

From Professor Richard Middleton:

“This is most dispiriting. Not least because the gist of our 2002 report was that the future for Music could only be decline or investment, and we strongly recommended investment. Clearly this course was not followed; the result is predictable (and the misuse of our report very irritating). The new review follows a familiar model where a department is set up to fail, by a pattern of university (in)action, and then the victims are held responsible; the plodding jargon merely exacerbates the insult.”

From Professor Robert Pascall:

“The 2002 Document was a positive plan for Music and the selective quotation in the current Internal Report is misleading in this respect. The criticisms in that Report all flow from the failure of the University to appoint staff, both following the 2002 plan and particularly in the wake of David Chadd's death in 2006. With a dynamic and visionary appointment now at professorial level, a pathway for regeneration would immediately open up.

I remain surprised that a Report of such potentially significant impact on regional and national educational and cultural life should have been prepared without consulting at least one, if not more external specialist music advisers.”