

24<sup>th</sup> July 2013

The Rt. Hon. Viscount Younger of Leckie  
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Intellectual Property  
Department for Business Innovation and Skills  
1 Victoria Street  
London SW1H 0ET.

By post and by e-mail to: mpst.younger@bis.gsi.gov.uk

Dear Lord Younger,

On behalf of the British Copyright Council, I write to thank you for meeting representatives of its Board on the 15<sup>th</sup> July 2013. Those Board members who attended the meeting reported back to the full Council at its meeting last Wednesday.

Our representatives appreciated the time you gave to them and the opportunity to discuss with you the role of the BCC and its interaction with IPO and WIPO, in particular, the value of the BCC/WIPO Training Course and the importance of IPO support for the Course. We look forward to working together with Government to promote an environment where creators and performers can flourish.

We were also grateful for the opportunity to raise concerns about current research methodology and recent impact assessments that, in our view, have been of poor quality and which have not complied with the IPO's own guidance on what constitutes good evidence. The BCC would be keen to explore a dialogue on these issues with IPO.

It was helpful to be able to touch on some general concerns linked to the current Technical Review consultations on Statutory Instruments for changes to the scope of a number of copyright exceptions and the BCC will be submitting a response as requested. However, BCC members are generally concerned with the contract override provisions and the potential for (unintended) consequences to arise from poor definitions within the proposed legislation. While recognising IPO's concerns about the risks of over-prescriptive legislation, it is the BCC's view that the creation of new vague rules, that make it harder for industry and users to define and work within the boundaries of "permitted acts", create a much greater barrier to innovation and growth than the inclusion of clear and transparent definitions in the legislation itself.

The discussion on some other aspects of the technical detail of current policy developments with you was particularly welcome and the BCC looks forward to further such discussions with you again in the future. In the meantime, The BCC will be delighted to act as a sounding board, or assist you with any relevant initiatives and will keep you informed of any aspects of our work that you may find of interest. I attach a recently updated copy of the BCC's membership list including information on the rights holders we represent through our member organisations.

Yours sincerely,



Janet Ibbotson  
Chief Executive Officer

c.c. Edmund Quilty, Director of Copyright and IP Enforcement, IPO  
Barbara Williams, Diary Manager to Viscount Younger of Leckie