

Proposals from Phone Round

The Traditional Music Forum conducted a phone-round in the summer 2020 of most of the members of the Forum on their experiences of the Covid pandemic up to that point. The responses fell broadly into five areas: well-being, diversity, promotion, performance issues and audiences. Some of the points that came up are being addressed (✓), but taken together the list gives a good snapshot of people's current concerns and how they might be taken forward – a powerful 'to-do' for the Forum in the 2020s.

A

1. Provide space for musicians to talk about experiences and how they impacted and helped others
2. Provide links with mental health groups and organisations
3. Provide tips on TMF website on ways to look after your mental health (including computer hygiene – screen breaks etc)
4. Organise training sessions on admin side of being a musician
5. Include recent graduates in mentoring scheme ✓
6. Provide buddy system, listening opportunity, share and support facility

B

7. Develop a strategy for extending diversity in our community (start with survey)
8. Develop links with practitioners of global traditions working in Scotland, e.g. Intercultural Youth Scotland
9. Develop links with disability groups (or share knowledge from those TMF members who have done)
10. Provide more support for early career musicians, especially young women
11. Advocate to promoters/organisers for better gender equality in programming
12. Make sure organisations are working with full access (that includes *to* stages)
13. Advocate for more visibility for disabled musicians, and opportunities for them to be heard ✓

C

14. Continue to use online platforms post-Covid ✓
15. Promote Scotland Online more widely ✓
16. Share good practice of online presentation ✓
17. Help musicians improve their social media skills ✓
18. Signpost people to funding application training opportunities

19. Raise profile of TMF
20. Gather information on extent of online exclusion, and how organisations have been communicating with those excluded
21. Commission a survey on venue availability during Covid
22. Share experiences of Covid problem-solving (section in newsletter)
23. Create a 'road map' showing the way to helpful resources for developing music and community practices
24. Link groups to make creative collaborations
25. Create guidance on disclosure issues

D

26. Encourage MU rates as a baseline for payment to musicians ✓
27. Encourage more family events
28. Explore the blend of streaming with live performance ✓
29. Put pressure on the authorities to come up with standards based on scenario planning – what may or may not be likely – to increase public confidence in returning to live events: a 'safe concerts' culture
30. Work with Creative Scotland to establish ways for small venues, sole practitioners and event organisers to manage financial risk
31. Provide workshops in online content creation and sharing

E

32. Set up a network of professional tech staff to provide studio quality production for online presentation
33. Provide CPD on audience engagement
34. Explore facilitating Scottish attendance at Frankfurt Musikmesse
35. Help to establish mid-scale touring network
36. Provide information on copyright issues for online content creation and sharing
37. Use Irish experience to raise the profile of Scottish music internationally
38. Use the Transatlantic Sessions model to bring in musicians from other cultures
39. Work with SMIA/Expo North on providing workshops in how traditional music is delivered and consumed
40. Find out how young people want to engage with traditional music