2020 Report

Over the last eight months, the Chair and the Secretary have had more or less weekly phone calls, each one tackling at least five of the report's eighty-one recommendations.

Even though it's only eight years since the report was written, the passage of time has meant that some recommendations are no longer relevant or can no longer be carried out. Some recommendations would be too expensive to implement and some would probably be ineffectual. Improvements in technology over the last few years mean that some recommendations have already been implemented as a matter of course.

There are a few categories into which the recommendations fell: those which have already been done; those which are in progress; those which can be done fairly quickly and easily; those which can be done, but need resources; those which are beyond the resources of the SRP; and those which would no longer be of benefit to the SRP.

For instance, some of the changes to the website recommended by the report have already been carried out and others are in progress. Additional changes will require funding.

Some recommendations are better carried out by other groups. For example, the report recommends that the SRP maintain a list of recorder teachers, with their contact details and fees on the website. Such a list would be out of date before it was published and it would be beyond the SRP's ability to update it. Instead, the website has links to other websites which exist solely to enable pupils to find music teachers.

Some of the recommendations are not within the power of the Society to carry out. For example, there is a section about changes to the Recorder Magazine. Whilst the recommendations are sensible, the Society has no influence over the magazine's editorial policy.

In response to some of the recommendations that can be carried but which will require the input of time and, possibly, money, we'd like to set up some working groups to look at visitors' policies for branches and publicity.

A few more of the recommendations could usefully be carried out, but will need further investigation and consideration of their impact. Work on these can begin once some of the recommendations that will bring more benefit have been implemented.

April Munday Secretary, Society of Recorder Players

February 2020