



# **PRESS RELEASE** from **WENDY ALEXANDER MSP**

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2009

## **EMERGENCY COUNCIL MEETING CALLED OVER MUSIC CUTS**

Despite mounting criticism, Renfrewshire's SNP-led Council stand by plans to reduce music tuition to once fortnightly and axe 7 full-time-equivalent staff. Signatures on Wendy's online petition against the cuts are mounting with over 600 to date. Labour's leader on Renfrewshire Council, Councillor Iain McMillan, has called a special council meeting to discuss music tuition cuts. It will be held on Thursday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April at 2pm in the Council Chambers in Paisley and is open to the public.

Wendy said:

"I welcome the announcement of an emergency Council meeting which has been called for this Thursday.

When we hand over the pleas from concerned parents and pupils I hope councillors - who could find more than 8 times the cost of the music instructors to build up balances - will now have the good grace to think again.

Thanks to everyone who has already signed the petition against the music tuition cuts. I'm calling on those who have not yet signed to do so at <http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/rcmusic09/> and I encourage you all to come along to Thursday's meeting."