



February 2018

The 2018 Draft New London Plan

UK Music Consultation Response

1. UK Music is the umbrella body representing the collective interests of the UK's commercial music industry, from songwriters and composers to artists and musicians, studio producers, music managers, music publishers, major and independent record labels, music licensing companies and the live music sector.
2. UK Music exists to represent the UK's commercial music sector, to drive economic growth and promote the benefits of music to British society. A full list of UK Music members can be found in annex.

The UK Music Industry

3. The UK creative industries are of huge economic and cultural importance. According to the most recent DCMS economic estimates the creative industries account for £91.8 billion in GVA.¹
4. The UK creative industries also lead the world in terms of soft power. The reach and volume of our national cultural output supports our strength in soft power. According to The Soft Power 30, the UK is second to the US in terms of cultural soft power.
5. The UK is a world leading music industry. The sector contributed £4.4 billion to the economy in 2016, growing by 6 per cent.² The UK is the home to diverse and innovative music companies and creators that support this growth. Their endeavours form part of a dynamic ecosystem that is consistently delivering for music fans and consumers. The music industry generates exports of £2.5 billion and employs 142,208 people.
6. This trend continues in the capital, with £1 billion being generated in the capital in 2016 from music tourism and 3.6 million music tourists attending events in London last year. There were 8,615 full time jobs sustained by music tourism in 2016.

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https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/662958/DCMS_Sectors_Economic_Estimates_2016_GVA.pdf

² <https://www.ukmusic.org/research/measuring-music-2017/>

UK Music
4th floor
49 Whitehall
London, SW1A 2BX

T. 020 3713 8444
info@ukmusic.org
www.ukmusic.org

Agent of Change

7. Smaller grassroots venues are finding it increasingly difficult to operate. In the past ten years the sector has seen a decline of 35 per cent in the total number of grassroots music venues trading in the UK. UK Music's 2017 *Wish You Were Here* report showed a 13 per cent drop in the level of direct spending at smaller music venues - those with capacity of under 1,500 - in 2016 and a 21 per cent fall in the number of overseas visitors to smaller venues. We are particularly concerned about the picture in London with the amount spent by music tourists at smaller venues in the capital fell by 16 per cent to £65 million in 2016.
8. A growth in demand for property in London has led to a competitive residential market with rising rents and more landlords selling their property and land to developers. This has placed rising financial burdens on pre-existing operators of grassroots music venues, who are often situated in areas that are popular for redevelopment, and made them vulnerable to a more liberalised planning system.
9. UK Music welcomes Policy D12 Agent of Change in the Draft New London Plan. We support the proposal as laid out in the draft Plan that Boroughs must ensure planning decisions reflect the Agent of Change principle and take account of existing noise-generating uses in a sensitive manner when new development, particularly residential, is proposed nearby. We agree with the Plan that development should be designed to ensure that established noise generating venues remain viable and can continue or grow without unreasonable restrictions being placed on them. This will help existing venues to continue to thrive without the threat of having their licences revoked due to noise complaints from new residential developments. The live music scene is a vital part of the night-time economy in London and the developer paying for soundproofing for the existing noise-generating venues could make a key difference to whether the venue thrives or fails.
10. The Government have recently announced that the National Planning Policy Framework, which local authorities are legally bound to comply with, will now be clarified to include detailed reference to the 'Agent of Change' principle. This will be consulted on in spring.
11. We also welcome the further endorsement for Agent of Change in Policy D13 Noise. We support the view that residential and other non-aviation development proposals should manage noise by reflecting the Agent of Change principle to ensure measures do not add unduly to the costs and administrative burdens on existing noise generating uses.

Policy HC5 Supporting London's culture and creative industries

12. We support Policy HC5 in the Draft London Plan on Supporting London's culture and creative industries. In particular, we welcome the development of Creative Enterprise Zones (CEZ) in the capital.
13. Physical infrastructure is important to the development of the music industry in London. Without modern venues, studios and rehearsal spaces it would be impossible for new and existing artists and musicians to develop and grow audiences and fan bases.

14. Venues provide cultural hubs in communities across London. Grassroots venues offer a means by which musicians and performers can cultivate and nurture their creativity. London venues have faced increases in business rates by up to 200 per cent as well as increased pressures from local authority licencing plans. It is important that these venues are given the necessary support and equipment in order to ensure that London's live music scene is able to grow.

Policy HC6 Supporting the night-time economy & Policy HC7 Protecting Public Houses

15. We welcome Policy HC6 with regard to supporting the night-time economy and Policy HC7 on protecting Public Houses.

Annex

UK Music's membership comprises of:-

- AIM – The Association of Independent Music – the trade body for the independent music community, representing over 850 small and medium sized independent record labels and associated music businesses.
- BASCA - British Academy of Songwriters, Composers and Authors – BASCA is the membership association for music writers and exists to support and protect the professional interests of songwriters, lyricists and composers of all genres of music and to celebrate and encourage excellence in British music writing.
- BPI - the trade body of the recorded music industry representing 3 major record labels and over 300 independent record labels.
- FAC – The Featured Artists Coalition represents and promotes the interests of featured recording artists in the music industry.
- MMF – Music Managers Forum - representing over 500 UK managers of artists, songwriters and producers across the music industry with global businesses.
- MPG - Music Producers Guild - representing and promoting the interests of all those involved in the production of recorded music – including producers, engineers, mixers, re-mixers, programmers and mastering engineers.
- MPA - Music Publishers Association - with 260 major and independent music publishers in membership, representing close to 4,000 catalogues across all genres of music.
- Musicians' Union representing 30,000 musicians.
- PPL is the music licensing company which works on behalf of over 90,000 record companies and performers to license recorded music played in public (at pubs, nightclubs, restaurants, shops, offices and many other business types) and broadcast (TV and radio) in the UK.
- *PRS for Music* is responsible for the collective licensing of rights in the musical works of 114,000 composers, songwriters and publishers and an international repertoire of 10 million songs.

- UK Live Music Group, representing the main trade associations and representative bodies of the live music sector

For more information please contact Tom Kiehl, Director of Government and Public Affairs, UK Music on tom.kiehl@ukmusic.org or 020 3713 8454.