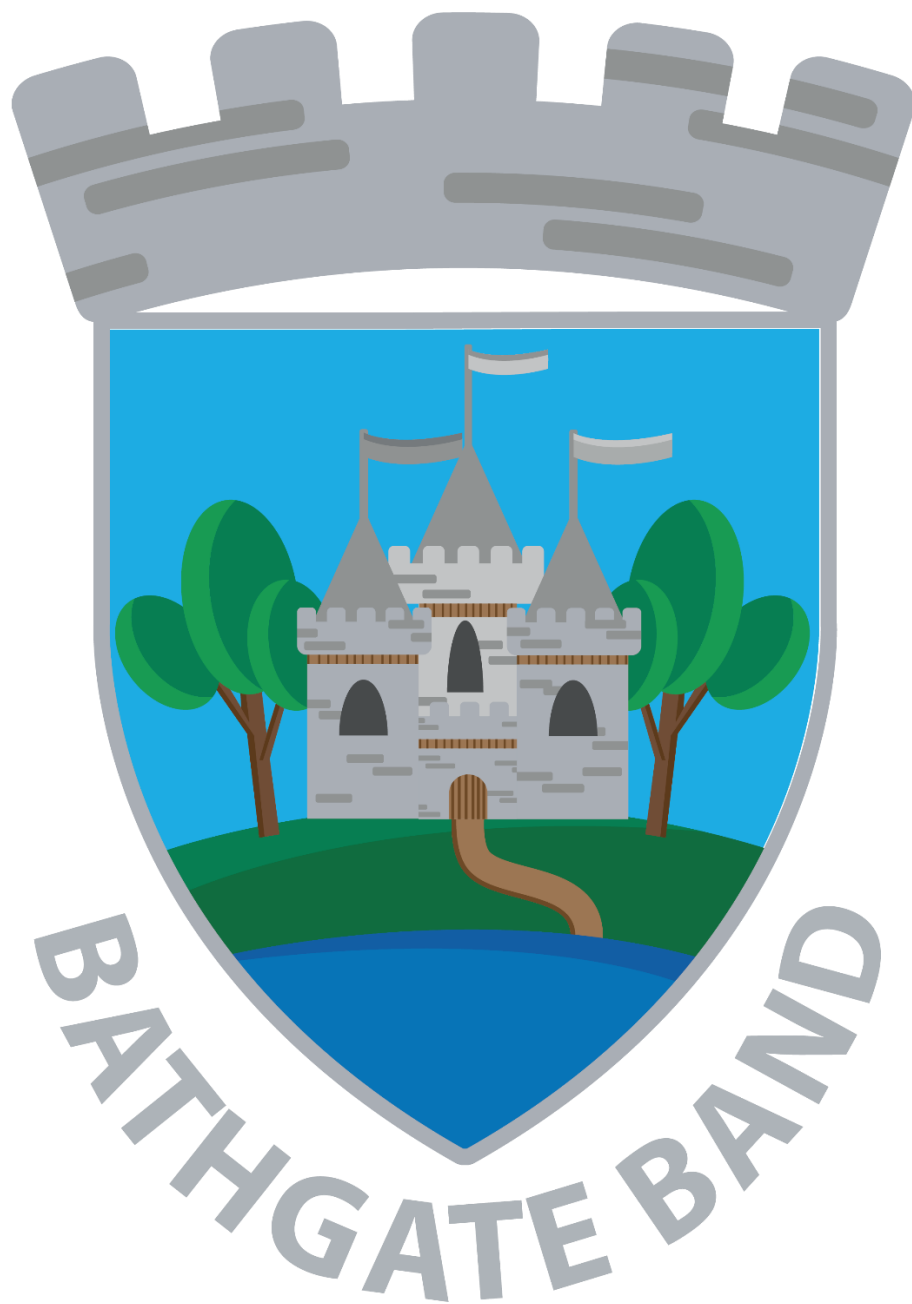
This appendix presents an electronic record of the online community feedback received, detailing the consultation feedback and the demographic profile of respondents. The information underscores the transparency, inclusivity, and robust engagement achieved through virtual channels.

Appendix 23 – Consultation Result Highlights

The enclosed summary presents key findings from the consultation, revealing overwhelming support for the Hub. Recurring themes include youth opportunity, community cohesion, and the need for a permanent rehearsal space.

Appendix 24 – Community Support Petition

This appendix contains the full petition and endorsements gathered through public engagement. The enclosed signatures reflect grassroots mobilisation and widespread local support for the asset transfer.



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