



## BMG Information Sheet Number 4

### Keeping it Going – Rehearsals and Cash Flow

#### Rehearsals

**When** Weekly, fortnightly, weeknights or weekends. You need to decide this.

**How long** Our suggestion is two hours per rehearsal, perhaps with a short break mid-way.

**Where** -- Possible venues include:

- Church halls
- Youth, community or arts centres, YMCAs, Scout halls
- Pub rooms – sometime these are free if your members buy a few drinks during the course of or after rehearsal.
- Someone's house – will need an appropriate-sized room
- School rooms – sometimes these can be hired.

It's a good idea to 'shop around' and find out what the ranges of costs are to hire premises in your area.

#### Maintaining Cash Flow - How do we fund ourselves?

You will need to know your ongoing costs, such as rehearsal space hire, conductor or any professional fees etc. A way of maintaining cash flow is to charge an annual membership fee. With existing orchestras, this ranges from £30 to £150 per annum.

Paying options for members can be per session, weekly, monthly, quarterly, biannually, annually or a mix of all of these. Perhaps you can offer incentives or discounts for people who pay annually or biannually. The 'per session' fee is not recommended for the entire membership body as this will cause many cash flow problems, though it is a good option for people who can only attend infrequently and are unable to pay longer-term subs.

You can take another route, such as corporate sponsorship and grants. Contact the BMG Federation for further information on how to proceed along these routes.