



mcps

Mechanical-Copyright
Protection Society

DISTRIBUTION POLICY GUIDE



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Introduction

Scope of the MCPS Distribution Policy

We pay royalties to our members and rights holders in batches called distributions throughout the year. The MCPS Distribution Policy relates to royalties paid for the MCPS share only.

This policy document explains how we work out the royalties and schedule when they'll be paid. It's not just about the technologies and methods we use, but also the principles we use for guidance.

Fairness, accuracy, cost effectiveness and transparency are all very important for our members. However, sometimes these principles are at odds. This policy document sets out how we strike a balance.

Before we get any further into the MCPS Distribution Policy, there are few important things to set out:

When we say 'we' in this document, we're referring to PRS for Music and the Mechanical-Copyright Protection Society (MCPS) specifically.

PRS for Music is the home of both MCPS and the Performing Right Society (PRS). PRS royalty distributions, which are of particular interest to many songwriters, are detailed in the separate PRS Distribution Policy.

Why is this distinction important? In some cases we collect the licence fee for both MCPS and PRS under a joint licence, sometimes as one lump sum. Where this is the case we'll refer to MCPS and PRS specifically, so you can see how the proportion made available for the MCPS Distribution is worked out.

This document cannot cover every aspect of the distribution process. MCPS members should contact our member services by email - writerquery@prsformusic.com or publisherquery@prsformusic.com - for more information. Affiliated collecting societies should contact internationalenquiry@prsformusic.com.

All policies, rates and information are valid as of April 2026, unless otherwise mentioned.

General distribution policy principles

We aim to ensure that distributions are fair, accurate and cost-effective. Our objective is to provide transparent and easily understood distribution policies and processes.

In many instances, the aims of fairness, accuracy, cost-effectiveness, and transparency are opposing forces. For example, in some situations, achieving 100% data accuracy for each individual performance might cost more than the revenue being collected, meaning there would be nothing left for royalties.

In such cases, we can use cost-effective methods of data collection and analysis.

Policy review and decision-making processes

The MCPS board is responsible for deciding the principles and dates on which royalties are divided between and distributed to members. The board has overall responsibility for the formulation and implementation of distribution policy that conforms with the general principles of fairness, accuracy, and cost-effectiveness.

Where relevant, the board is advised by a sub-committee, the Distribution Committee. This advice concerns the allocation of royalties from licences operated in conjunction with PRS, such as broadcasting and online royalties. The Distribution Committee is made up of MCPS directors and PRS counterparts.

Distribution policies are subject to periodic review. MCPS management works closely with the Distribution Committee and the MCPS Board to ensure that policies which have been identified as being in need of review are subject to thorough and timely examination.

Many factors could lead to a policy review, including:

- A change in licence terms, which affects how royalties would be distributed under a certain policy
- A change in data availability, processing, or cost, which affects how royalties would be distributed on a certain section
- Member dissatisfaction with the current policy
- A new way that licensed music is being used
- A change of legislation

One or more of the factors above could lead to a review of policy. We prioritise reviews based on factors including:

- Value of distributions governed by the policy
- The potential benefit of a review, such as increased accuracy or cost efficiency
- The potential risks of not reviewing the current policy, such as the absence of a distribution policy for a new revenue stream

During a policy review, MCPS management will work closely with the Distribution Committee and MCPS Board to determine a means of distribution that is considered fair, accurate, cost effective and as clear and straightforward as possible. In order to do this, MCPS management will often undertake extensive analysis to fully understand the potential impacts of any proposed policy change, on the earnings of both members and other rights-holders we represent.

Distribution Cycles and Concepts

Standard distribution cycles and frequency

For recorded media royalties, we usually make distributions on a monthly basis. However, not all licensees or licensing schemes are included in all distributions. Most are distributed either (a) within two months of the end of a quarter or (b) one month after a receipt of royalties by MCPS. Pro-rata distributions are made annually.

Royalties for other types of usage - such as broadcasting - are normally distributed four times a year, in April, July, October and December. In most cases, the distribution occurs one quarter after the end of the quarterly performance period. The distribution cycles for the primary broadcast revenue sources are shown below:

For television & MTV (but excluding all other music TV channels)											
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
July Distribution			October Distribution			December Distribution			April Distribution		
For music TV channels (except MTV), radio, all public performances (except concerts)											
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
July Distribution			October Distribution			December Distribution			April Distribution		

We also have a more frequent distribution for Multi-Territory Online (MTOL) services.

Distribution information for other revenue sources can be found here:

prsforsmusic.com/-/media/files/prs-for-music/membership/distributions/distribution_times.ashx

The December and April TV distributions are referred to as quarterly distributions even though they span two and four months, respectively.

Distribution basis

We base distributions on the following methods, in order of preference:

Line by line – This is the preferred basis for all distribution sections. Every invoiced work on every invoiced line is processed with revenue allocated and individually identified on statements.

*Unfortunately, it is not always feasible for us to distribute on a line-by-line basis, due to the nature and volume of music usage by some licensees. Usually, this is where no cost-effective solution for collecting and processing data is available. An example would be for low-value, limited manufacturing.

Sample – Where line by line distribution is not feasible or cost-effective, we might seek to use a sample of actual usage as the basis to distribute total revenue. This method is often affected by the use of a value threshold.

Pro-rata – A pro-rata-based payment is used where other methods are not feasible or cost-effective. This is usually because sufficient data is not readily available. In effect, pro-rata distribution uses other data that we process. For example, if we received money from a small juke-box supplier which provides no usage data, this may be distributed based on usage data provided by a larger juke-box supplier. Sometimes the phrase ‘on the back of’ is used for pro-rata distributions, such as ‘on the back of previously distributed music use’ or ‘on the back of a similar licensee’.

In some instances, we may use combinations of these approaches.

Source types and distribution sections

A source type or distribution section is a specific pool of revenues. These revenues have been collected from one or more licensees and distributed together because they are related in some way. A distribution may contain hundreds of individual distribution sections, or source types, which are identified separately on distribution statements.

The current list of source types and distribution sections can be seen in the appendix.

Interest on investments

We put royalties and non-licence revenues awaiting distribution into an account. The interest from this account goes towards offsetting running costs.

Commission rates

We charge commission on the revenue we collect to cover our operating costs, incurred in the normal course of business.

Commission is deducted at the point of distribution. Commission rates vary by source because some sources cost more to operate than others.

Changes to commission rates require the approval of the MCPS board. Members are given not less than six months' notice before they take effect. The commission rates are reviewed regularly, and current rates are available online (link provided in the appendix).

Weightings

Sometimes we use weightings to ensure that revenues for certain TV broadcast music usages are valued correctly.

Time of day weighting

TV audiences are typically larger at certain times of the day. We apply time of day weightings on TV where usage falls into Non-Peak, Low Peak or High Peak time bands. These bands take the size of audience into account and are split out into separate distribution sections because they each have their own usage values.

Library music weighting

Library (or production) music works are paid out at 3x the rate of other works in MCPS TV broadcast and General Entertainment Online (GEOL) distributions. This is in acknowledgement that we control three rights in respect of these works, but only one right for other works:

- For most works, we only control the right to make a recorded copy of the musical work.
- For library (or production) music works, we control two additional rights:
 - the right to make a copy of the original sound recording of the musical works
 - the right to communicate to the public the sound recording

For radio broadcasts of library works, only the first usage on each station gets the 3x weighting. For all other uses, only a 1x weighting is used to reward the broadcast of the sound recording. No other weightings are used.

Points and point values

When entering a blanket broadcast licence, there is usually no pre-defined value per usage set in the licence – it is a lump sum. As such, there is no pre-set value to base the distribution of each use on, and so this value per usage needs to be calculated.

For MCPS distributions, this is done by allocating several points to each usage. A point represents a different value depending on the licence, service, or station. For example, for radio and TV broadcasts, the point is a minute, so a broadcast lasting three minutes and 30 seconds becomes 3.5 points (with the unique exception of MCPS Library music weighting – see above). For public performance, the value might be, for example, the number of times a work is performed in a club, so a work appearing 10 times in a disco would have 10 points.

Within each distribution section, the total points for each work are added up. Works that have more uses therefore accumulate more points. Each point within a distribution section will have the same value. Therefore, works that have accumulated more points will receive more money.

Fixed point values

Royalties from many licences are paid out using fixed point values (FPVs). This “fixes” the value of a single point (as described in the section “Points and Point Values”) for a period of time. In their simplest form, FPVs are calculated as so:

Broadcast

Total annual station distributable revenue ÷ total annual station music minutes

Public performance

Total annual section distributable revenue ÷ total performances in the section

The reality is usually more complicated. When an FPV is set for the first distribution in a licence period, the final year’s revenue and music use are not known. Predicting final revenue and usage incorrectly at the first distribution is an inherent risk. The wrong forecast could mean that more revenue is distributed than collected.

To minimise the risk of over-distribution, PRS cautiously under-forecasts the annual net revenue when making this calculation. Any residual revenues left over after the last standard distribution for a licensed period are distributed via a reconciliation payment

Reconciliation payments

For MCPS distributions, we aim to pay out all broadcasting revenues collected in a licence year, covering usage falling within the licence period¹, in the final quarterly distribution. Where this is not possible, the next available distribution is used.

¹ There are two exceptions to this:

- a. Commercial radio - The commercial radio licence year runs from October to September, so the final performance period in any given licence year is July to September, paid in the December distribution. Due to the time constraints associated with the December distribution, it is not possible to include the reconciliation within the final payment. Constraints on MCPS systems are such that this reconciliation takes place in May.
- b. Reserved revenue in respect of missing data- the only other scenario in which revenues are not reconciled at this distribution is where substantial gaps in performance data have been identified. In this case, revenue is only reconciled when outstanding data is received.

If sufficient residual revenue remains after MCPS has made all distributions for the licence period covered by a specific fee per distribution section, it will be distributed as a reconciliation payment, usually in the month after the final quarterly distribution.

This payment pro-rates the residual revenue across all members featured in the original distributions, in proportion to the value generated by their usage.

Example: The distribution section for Licensee A, a music TV broadcaster, has net distributable revenue of £1,000, covering all 2022 music usage.

Initial distributions for the usages logged in the 2022 period are made in July 2022 for quarter one usages, October 2022 for quarter two usages, December 2022 for quarter three usages and April 2023 for quarter four usages. These initial distributions total £900, leaving residual distributable revenue of £100.

Member A initially earned £100 of the original £900, or 11%. Then, upon reconciliation, Member A will receive an additional reconciliation payment of £11, which is 11% of the £100 residual revenue. Therefore, Member A will receive £111 in total.

Where the residual revenue is insufficient to warrant reconciliation across the original usage, it is carried forward to the next year's distribution pool for that distribution section.

Matching

When we receive data about music that has been used for PRS and MCPS joint schemes for broadcast, online and international areas, we compare the reported data with our database of registered musical works. This matching process enables us to make royalty payments to the correct rightsholders.

We undertake several stages of matching, which look at details in the reported metadata to accurately identify which music has been reported. The data can include various details such as the ISWC, tunecode, work title, writer and publisher details, product or production numbers, and so on. We use automated matching processes, and a dedicated team also manually matches reporting which has not been automatched. This approach aims to maximise the value of royalties distributed while maintaining cost-efficient processing.

All reported usage goes through our automated matching process. Usage data that cannot be matched at that stage will be passed to our manual matching process if the associated value for use of a single work is £3 or more; if the associated value is less than £3 we will hold the data until the associated value accumulates to £3, and then we will attempt to manually match it. If after three years, the value still does not exceed £3, the usage will be deemed non-distributable. These usages will not be added to our unidentified performances list, and any funds collected will instead be redistributed across all distributable matched usage.

Music consumption

For distribution purposes, music consumption is a measure of audience hours spent listening to music. This is used predominantly in TV or radio broadcast revenue apportionment calculations. It is usually calculated at the station level by multiplying total audience hours by music percentage, which is total music hours divided by total broadcast hours.

Music consumption provides a consistent and meaningful basis to compare different online services, TV and radio stations for a single licensee, and the relative importance and value of music within that licensee's usage.

Licence values

The exact values of some licences can vary significantly from year to year. In some instances, the licence details, including the licence fee, are contractually confidential between us and the licensee. Because of this, no licence total values are given in this document.

Interest on late distributions

We pay interest to our members in two circumstances. First, we do so where through our own neglect or fault we fail to distribute on time. Second, we pay interest where we were ourselves paid interest by a user (unless this is part of an audit recovery). This is only in relation to any period after the date when distribution would normally have been made.

Recognition and application of publishing contracts

When making most distributions, we look to officially documented contracts applicable at the mid-point of the previous quarter to determine the payable owner, for example:

Publisher gains control of works	First Distribution affected	Usage period covered by dist
Jul 2022	Dec 2022	Jul-Sep 2022
Sep 2022	Apr 2023	Oct-Dec 2023

Online transactional (e.g. IMPEL) and some others do not follow this pattern. The payable owner is generated at the point of invoicing, normally closes after the sale period and then is paid at a subsequent distribution (once the money has been received).

Infringements, disputes, and counterclaims

Although these are not strictly distribution policy matters, it is worth noting that we have formal procedures for dealing with infringements, disputes, and counterclaims. These policies cover where we are entitled to hold onto distributable funds until such time as the matters are resolved.

Disputes and Duplicate Claims - Details of the MCPS disputes and counterclaims policy:
www.prsformusic.com/works/counterclaims/disputes-and-duplicate-claims

Samples - Details of the MCPS sampling disputes policy:
www.prsformusic.com/works/counterclaims/sample-disputes

Infringements - Details of the MCPS infringements policy:
www.prsformusic.com/works/counterclaims/infringements

Broadcast

Key concepts

The following concepts help ensure the way we distribute revenue to members is equitable.

Commercial licensee blanket revenues that cover more than one radio or TV station are divided between the stations using a two-step process:

1. Each station is allocated a fixed minimum amount per station. In some cases, this minimum sum is specified in the licence. Where it is not, the General Entertainment Television (GETV) matrix is used. This matrix is updated every year. View the matrix here: www.prsformusic.com/licences/broadcasting-music-on-tv/general-entertainment-tv-licence-non-barb-rated-tv-channels
2. Any remaining money is divided between the stations in proportion to their relative music consumption.

Please note that the process for the BBC is slightly different and is explained below under the heading 'The BBC blanket – revenue split between platforms'

- Works performed on broadcast sections are paid based on their total duration on that service multiplied by the calculated FPV for that service for that period.
- No value distinctions are made between music used in programmes, commercials, station/channel idents, jingles or trailers.
- All distributable audiovisual broadcasts are subject to time-of-day weightings and feature in separate distribution sections.
- MCPS blanket licences do not cover all uses of music by a broadcaster. For example, the MCPS broadcast blanket licences do not generally cover:
 - Commissioned music (except in the case of ITV)
 - Music used in adverts
 - Acquired programming (except for the broadcast of the sound recording of production music)².

Broadcast sampling

We will use census reporting where available. However, for some lower revenue channels, the broadcaster does not provide census reporting. In these situations, we process all the data we are able to acquire, adopting the sampling methodology.

² It should be noted that although MCPS controls this particular right in acquired programming it does not currently distribute royalties in respect of it. This is because our systems do not currently process data on acquired programming.

Unmatchable and carry forwards

Unmatchable usage

The term 'unmatchable usage' is used to indicate where a licensee has reported music use, but PRS or MCPS has been unable to match it to a work, whether registered or unregistered, or to identify the interested parties as members of a collecting society. Works unregistered at the time of distribution cease to be eligible for distribution for that particular usage, which is never paid.

No money is reserved for any unmatchable usages. Any subsequent claims for unmatched usages are funded from the next year's revenue for the same revenue pool. Payment is at the £ per minute rate attributable at the rate in effect at the time the payment is made not at rate of the original performance period. No interest accrues or is paid to the interested parties in respect of such payments.

In all cases we reserve the right to calculate a revised £ per minute rate for previously missed performances especially where revenue for a particular source has been or will be exhausted. On those rare occasions when this is done it will usually be done by recalculating the rate as if the missed performances had been included in the original rate calculation.

Audiovisual and General Entertainment Online (GEOL) carry forwards

Some usages are carried forward to be processed in a subsequent distribution. This will usually happen so that complete distributions are not delayed or for the following reasons:

- More research time is needed
When research to confirm the correct match could not be finished in time for the distribution deadline, usages will be carried forward to the next available distribution marked with a new target distribution (TDD).
- Work is subject to an incomplete share picture
A usage can be carried forward after being successfully matched to a work if that work has an incomplete share picture. To make this payment, the work must have shares equal to 100%. Action is therefore required to update the work.
- Usage data received too late to process
Usages can also be carried forward because they were received and loaded too late for processing.

Limits to usages carried forward

Usages will continue to be carried forward until they are matched. In theory, they can be carried forward for three years from the initial target distribution, after which they will be removed from the system.

Time of day weighting

For broadcast distributions, we factor in the concept of time-of-day weightings, to reflect the likely size of the audience when a performance of music takes place. This was introduced for TV from 2007 and for Radio from 2019.

We currently recognise three time-bands – 'High Peak', 'Low' Peak', 'Non Peak'. The time bands are based on audience data sourced from BARB.

Current TV Time Bands
Non-Peak: midnight to 15:59 1x weighting on per minute rate
Low Peak: 16:00 to 17:59, and 23:00 to 23:59 2x weighting on per minute rate
High Peak: 18:00 to 22:59 3x weighting on per minute rate

Productions which straddle the border between primetime and non-primetime are classified on the basis of the time slot into which their mid-point falls.

For example, all music used in a one-hour-long production whose broadcast commenced at 5.45pm would be paid at the High Peak rate as the production's mid-point, 6.15pm, falls within the defined High Peak slot.

'Off Air' Performances

As a result of a Distribution Committee decision in February 2018, TV broadcast performances during 'Off Air' time periods on a channel will be subject to a specific weighting that reflects the low audience levels for the particular type of content made available at those hours. The definition of 'Off Air' is:

"Music broadcast while the channel displays a continuous holding screen"

The weighting for 'Off Air' music minutes is 4% of the associated channel's lowest rate for time-of-day weightings.

The BBC blanket – revenue split between platforms

The BBC is the UK's only significant publicly funded public service broadcaster. It is also the only major UK broadcaster licensed for a single fee that covers music used on several national, local and regional radio and TV stations as well as online platforms.

The current BBC licence agreement provides a single annual fee covering all music used in its public service output, for the rights covered by both PRS and MCPS.

The method by which individual channels or stations are delivered has no impact on how MCPS distributes royalties for them. For example, BBC2 is considered the same channel whether it is received on linear TV or online.

Dividing the fee

Firstly, we calculate amounts for BBC's online services, using a benchmark value achieved on commercial services.

The remainder is divided between BBC's linear broadcast TV and radio services. This split varies each licence year as the amount of music consumed on each platform changes.

50% of the linear value is split between TV and radio based on the amount of music each platform uses, regardless of audience. The remaining 50% is apportioned in relation to each platform's music consumption, which assesses both audience share and music use.

For TV and for radio, each part of the fee is also subdivided between PRS and MCPS. Details of these splits are given later in this document under headings 'BBC radio' and 'BBC TV'.

BBC Studios

This is the commercial arm of the BBC, and its activities are not covered by the main BBC blanket licence. This licence includes the provision of BBC channels to the Republic of Ireland on the Sky platform. This particular element is a performing element only. MCPS Production Music can be used in non-programme material created in the UK, but which is only made available in selected channels broadcasting to Europe, the Middle East and Africa. The remainder of the fee is divided equally between the two societies in accordance with the standard practice for broadcast licences. This was agreed by the Distribution Committee in January 2023.

BBC Radio

Introduction

Established by a Royal Charter, the BBC is a public service broadcaster funded by the licence fee paid by UK households. Income from the licence fee enables the BBC to broadcast national radio stations offering music and speech programming, national radio services for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, and numerous local radio stations for England. BBC Radio stations are available via analogue and digital radio, digital television, and online via BBC Sounds.

Royalty source

We license the use of PRS member, MCPS member and affiliated society repertoire on the BBC's non-commercial television, radio and online services under the terms of a joint blanket licence.

Every year the BBC blanket licence fee split between audiovisual and radio is recalculated. The BBC radio revenue is split 96.4% to PRS and 3.6% to MCPS.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

1/3 of the total gross annual MCPS BBC radio revenue amount is apportioned to individual BBC radio stations purely on the basis of the amount of music they use. The remainder is apportioned on the basis of each station's individual music consumption.

The total distributable annual revenue per station is divided by the forecast total annual music minutes for the station to arrive at an FPV for each station.

Distribution basis

Effectively we only license the 'first dubbing' on each station, so only items marked as such by the broadcaster are eligible for distribution. Eligible items on all BBC radio stations are paid on a line-by-line basis, and each station's usage is identified separately on members' statements.

Distribution cycle

Quarterly, one quarter after the end of the performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data is provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

All radio usage, including but not limited to BBC radio services, goes through an automatch and, where necessary, a manual match process.³

Library music items in idents or promos are paid irrespective of duration. All other items with a duration of less than 90 seconds are deemed non-disc plays and so are not generally payable.

³ Automatch rates for radio usage average around 90%. Works requiring manual match falling under this threshold therefore account for only very low levels of revenue.

Other notes

The BBC licence year covers usage from April to March. Distributions in respect of those usages are made quarterly from October to July.

The approach to distribute 1/3 by music usage and 2/3 by music consumption was agreed at the MCPS board in March 2010.

As well as its domestic radio output, the BBC blanket licence also covers the BBC World Service, which broadcasts BBC-produced programming across the globe and contains a separate sum of money to specifically cover these services.

Commercial Radio

Introduction

Most commercial radio stations are free-to-air services funded largely by advertising and sponsorship revenue. There are a few national commercial radio stations, plus many that are broadcast locally. A number of local stations are local variations of a national group or brand, such as Heart, Capital and Smooth. There are significant crossovers in the playlists of different commercial radio stations.

Royalty source

The joint licence MCPS and PRS holds with commercial radio stations charges a fixed percentage of each station's net broadcasting revenue. This is an annual blanket licence fee covering all the station's performing and mechanical usage. This single fee is split 96% to PRS and 4% to MCPS as the mechanical licensing requirement from MCPS is significantly smaller than the performing requirement.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

There is no formal apportionment between stations. The revenue is treated as a single sum. The total distributable annual revenue per station is then divided by the forecast total annual music minutes for the station to arrive at an FPV for each station.

Distribution basis

Effectively, we only license the 'first dubbing' on each station, so only items marked as such by the broadcaster are eligible for distribution. Eligible items on all commercial radio stations are paid on a line-by-line basis but each station's usage is not identified separately on members' statements.

Distribution cycle

Quarterly, one quarter after the end of the performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

A third party, currently Soundmouse, employs music recognition technology to provide data about plays of musical works.

Broadcasters provide usage data for music used in adverts and idents on these stations. We are investigating the use of music recognition technology for these usages too.

All usage data for stations not tracked by Soundmouse is provided by licensees, in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

All radio usage goes through an automatch and, where necessary, a manual match process.⁴

⁴ Automatch rates for radio usage average around 90%. Works requiring manual match falling under this threshold therefore account for only very low levels of revenue.

Other notes

The commercial radio licence year runs from October to September and is distributed from April to December.

Revenue relating to plays of commercially available works for some low value stations is paid by analogy using data from similar stations. This approach is used where the playlists of a low value station and a larger station, for which census performance information is available, are known to be very similar or even identical. It is also adopted when the revenue for the low value station is too small to make it cost effective to process even a data sample. The same approach is sometimes used when a station is unable to provide its own census reporting and we can establish that its playlist is similar to a station that does provide census reporting.

No usage data is analysed for some small radio services, such as hospital and student radio services, where the revenue is very small. Revenue from these services is effectively distributed pro-rata across ('on the back of') other radio services.

Scheme: Radio Advertising Production Music Licence

Summary

This is an MCPS scheme for licensing the use of MCPS Production Music in advertising on commercial radio.

Royalty source

The licence provides a fixed lump sum fee per licensee (group of radio stations).

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

There is no pre-determined apportionment between stations. The revenue is treated as a single sum. The total distributable annual revenue per station is then divided by the forecast total annual music minutes for the station to arrive at an FPV for each station.

Distribution basis

This revenue is distributed on a line-by-line basis, but each station's usage is not identified separately on member statements.

Distribution cycle

Quarterly, one quarter after the end of the performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider

Data is provided electronically by the licensee.

Processing thresholds and rules

Only the first use of a work (matched by Tunecode) each month on each station is paid.

UCB Radio

Introduction

United Christian Broadcasters (UCB) are a charity that operates two radio stations in the UK – UCB1 and UCB2. The licensing and distribution approach for these two stations is largely similar to that for commercial radio services.

Royalty source

MCPS and PRS hold a joint licence with UCB covering all the station's performing and mechanical usage. The annual fee is split 96% to PRS and 4% to MCPS because the mechanical licensing requirement from MCPS is significantly smaller than the performing requirement.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

Revenue is apportioned in the same manner as Commercial Radio

Distribution basis

The distribution basis is the same as Commercial Radio

Distribution cycle

The cycle is the same as Commercial Radio

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Please see Commercial Radio

Processing thresholds and rules

Please see Commercial Radio

Other notes

UCB operates a slightly different licence year to radio (January to December), and royalties are distributed from April to December, with end-of-year reconciliation paid in April.

BBC TV

Introduction

Established by a Royal Charter, the BBC is a public service broadcaster funded by the licence fee paid by UK households. Income from the licence fee enables the BBC to broadcast 7 national TV stations offering entertainment, news, current affairs and arts coverage for the whole of the UK and provide additional regional programming and services.

BBC Television channels are available via digital TV, and online via BBC iPlayer, where programmes are also available on-demand after broadcast. The BBC's interactive TV service also allows viewers to access additional television programmes and live coverage from major sporting and cultural events by pressing the red button on their TV remote control.

Royalty source

We license the use of PRS member, MCPS member and affiliated society repertoire on the BBC's non-commercial television, radio, and online services under the terms of a joint blanket licence. The BBC blanket licence fee split between TV and radio is recalculated annually. The remaining BBC TV revenue is split 66.67% to PRS and 33.33% to MCPS.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

The licence fee for MCPS BBC TV is apportioned to individual BBC TV stations using two measures.

One third of the total revenue is apportioned to stations based upon their total music usage, effectively securing a minimum fee for a minute of music used on any of the 12 BBC TV stations.

The remaining two thirds of the revenue is apportioned using music consumption which will lift the value of a minute's usage on stations with higher audience figures and music percentages.

The net result is divided by the forecast total of weighted annual music minutes to give FPs for High Peak, Low Peak and Non-Peak times of day (see section on Broadcast Revenue).

Distribution basis

Each BBC TV channel is paid separately on a line-by-line basis.

Distribution cycle

Quarterly, one quarter after the end of the performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data is provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

All BBC TV usage goes through an automatch and, where necessary, a manual match process.

Other notes

The BBC licence year covers usage from April to March. Distributions in respect of those usages are made from October to July.

ITV

Introduction

ITV offers a national network of regional stations known as ITV1, as well as free-to-air channels and an on-demand service.

Royalty source

ITV pays an annual blanket licence fee covering all of its performing and mechanical usage. This single fee is split 66.67% to PRS and 33.33% to MCPS.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

The MCPS ITV fee is apportioned to the individual channels covered under the blanket agreement by a two-step calculation:

Step 1: Each channel is allocated a minimum amount based on the minimum channel charge. This is the minimum fee due for any additional channel or service, regardless of audience or music usage. It is set within the licence agreement.

Step 2: The remaining revenue, approximately 90%, is apportioned to individual stations on the basis of music consumption.

The net amount is divided by the forecast total of weighted annual music minutes to give the FPVs based on the time-of-day bands.

Distribution basis

Each ITV channel is paid separately on a line-by-line basis.

Distribution cycle

Quarterly, one quarter after the end of the performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

All ITV usage goes through an automatch and, where necessary, manual match process.

Region vs. network

ITV1 is a network of regional stations. Each region has its own FPV, which is a percentage of the whole network rate. Programmes simultaneously broadcast across a particular region or regions will be paid at the cumulative rate of all the regions where the programme was broadcast. Programmes broadcast across the whole network will receive the whole network rate.

Other notes

The ITV licence year covers usage from January to December. Distributions in respect of those usages are made from July to April.

Unlike other TV licensees, the ITV licence covers the mechanical right usage of commissioned music. This is because ITV does not acquire such rights as part of its commissioning process.

Sky

Introduction

Sky offers subscription-based TV channels in the UK and Republic of Ireland, as well as on-demand services.

Royalty source

Sky pays an annual blanket licence fee covering all of its performing and mechanical usage. Small portions of this are for specific mechanical-only or performing-only uses. The remainder is for UK broadcasting and is split 66.67% to PRS and 33.33% to MCPS.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

The MCPS Sky fee is apportioned using the same two step method as the ITV fee. The method to calculate the final FPV is also the same.

Distribution basis

Each Sky channel is distributed separately on a line-by-line basis.

Distribution cycle

Quarterly, one quarter after the end of the performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

All Sky usage goes through an automatch and, where necessary, a manual match process.

Other notes

The Sky licence year covers usage from July to June. Distributions in respect of those usages are made from December to October.

Channel 4

Introduction

Channel 4 offers general entertainment channels and time-shifted equivalents, as well as a free-to-air film channel and an on-demand service.

Royalty source

Channel 4 pays an annual blanket licence fee covering all of its performing usage and any mechanical rights needed for music copied into non-programme use, such as trailers and promos, as well as to cover programme repeats on the main 'Channel 4' channel. This single fee is split 90.32% to PRS, 9.68% to MCPS. This ratio is unique because Channel 4's mechanical licensing requirement from MCPS is significantly smaller. This is because the channel's programming is made by independent production companies, licensed directly by MCPS for the programmes they make on behalf of Channel 4 (see separate 'Independent Production Companies (IPCs)' section later in this document).

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

The MCPS Channel 4 fee is apportioned using the same two step method as the ITV fee. The method to calculate the final FPV is also the same.

Distribution basis

Each Channel 4 channel is distributed separately on a line-by-line basis.

Distribution cycle

Quarterly, one quarter after the end of the performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

All Channel 4 usage goes through an automatch and, where necessary, a manual match process.

Other notes

The Channel 4 licence year covers usage from January to December. Distributions in respect of those usages are made from July to April.

Channel 5

Introduction

Channel 5 offers several general entertainment channels and time-shifted equivalents and an on-demand service.

Royalty source

Channel 5 pays an annual blanket licence fee covering all of its performing usage and the mechanical rights needed for any music copied into non-programme use, such as trailers and promos. This single fee is split 89.5% to PRS, 10.5% to MCPS. This ratio is unique as Channel 5's mechanical licensing requirement from MCPS is significantly different from that of other broadcasters. This is because much of its programming is made by independent production companies. These are then licensed directly by MCPS for the programmes they make on behalf of Channel 5 (see the 'Independent Production Companies (IPCs)' section later in this document).

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

The MCPS Channel 5 fee is apportioned using the same two step method as the ITV fee. However, as there is no minimum channel fee set with the licence, a minimum fee is calculated using the matrix. This is updated annually and can be viewed here:

www.prsformusic.com/licences/broadcasting-music-on-tv/general-entertainment-tv-licence-non-barb-rated-tv-channels

The method to calculate the final FPV is also the same.

Distribution basis

Each Channel 5 channel is distributed separately on a line-by-line basis.

Distribution cycle

Quarterly, one quarter after the end of the performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

All Channel 5 usage goes through an automatch and, where necessary, a manual match process.

Other notes

The Channel 5 licence year covers usage from January to December. Distributions in respect of those usages are made from July to April.

Warner Bros. Discovery

Introduction

Discovery broadcast TV channels in the UK for reception in the UK and across Europe, Middle East and Africa. We collect and process usage data for each of these individual feeds to ensure accurate distributions.

Royalty source

Discovery pays an annual blanket licence fee covering all of its performing and mechanical usage. This single fee is split 84% to PRS and 16% to MCPS to reflect the proportions of performance and mechanical licensing required.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

The Discovery fee is apportioned using the same two step method as the ITV fee. The net amount is divided by the forecast total of weighted annual music minutes to give the FPVs based on the time-of-day bands.

Distribution basis

Discovery is distributed using a mixture across stations of census and sample reporting.

Distribution cycle

Quarterly, one quarter after the end of the performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

All Discovery usage goes through an automatch and, where necessary, a manual match process.

Other notes

The Discovery licence year covers usage from January to December. Distributions in respect of those usages are made from July to April.

MTV

Introduction

MTV is licensed under Viacom. The licence covers its performing and mechanical rights on channels which broadcast from the UK across Europe, the Middle East and Africa. We collect and process actual performance data from each of these individual feeds to ensure accurate distributions.

Royalty source

Viacom pays an annual blanket licence fee covering all of its performing and mechanical usage. This single fee is split 66.67% to PRS and 33.33% to MCPS.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

The MCPS Viacom fee is apportioned using the same two step method as the ITV fee.

Distribution basis

MTV is distributed using a mixture across stations of census and sample reporting.

Distribution cycle

Quarterly, one quarter after the end of the performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

All usage goes through an automatch and, where necessary, a manual match process.

Other notes

The licence year covers usage from January to December. Distributions in respect of those usages are made from July to April.

PBS America

Introduction

PBS America is broadcast in the UK, much like BBC Studios is broadcast in other countries, and provides PBS content to UK viewers.

Royalty source

PBS pay an annual licence fee that covers all performing usage and only production music mechanical usage broadcast on PBS America in the UK. The licence fee is split 90% to PRS and 10% to MCPS, recognising the limited amount of mechanical usage covered by this licence.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

The MCPS PBS America fee is apportioned using the same two-step method as the ITV fee.

Distribution basis

PBS America is distributed on a sample basis.

Distribution cycle

Quarterly, one quarter after the end of the performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

All PBS America usage goes through an automatch and, where necessary, a manual match process.

Other notes

The PBS America licence year covers usage from January to December. Distributions in respect of those usages are made from July to April.

B4U

Introduction

B4U (Bollywood for You) broadcasts programmes in the UK from their parent broadcaster in India on two channels, B4U Music and B4U Movies.

Royalty source

An annual licence fee covers all performing and mechanical usage broadcast by B4U in the UK. All programme content is acquired from India. As such, only the non-programme content is mechanically payable. The society split is 90% to PRS and 10% to MCPS to recognise the limited amount of mechanical usage payable under this licence.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

The B4U fee is apportioned using the fees specified in the licence.

Distribution basis

Both B4U Music and B4U Movies are distributed on a sample basis.

Distribution cycle

Quarterly, one quarter after the end of the performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

All B4U usage goes through an automatch and, where necessary, a manual match process.

Other notes

The B4U licence year covers usage from April to March. Distributions in respect of those usages are made from July to April.

TNT Sports

Introduction

TNT Sports is a rebrand of all BT Sport's channels, following the launch of the Warner Bros. Discovery and BT Group joint venture. It broadcasts a range of live sports across the UK, although it focuses on football, mainly the Premier League.

Royalty source

TNT Sports pays an annual blanket licence fee covering all of its performing and mechanical usage, plus limited production music rights. Small proportions of this revenue are for specific mechanical-only usage. The remaining revenue is split 72.62% to PRS and 27.38% to MCPS.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

The MCPS TNT Sports fee is apportioned using the same two step method as the ITV fee.

Distribution basis

TNT Sports channels are all distributed on a sample basis.

Distribution cycle

Quarterly, one quarter after the end of the performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

TNT Sports usage goes through an automatch and, where necessary, a manual match process.

Other notes

The TNT Sports licence year covers usage from September to August. Distributions in respect of those usages are made from December to October.

UKTV

Introduction

UKTV is, since 2019, wholly owned by BBC Studios (the commercial arm of the BBC). The broadcaster carries national television channels, some of which are available free-to-air, with others available via various pay-TV platforms.

Viewers are also able to watch programmes broadcast on its free-to-air channels via UKTV's on-demand service, UKTV Play.

Royalty source

We license the use of PRS and MCPS members' repertoire on UKTV's television channels under the terms of a joint blanket licence

UKTV pays an annual blanket licence fee covering all of its performing and mechanical usage. This single fee includes a flat fee for MCPS secondary sales. The remaining money is split 57.14% to PRS and 42.86% to MCPS in recognition of the unique licensing history of this broadcaster.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

The MCPS UKTV fee is apportioned using the same two step method as the ITV fee.

Distribution basis

Each UKTV channel is distributed separately on a line-by-line basis.

Distribution cycle

Quarterly, one quarter after the end of the performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

All UKTV usage goes through an automatch and, where necessary, a manual match process.

Other notes

The UKTV licence year covers usage from January to December. Distributions in respect of those usages are made from July to April.

CBS AMC Networks

Introduction

CBS AMC Networks is an American TV specialist that controls channels such as True Crime and Legend. Viewers can also watch CBS AMC content via limited on demand catch up, on the 'WatchFree UK' website and app.

Royalty source

CBS AMC pays an annual blanket licence fee covering all of its performing and mechanical usage. The broadcast revenue is split 89% to PRS and 11% to MCPS in line with other broadcast licences which include limited use of MCPS repertoire.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

The MCPS CBS AMC fee is apportioned using the same two step method as the ITV fee.

Distribution basis

Each CBS AMC channel is distributed separately on a line-by-line basis.

Distribution cycle

Quarterly, one quarter after the end of the performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

CBS AMC usage goes through an automatch and, where necessary, a manual match process.

Other notes

The CBS AMC licence year covers usage from January to December. Distributions in respect of those usages are made from July to April.

NBC Universal

Introduction

NBC Universal channels broadcast in the UK for reception in the UK and across Europe, the Middle East and Africa. We collect and process actual performance data from each of these individual feeds to ensure accurate distributions.

Royalty source

NBC Universal pay an annual blanket licence fee covering all of its performing and mechanical usage. This licence covers broadcast of 10 channels in the UK for Ex-UK reception, however, only 4 of the channels are licensed for both PRS and MCPS. The society split for these channels are shown in the table below.

Rights covered	Society Split
PRS only	100% PRS
PRS and MCPS	90% PRS to 10% MCPS

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

The MCPS NBC Universal fee is apportioned using the same two step method as the ITV fee.

Distribution basis

All NBC Universal channels are distributed on a sample basis

Distribution cycle

Quarterly, one quarter after the end of the performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

NBC Universal usage goes through an automatch and, where necessary, a manual match process.

Other notes

The NBC Universal licence year covers usage from January to December. Distributions in respect of those usages are made from July to April.

Walt Disney Co

Introduction

Walt Disney Co's licence covers its performing and mechanical rights on channels broadcasting from the UK across Europe, the Middle East and Africa. We collect and process actual performance data from each of these individual feeds to ensure accurate distributions. The on-demand streaming service Disney+ is licensed separately as a standalone General Entertainment Online Licence (GEOL).

Royalty source

Walt Disney Co pays an annual blanket licence fee covering all of its performing and mechanical usage. This single fee is split 72.08% to PRS and 27.92% to MCPS in recognition of the unique licensing history of this broadcaster.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

The MCPS Walt Disney Co fee is apportioned using the same two step method as the ITV fee.

Distribution basis

Each Walt Disney channel is distributed separately on a line-by-line basis.

Distribution cycle

Quarterly, one quarter after the end of the performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

All usage for the Walt Disney Co channels goes through an automatch and, where necessary, a manual match process.

Other notes

The Walt Disney Co licence year covers usage from January to December. Distributions in respect of those usages are made from July to April.

Independent Production Companies (IPCs)

Introduction

Many TV programmes are made by Independent Production Companies (IPCs). The mechanical rights for the IPCs are licensed directly with those companies where the programmes are not covered by the broadcaster's own blanket licence.

Royalty source

IPCs have a blanket licence with MCPS for their mechanical rights. This provides a per programme/per channel fee. There is no need for a PRS/MCPS split as this scheme only covers mechanical rights.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

As this is a flat fee for a programme, no apportionment is needed.

Distribution basis

All IPC items are distributed on a line-by-line basis.

Distribution cycle

Monthly, one month after each invoice is settled by the licensee.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

All IPC usage goes through an automatch and, where necessary, a manual match process.

Other notes

Although IPC distributions are made monthly, not all production companies feature in every month's distribution. This depends upon which companies have made programmes and when they have settled their invoices.

Other TV Stations/Channels

Introduction

Many other TV companies/stations are licensed by MCPS. They are all treated and processed as outlined below.

Royalty source

The licensee pays an annual blanket licence fee covering all of its performing usage and any mechanical exploitation associated with the copying of MCPS repertoire into programme or non-programme use. This single fee is split between PRS and MCPS in a ratio to reflect the ratio of mechanical and performing rights licensing required by the station(s).

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

Where the licence fee covers more than one station, the fee is apportioned using the same two step method as the ITV fee. In some cases, the minimum per-channel fee is specified in the licence and in others it is calculated by reference to the published GETV scheme⁵.

Distribution basis

Each licensed channel is distributed separately on a line-by-line basis unless only sample data is received, in which case all sample data is distributed.

Distribution cycle

Quarterly, one quarter after the end of the performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

All usage goes through an automatch and, where necessary, a manual match process.

Other notes

The licence year covers usage from January to December. Distributions in respect of those usages are made from July to April.

⁵ prsformusic.com/licences/broadcasting-music-on-tv/general-entertainment-tv-licence-non-barb-rated-tv-channels

Secondary Sales

Introduction

Many TV programmes made for original broadcast in the UK are sold to other broadcasters both in the UK and internationally. These are known as secondary sales and the copies sold are licensable by MCPS under its secondary sales schemes.

Royalty source

For BBC, ITV, and some other broadcasters the secondary sales schemes are transactional. That is to say, individual sales are reported, invoiced and royalties paid accordingly. For other companies, including the IPCs, the sales are reported and processed in the same way as their main TV usage.

Key concepts

Revenue is collected by MCPS for the creation of physical recorded media products, such as CDs and DVDs, under a series of licensing schemes. The schemes each have different terms, including different royalty rates/charging mechanisms, which are outlined individually below. The distribution of these is usually subject to one of two different approaches:

1. Line by line
2. Pro-rata (sometimes referred to as 'on the back of')

Distribution approach

Line by line/actual usage

Here, the licence fee charged has been charged for the use of specific works and is paid directly across those specific works after commission has been deducted. Where the duration of the tracks is known, revenue is apportioned to all the individual licensed works in proportion to the durations. Where the duration is not known, the revenue is split equally between the tracks involved.

Pro-rata/unattributable usage

In some instances, a licence fee is calculated where the individual tracks are not known or are too small to be cost-effectively distributed on a work-by-work basis. Such royalties are classed as unattributable. In these situations, the money is added to the pro-rata pool and distributed either as a separate distribution pool using other data or added into the distribution pool available to another scheme deemed to be of similar usage. It is therefore distributed 'on the back of' that other data.

Scheme: Audio Product 1 (AP1)

Summary

AP1 is a scheme for licensing recorded audio products manufactured and distributed for retail sale to the public. It allows record companies and producers to pay royalties quarterly in arrears. The AP1 scheme is available to all record companies. However, there are certain criteria that need to be satisfied before they can operate under this scheme and companies with estimated annual royalties in excess of £100K must be approved by the MCPS board.

Royalty charge

8.5% of the published dealer price (excluding VAT). Where there is no published dealer price the rate is 6.5% (excluding VAT) of the retail price. If the product contains works outside the control of MCPS the royalty charge is proportionally adjusted on the basis of known track durations. Otherwise, it is adjusted on the basis of an equal split between the tracks where durations are unknown. No licence has been granted by MCPS for uncontrolled works. Royalties are paid on shipments of products quarterly in arrears.

Distribution approach

The royalty charged, net of MCPS commission, is paid line by line directly across the specific licensed works. Where the durations of the tracks are known, the royalty charge is apportioned to all the individual licensed works in proportion to the durations. Where the duration is not known, it is split equally between the tracks contained within the product.

Distribution cycle

- End of quarter: record company aggregate their product shipping numbers
- Within 21 days: record company informs us of the numbers shipped
- Within the following 17 days: we invoice the record company
- Within the next seven days: record company pays us
- Within the next seven days: funds clear
- Within the next seven days: we pay the member

This cycle means that members should receive their royalties within two months of the end of each quarter.

Processing policy

Data provider

The data provider will usually be the record company.

Processing thresholds and rules

There are no processing thresholds specific to the AP1 scheme.

Other notes

Promotional records are not subject to a royalty charge. There is no upper limit on the number of promotional copies allowed under the AP1 agreement. However, there are terms and conditions contained within it in respect of these copies that must be met.

Scheme: Music Audio Product 2 (AP2)

Summary

AP2 is for audio only recorded product made and distributed for retail sale to the public. Royalty payments under this scheme should be made by the record company prior to the manufacture of the product. Royalties must be paid in advance and are based on the number of units to be manufactured. The scheme only covers products made for retail sale to the public. Recordings made for other purposes are not covered.

Royalty charge

8.5% of the published dealer price (excluding VAT). Where there is no published dealer price, the rate is 6.5% (excluding VAT) of the retail price. If the product contains works outside the control of MCPS, the royalty charge is proportionally adjusted on the basis of track durations. Otherwise, it is adjusted on the basis of an equal split between the tracks where durations are unknown. MCPS can only grant licences for works it controls.

Distribution approach

The royalty charged, net of MCPS commission, is paid line by line directly across the specific licensed works. Where the durations of the tracks are known, the royalty charge is apportioned to all the individual licensed works in proportion to the durations. Where the duration is not known, it is split equally between the tracks involved.

Distribution cycle

- Record company submits an application for a licence or an application for a re-press licence to us
- We calculate the royalty and invoice the record company
- Record company pays us
- We issue the licence and pay the member in the month following receipt of the income

Processing policy

Data provider

The data provider will usually be the record company.

Processing thresholds and rules

There are no processing thresholds specific to the AP2 scheme.

Other notes

Promotional records up to 250 copies are not subject to a royalty charge on LPs albums. Record labels can have a maximum of 400 promotional copies for singles. Where the record company and a member of MCPS are related parties (see 3.8 in the MCPS membership agreement (MA2)), the member can make their own arrangement for collecting and accounting royalties by setting up an AP2 exclusion. In such cases, MCPS must always grant a licence but does not charge for related party works where the AP2 exclusion is in place. Exclusions will only apply where members have requested them specifically; they do not occur automatically. Exclusions will apply only to specific requested accounts and must be linked to a related party member entity prior to the application for licence, otherwise MCPS will charge for the usage.

Scheme: Audio Product 2A (AP2A)

Summary

AP2A is for audio only recorded product made and distributed for retail sale to the public. It is for smaller record companies and operates in the same way as the AP2 scheme, except that it allows record companies to pay royalties on manufacture with a 60-day credit period. Licences are also granted before payment is made. The AP2A scheme is not available to all record companies, only to those who already have a history of trading with MCPS and who are approved by MCPS.

Royalty charge

8.5% of the published dealer price (excluding VAT). Where there is no published dealer price, the rate is 6.5% (excluding VAT) of the retail price. If the product contains works outside the control of MCPS, the royalty charge is proportionally adjusted on the basis of track durations, where known or an equal split between the tracks where durations are not known.

Distribution approach

The royalty charged, net of MCPS commission, is paid line by line directly across the specific licensed works. Where the durations of the tracks are known, the royalty charge is apportioned to all the individual licensed works in proportion to the durations. Where the duration is not known, it is split equally between the tracks involved.

Distribution cycle

- Record company submits an application for a licence or an application for re-press licence to us
- We calculate the royalty and issue both an invoice and licence to the record company
- Record company pays us
- We issue the licence and pay the member in the month following receipt of the income

Processing policy

Data provider

The data provider will usually be the record company.

Processing thresholds and rules

There are no processing thresholds specific to the AP2 scheme.

Other notes

Promotional records up to 250 copies are not subject to a royalty charge on LP albums. Record Labels can have a maximum of 400 promotional copies for singles. Where the record company and a member of MCPS are related parties (see 3.8 in the MCPS membership agreement (MA2)), the member can make their own arrangement for collecting and accounting royalties by setting up an AP2A exclusion. In such cases, MCPS must always grant a licence but does not charge for related party works where the AP2A exclusion is in place. Exclusions will only apply where members have requested them specifically; they do not occur automatically. Exclusions will apply only to specific requested accounts and must be linked to a related party member entity prior to the application for licence, otherwise, MCPS will charge for the usage.

Scheme: DJ Mix Compilations (AP3)

Summary

AP3 is for audio-only recorded product and are bespoke compilations made for DJs. Royalty payments under this scheme must be made by the record company prior to the manufacture of the product. The scheme requires record companies to apply for a separate licence for each order of records they wish to press.

The scheme only covers products made for promotional purposes for DJs. Recordings made for other purposes are not covered.

Royalty charge

Flat rate of £0.01 for each work or part of a work reproduced (£0.015 for works reproduced on Megamix).

Distribution approach

The royalty charged, net of MCPS commission, is paid line by line directly across the specific licensed works.

Distribution cycle

- Record company submits an application for a licence or an application for re-press licence to us
- We calculate the royalty and invoice the record company
- Record company pays us
- We pay the member in the month following receipt of the income

Processing policy

Data provider

The data provider will usually be the record company.

Processing thresholds and rules

There are no processing thresholds specific to the AP3 scheme.

Other notes

In 2018, there were only three companies that were using the AP3 scheme.

Royalties are paid on each unit manufactured with no exception.

This scheme covers all music except MCPS Production Music.

Scheme: Audio Only Promotional Product (AP4 and AP4P)

Summary

AP4 is for recorded product made by record companies specifically to promote other records. AP4P is a similar scheme for recordings made by music publishers to promote the works on the recording. Royalty payments under this scheme must be made by the record company prior to the manufacture of the product. The scheme requires record companies to apply for a separate licence for each promotional record they wish to make.

The scheme only covers products made for promotional purposes. Recordings made for sale to the public or any other purpose are not covered.

Royalty charge

Under AP4 scheme, a charge of £0.05p per work per copy is made.

Under the AP4P scheme music publisher members of MCPS pay a flat rate nominal service charge of £25 for up to 3,000 units.

Distribution approach

The royalty charged, net of MCPS commission, is classed as unattributable, aggregated with other unattributable sources and distributed on a pro-rata basis against other usage.

Distribution cycle

Pro-rata distributions are made once a year.

Processing policy

Data provider

No data is processed.

Processing thresholds and rules

No data is processed.

Other notes

In 2016, there were 102 companies using the AP4 scheme and seven MCPS publisher members using the scheme AP4P.

Scheme: Cover Mounted Products (AP7 and AP7N)

Summary

AP7 (for magazines) and AP7N (for newspapers) are for audio-only recording products supplied as cover mounts affixed to the publication. Royalty payments under this scheme must be made by the licensee prior to the manufacture of the product.

Royalty charge

6.5% of the base price. Base price is usually 50% of cover price. However, there is a minimum base price set under this scheme by MCPS: £1.65 for AP7 and £1.10 for AP7N. The base price is multiplied by the number of copies to be manufactured.

Distribution approach

The royalty charged, net of MCPS commission, is paid line by line directly across the specific licensed works. Where the durations of the tracks are known, the royalty charge is apportioned to all the individual licensed works in proportion to the durations. Where the duration is not known, it is split equally between the tracks involved.

Distribution cycle

- Licensee submits an application for a licence or an application for re-press licence to us
- We calculate the royalty and invoice the licensee
- Licensee pays us
- We pay the member in the month following receipt of the income

Processing policy

Data provider

The data provider will usually be the licensee.

Processing thresholds and rules

There are no processing thresholds specific to the AP7 and AP7N schemes.

Scheme: AP7A

Summary

AP7A is for recorded products supplied with greeting cards at the point of sale to the public. Royalty payments under this scheme must be made by the licensee prior to the manufacture of the product.

Royalty charge

- Greeting cards plus music CD: 8.5% x 50% of list PDP
- Greeting cards plus music DVD: 6.25% x 50% of list PDP
- Greeting cards plus general interest DVD: 8.5% x 50% of list PDP x music percent x relevant product duration

Relevant product duration is the total music duration/total product duration. If the product contains works outside the control of MCPS, the royalty charge is proportionally adjusted on the basis of track durations. Otherwise, on the basis of an equal split between the tracks, where durations are unknown.

Distribution approach

The royalty charged, net of MCPS commission, is paid line by line directly across the specific licensed works. Where the durations of the tracks are known, the royalty charge is apportioned to all the individual licensed works in proportion to the durations. Where the duration is not known, it is split equally between the tracks involved.

Distribution cycle

- Licensee submits an application for a licence or an application for re-press licence to us
- We calculate the royalty and invoice the licensee
- Licensee pays us
- We pay the member in the month following receipt of the income

Processing policy

Data provider

The data provider will usually be the licensee.

Processing thresholds and rules

There are no processing thresholds specific to the AP7A scheme.

Other notes

This scheme covers all music except MCPS Production Music.

Scheme: General Interest Audio-Visual Product (AVP)

Summary

AVP is the licensing scheme for general interest audio-visual products, such as DVDs and Blu-ray discs, manufactured and distributed for retail sale to the public. It is available to all producers and allows them to pay royalties quarterly in arrears. However, there are certain criteria that need to be satisfied before they can operate under this scheme. Companies with estimated annual royalties in excess of £100K are required to be approved by the MCPS board.

Royalty charge

8.5% of the published dealer price (excluding VAT), pro-rated by music to non-music ratio.

If the product contains works outside the control of MCPS, the royalty charge is proportionally adjusted on the basis of usage durations.

Distribution approach

The royalty charged, net of MCPS commission, is paid line by line directly across the specific licensed works. Where usage durations are known, the royalty charge is apportioned to all individual licensed works in proportion to their durations.

Distribution cycle

- End of quarter: record company aggregate their product shipping numbers
- Within 21 days: record company informs us of numbers shipped
- Within the following 17 days: we invoice the record company
- Within the next seven days: record company pays us
- Within the next seven days: funds clear
- Within the next seven days: we pay the member

This cycle means that members should receive their royalties within two months of the end of each quarter.

Processing policy

Data provider

The data provider will usually be the production company.

Processing thresholds and rules

There are no processing thresholds specific to the AVP scheme.

Other notes

This scheme covers all music, including MCPS Production Music. It does not cover audio-visual music product licensed under the scheme DVD1.

Scheme: Educational Recording Agency (BG9)

Summary

This is money collected for us by the Educational Recording Agency (ERA) which licenses schools and teachers to make recordings of broadcast programmes containing copyright music for the purposes of the educational establishment. The ERA licence also allows the educational establishments to communicate those recordings and works to teachers and students connected with the establishment.

Royalty charge

ERA pays an annual blanket licence fee covering the mechanical and performing rights it licenses on behalf of MCPS and PRS. This money is split 86.5% to MCPS and 13.5% to PRS to reflect the difference in physical media usage and streaming.

Distribution approach

The money is allocated to those programmes which are likely to be educational from all the programming broadcast on BBC2, Channel 4, More4, Channel 5 and S4C.

Distribution cycle

Quarterly, one quarter after the end of the performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider

ERA does not collect information from the schools it licenses about the material recorded under this licence, so it cannot report any usage. MCPS attempts to manually identify those programmes which are likely to be educational from all the programming broadcast on BBC2, Channel 4, More4, Channel 5 and S4C.

Processing thresholds and rules

None

Scheme: Digital Memory Devices (DMD)

Summary

This covers the licensing of music recorded onto Digital Memory Devices (DMD).

Royalty charge

- 6.5p per work per copy without prior approval
- 5p per work per copy with prior approval

Distribution approach

The royalty charged, net of MCPS commission, is paid line by line directly across the specific licensed works.

Distribution cycle

Members should receive their royalties within one month of the invoice being settled.

Processing policy

Data provider

The data provider will usually be the production company.

Processing thresholds and rules

There are no processing thresholds specific to the DMD scheme.

Other notes

This scheme covers all music except MCPS Production Music.

Scheme: Music Audio-Visual Products (DVD1)

Summary

DVD1 is the scheme for licensing audio-visual music products, such as DVDs and Blu-ray discs, to be manufactured and distributed for retail sale to the public. It is available to all producers and allows them to pay royalties quarterly in arrears. However, there are criteria that need to be satisfied before they can operate under this scheme. Companies with estimated annual royalties in excess of £100K are required to be approved by the MCPS board.

Royalty charge

- DVD singles: 8.5% of the published dealer price (excluding VAT). Where there is no published dealer price, the rate is 6.5% (excluding VAT) of the retail price.
- Hybrid products: 7.25% of the published dealer price (excluding VAT). Where there is no published dealer price, the rate is 5.54% (excluding VAT) of the retail price.
- DVD video products: 6.25% of the published dealer price (excluding VAT). Where there is no published dealer price, the rate is 4.78% (excluding VAT) of the retail.

If the product contains works outside the control of MCPS the royalty charge is proportionally adjusted on the basis of track durations. Otherwise, it is based on an equal split between the tracks where durations are unknown.

Distribution approach

The royalty charged, net of MCPS commission, is paid line by line directly across the specific licensed works. Where the durations of the tracks are known, the royalty charge is apportioned to all the individual licensed works in proportion to the durations. Where the duration is not known, it is split equally between the tracks involved.

Distribution cycle

- End of quarter: record company aggregate their product shipping numbers
- Within 21 days: record company informs us of the numbers shipped
- Within the following 17 days: we invoice the record company
- Within the next seven days: record company pays us
- Within the next seven days: funds clear
- Within the next seven days: we pay the member

This cycle means that members should receive their royalties within two months of the end of each quarter.

Processing policy

Data provider

The data provider will usually be the DVD producer.

Processing thresholds and rules

There are no processing thresholds specific to the DVD1 scheme.

Other notes

This scheme covers all music, including MCPS Production Music.

Scheme: European Central Licensing (EC.1/ECL)

Summary

European Central Licensing (ECL) schemes for recording products are made and distributed for retail sale to the public, where the record company has opted to be licensed centrally by a single licensing body in Europe. That single licensing body then collects royalties from sales across Europe and distributes the relevant proportions to local societies for onward transmission to local members.

These schemes are now the largest in terms of royalties for recorded products.

Royalty charge

The royalty rates charged to the record company by the licensing body are based on the territory of destination, as per the approach for AP1.

Distribution approach

The royalties received, net of MCPS commission, are paid line by line directly across the specific works. These royalties are collected and apportioned by other collecting agencies/societies and sent to us at the individual work level.

Distribution cycle

The month following receipt of data and payment – this is typically the month following the standard quarterly AP1 distribution.

Processing policy

Data provider

The data provider will usually be the central licensing body unless processing is undertaken by another society or agency on behalf of the central licensing body.

Processing thresholds and rules

There are no processing thresholds specific to the ECL schemes.

Other notes

These schemes cover all music except MCPS Production Music

Scheme: Fitness Music Services (FMS)

Summary

Fitness Music Services (FMS) is the licensing scheme permitting the manufacture and distribution of products such as CDs, DVDs and downloads containing music to fitness professionals for the use in fitness classes delivered to the public.

Royalty charge

The royalty charge is determined by either a percentage of applicable revenue or a pence per work per copy minima, whichever is the greater.

	Physical	Online
Percentage of Revenue	15%	16%
Track Minima	6p	7p

Distribution approach

The royalty charged, net of MCPS commission, is paid line by line directly across the specific licensed works.

Distribution cycle

Members should receive their royalties within three months of the end of each quarter.

Processing policy

Data provider

The data provider will usually be the fitness product producer.

Processing thresholds and rules

There are no processing thresholds or rules.

Other notes

A £1,000 advance is payable on signing up to the scheme.

Scheme: General Interest Cover mounts (GI7N)

Summary

This scheme is for general interest products supplied as cover mounts at the point of sale to the public. Royalty payments under this scheme must be made by the licensee prior to the manufacture of the product.

Royalty charge

The royalty rate varies depending on the type of periodical, the nature of the musical work and whether or not tokens need to be collected.

Distribution approach

The royalty charged, net of MCPS commission, is paid line by line directly across the specific licensed works. Where the duration of the tracks is known, the royalty charge is apportioned to all the individual licensed works in proportion to the duration. Where the duration is not known, it is split equally between the tracks involved.

Distribution cycle

Members should receive their royalties within one month of the licensee settling the invoice.

Processing policy

Data provider

The data provider will usually be the licensee.

Processing thresholds and rules

There are no processing thresholds specific to the GI7N scheme.

Other notes

This scheme covers all music except MCPS Production Music.

Scheme: Joint Import Licence (JIL)

Summary

This is a joint MCPS/BPI/AIM scheme for the licensing of imports to the UK of records manufactured outside the EU. It replaced the previous AP5 scheme.

Royalty charge

Per copy:

- Music products <25 min. of music: £0.48
- Music products >25 min. of music: £1.30
- Non music products <25 min. of music: £0.15
- Non music products >25 min. of music: £0.40
- Karaoke products: £1.80

Distribution approach

The royalty charged, net of MCPS commission, is classed as unattributable, aggregated with other unattributable sources and distributed on a pro-rata basis against other usage.

Distribution cycle

Pro-rata distributions are made once a year.

Processing policy

Data provider

No data is processed.

Processing thresholds and rules

No data is processed.

Other notes

This scheme covers all music except MCPS Production Music.

Scheme: Music Karaoke (KAR)

Summary

KAR is the licensing scheme for music karaoke products to be manufactured and distributed for retail sale to the public. The KAR scheme is different from standard audiovisual licensing in that it incorporates the right to reproduce lyrics on-screen. The scheme permits a maximum of 30 tracks per disc; however, a side letter was introduced in 2017 for sound carriers containing more than 30 tracks with a separate royalty calculation.

Royalty charge

- 12% of the published dealer price (excluding VAT), subject to a minimum PDP of £3.00 or 10% of the published retail price (excluding VAT), subject to a minimum PRP £3.60.
- The greater of 12% of the Published Dealer Price or £0.07 per Track per Disc where there are more than 30 tracks on a disc

If the product contains works outside the control of MCPS the royalty charge is proportionally adjusted on the basis of usage durations. Alternatively, where durations are unknown, it is adjusted on the basis of an equal split between the works.

Distribution approach

The royalty charged, net of MCPS commission, is paid line by line directly across the specific licensed works. Where the duration of the usages is known, the royalty charge is apportioned to all the individual licensed works in proportion to the durations. Where the duration is not known, it is split equally between the items involved.

Distribution cycle

Members should receive their royalties within three months of the end of each quarter.

Processing policy

Data provider

The data provider will usually be the production company.

Processing thresholds and rules

There are no processing thresholds specific to the KAR scheme.

Other notes

This scheme covers all music except MCPS Production Music.

Scheme: Limited Manufacture (LM)

Summary

This is a joint MCPS/PPL scheme for licensing production runs that do not exceed 1,000 copies.

Royalty charge

The royalty charge varies with the number of copies being made, the duration of the licensed music and whether PPL rights are included, as well as MCPS rights.

Distribution approach

The royalty charged, net of MCPS commission, is classed as unattributable, aggregated with other unattributable sources and distributed on a pro-rata basis against other usage.

Distribution cycle

Pro-rata distributions are made once a year.

Processing policy

Data provider

No data is processed.

Processing thresholds and rules

No data is processed.

Other notes

This scheme covers all music, including MCPS Production Music.

Christian Copyright Licensing International (CCLI) acts as an agent for MCPS and administers this licence to churches and some other organisations.

The Centre for Education & Finance Management (CEFM) administer a licence on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE) which covers a Limited Manufacture licence for products created by schools containing up to 120 minutes of music, capped at 1,000 units a year. For more information, visit cefm.co.uk/licensing/mcps/

Scheme: Production Music Rate Card (LR1)

Summary

This is the standard method for licensing synchronisation usage for MCPS Production Music, which falls outside the broadcast blanket and IPC licensing schemes. This can include small licences for very low-budget productions such as student films or corporate videos.

Royalty charge

The published rate card details can be found in the appendix.

Distribution approach

The royalty charged, net of MCPS commission, is paid line by line directly across the specific licensed works.

Distribution cycle

Members should receive their royalties within one month of the invoice being settled.

Processing policy

Data provider

The data provider will usually be the production company.

Processing thresholds and rules

There are no processing thresholds specific to the LR1 scheme.

Other notes

This scheme only covers MCPS Production Music.

Scheme: Interactive Games/Multimedia Products (MM1)

Summary

This covers miscellaneous interactive games and multimedia products.

Royalty charge

This is subject to negotiation with the licensee.

Distribution approach

The royalty charged, net of MCPS commission, is paid line by line directly across the specific licensed works. Where the durations of the usages are known, the royalty charge is apportioned to all the individual licensed works in proportion to the durations. Where the duration is not known, it is split equally between the items involved.

Distribution cycle

Members should receive their royalties within one month of the invoice being settled.

Processing policy

Data provider

The data provider will usually be the production company.

Processing thresholds and rules

There are no processing thresholds specific to the MM1 scheme.

Other notes

This scheme covers all music except MCPS Production Music.

Scheme: Music Services Business to Business (MSB2B)

Summary

The MSB2B scheme licenses the supply of music (audio, music video and karaoke) to business locations solely for the purpose of playing to members of the public. This includes locations such as bars, restaurants, and retail outlets. These schemes can be for suppliers of physical products or downloads.

Royalty charge

The royalty charge varies with the type of service (background, on demand, karaoke) and the product format (physical or online/satellite). The charge will be based upon a percentage of revenue or a per-site minimum as detailed in the table below.

	Physical format delivery			Online/satellite format delivery		
	Background	On-demand	Karaoke	Background	On-demand	Karaoke
% of applicable revenue	6%	6%	9.5%	7%	8%	10.5%
Min per site per month	£2.00	£2.50	£2.50	£2.50	£3.50	£3.50

MSB2B is subject to a minimum advance of £1,000 at the point of sign-up to the agreement.

Distribution approach

All licensees supply line by line reporting. The royalties, net of MCPS commission, will be paid line by line directly across the specific licensed works.

Distribution cycle

Pro-rata distributions are made once a year. For suppliers, moved to line by line distributions will be quarterly in arrears.

Processing policy

Data provider

Data is supplied by the licensee.

Processing thresholds and rules

There are no processing thresholds or rules.

Other notes

This scheme covers all music including MCPS Production Music.

Previously, if suppliers did not supply reporting the net royalties, net of MCPS commission, was added into the royalties of the other suppliers that are distributed line by line and distributed on a pro-rata basis against other usage.

Scheme: Professional Dubbing (ProDub)

Summary

This is a joint licensing scheme operated by MCPS and PPL. It allows an individual to copy music they own onto various formats and devices, such as from their CDs to their laptop. This is for the purpose of using that device or format to undertake professional or semi-professional performances, such as those undertaken by DJs, karaoke jockeys, fitness instructors and performers.

Royalty charge

The royalty charge varies depending on the number of songs copied and whether graphic rights are to be included.

Distribution approach

The royalty charged, net of MCPS commission, is classed as unattributable, aggregated with other unattributable sources and distributed on a pro-rata basis against other usage.

Distribution cycle

Pro-rata distributions are made once a year.

Processing policy

Data provider

No data is processed.

Processing thresholds and rules

No data is processed.

Other notes

This scheme covers all music except MCPS Production Music.

Scheme: Public Exhibitions (SG4)

Summary

This scheme is for licensing the recording of music for use in public exhibitions.

Royalty charge

The royalty charge varies with the number of visitors and whether they are fee-paying or non-fee-paying visitors. This is subject to a minimum charge of £250 per 30 seconds.

Distribution approach

The royalty charged, net of MCPS commission, is paid line by line directly across the specific licensed works. Where the durations of the usages are known, the royalty charge is apportioned to all the individual licensed works in proportion to the durations. Where the duration is not known, it is split equally between the items involved.

Distribution cycle

Members should receive their royalties within one month of the licensee settling the invoice.

Processing policy

Data provider

The data provider will usually be the production company.

Processing thresholds and rules

There are no processing thresholds specific to the SG4 scheme.

Other notes

This scheme covers all music except MCPS Production Music.

Scheme: (SG6)

Summary

The SG6 scheme is for specialist, made to order music products, including MIDI files, bespoke karaoke compilations, backing tracks, recording booths, mechanical organ music and music quiz compilations.

Royalty charge

The royalty charge varies with the type of usage. Charges are made on a pence per work basis as detailed in the table below:

Audio only clips under 30secs (C)	3p
Audiovisual clips under 30secs (A)	3.5p
Audio only tracks (T)	10p
Audiovisual tracks (no lyrics) (V)	11p
Karaoke tracks with still images (S)	12p
Karaoke tracks with moving images (K)	13p
MIDI Files (M)	15p

Distribution approach

The royalty charged, net of MCPS commission, is paid line by line directly across a sample of the licensed works.

Distribution cycle

Royalties under this scheme are distributed annually.

Processing policy

Data provider

Data is supplied by licensees.

Processing thresholds and rules

Only a sample of the licensed works is distributed.

Other notes

This scheme was formally due to expire at the end of 2006 but in the absence of any replacement scheme it continues to operate.

This scheme covers all music except MCPS Production Music.

Scheme: Audits (AUD1 & AUD2)

Summary

This scheme is for audit monies recovered after a royalty examination for a defined period of reporting under a particular scheme.

Royalty charge

The royalty charge is based on the specific terms as per each agreement under which the royalty examination is conducted. For example, AP1, AP2, AP2A, AP7, KAR.

Distribution approach

The royalty charged, net of MCPS commission and audit costs, is paid line by line on the works found to be under-reported.

Distribution cycle

Royalties under this scheme are distributed ad hoc. However, they will be distributed in a timely manner, subject to internal processing.

Processing policy

Data provider

The audit department collates the data that has been reported and processed by the licensing team. The external licensee provides extra information in accordance with the royalty examination. The royalty examination is conducted by an external third party accountant/audit firm.

Processing thresholds and rules

There are no processing thresholds specific to the audit schemes.

Other notes

AUD1 and AUD2 monies are usually distributed under AUD3/4; and the same rules apply to all audit schemes.

Online Licensing

Key concepts

- Most online revenue is licensed jointly by PRS and MCPS, operating as PRS for Music. Only the distribution aspects of the MCPS share will be detailed in this document.
- Blanket revenues received for UK online music services are split between PRS and MCPS based on service type, in accordance with this matrix:

Service type	PRS	MCPS
Download	25%	75%
Streaming*	50%	50%
Mixed**	50%	50%
Webcast / Live Streaming	75%	25%
FAST (Free Ad Supported Television)	75%	25%
Karaoke – Download***	17.4%	82.6%
Karaoke – On-demand streaming***	34.8%	65.2%
Ringtones****	33.33%	66.67%
Cloud locker services	25%	75%

* The split for YouTube is calculated at work level, see YouTube section below.

** If it is not possible to 1) categorise individual usage and apply established society splits to each or 2) identify the most dominate usage type, then this Mixed rate is used

*** Some karaoke services have a split that takes into account UGC content – see ‘Online Karaoke Services’ for more details

**** Not all Ringtones services are split this way, some have bespoke splits, e.g. Vodaphone 48/52 in favour of MCPS

- Transactional-invoiced revenue for online music services is apportioned using the same principles as blanket revenues. In this instance, however, apportionment is applied at an individual transaction level and not to the overall fee. This allows for the fact that control of the repertoire and the rights being licensed by MCPS and PRS can vary at the work level.
- UK-focused services are licensed on a blanket basis, and revenues are distributed by data-matching music usage reports against repertoire. For low-value services, for example, Limited Online Music Licence (LOML) licensees with a royalty value of less than £12,500 per annum, revenues are distributed on a pro-rated basis. LOML+ services are distributed by data matching usage against repertoire annually.
- ICE Services operates licensing and distribution processes for multi-territory services
- For multi-territory services, including those operating in the UK under multi-territorial licensing agreements, ICE Services processes usage reports from each service to identify relevant repertoire. In respect of the UK, the processing excludes those repertoires specifically excluded from ICE Services’ mandate and licenses the remainder, providing a ‘residual blanket’ licence. Outside of the UK, ICE Services licenses those specific works that it is mandated to license for those territories at the time of invoicing.

- Online music usages are matched and invoiced following the territory of destination’s copyright policy, performing and mechanical rights splits, and registered share pictures.
- Full reporting is sought from all but the smallest of online licensees (such as LOML licensees). The quality of the data usually enables the systems to automatch usage for a very high proportion of the revenue. Manual matching also takes place for high value works.
- Ringtones and ringbacks are licensed and distributed in the same way as other online usages.

Unmatchables and carry forwards

Carry forwards for the General Entertainment Online Licence (GEOL) operate using the same method as used for broadcast.

For transactional and blanket online sections, we do not adopt a carry forward approach. This is due to the nature of the revenue received and the cost of implementing back claim capability on systems.

For multi-territory transactional online usage, we collect revenue relating to usage of works that could not be identified (Unmatchables), or for shares of matched works where the owner cannot be identified (Copyright Control). Once all usage data has been identified via automated and manual matching processes, there is some revenue left over relating to usage of works whose data cannot be matched.

For most online services, we collect revenue relating to UK usage and for only the repertoire we administer directly. This is distributed at the earliest opportunity after the initial distributions of matched repertoire royalties. We distribute it pro rata over all identified repertoire for the relevant service and usage period, so this effectively acts as a ‘top-up’ to the original distribution. We distribute to each member an amount which corresponds to their share of the original distribution from the same service, with amounts per work detailed on member statements.

For some smaller services, we collect revenue relating to UK usage for all repertoire, including repertoire from owners whose multi-territory online rights PRS does not otherwise administer directly. For this, a different approach is followed to help facilitate and administer royalty payments to those repertoire owners. This money is distributed as follows:

Unmatchables

- 75% of the money for unmatched usage is distributed pro rata over the identified repertoire on an annual basis for the relevant service and period. Such distributions will be made across all matched data for all rights-holders, including direct licensors.
- The remaining money is held for three years to fund claims and disputes, after which it is distributed pro rata over all identified repertoire for the relevant service and usage period.

Copyright Control

- All money for unidentified shares is held for the three years before being distributed pro rata. This allows us to attempt to make adjustments for unidentified shares which are subsequently registered.

'Pro rata'

- In this context, this means money is distributed using the identified (matched) repertoire. Therefore, to all those who participated in the original distribution, we will distribute an equivalent share of the unmatchable and copyright control revenue.

This policy has been reviewed by the Distribution Committee in June 2014, July 2015, November 2016, March 2017 and October 2022.

Apple Music and Apple iTunes

Introduction

Apple holds a significant market share in the online music market. ICE Services operates licensing for this service and processes the usage data, which they pass to us for distribution to our members.

Royalty source

Apple revenue is invoiced monthly based upon processed usage under the terms of Apple's licence with ICE Services.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

For downloads via Apple iTunes, each usage has a 25% to PRS and 75% to MCPS split applied, in line with splits established for download services.

For streaming via Apple Music, each usage has a 50% to PRS and 50% to MCPS split applied, in line with splits established for streaming services.

Revenues are invoiced based on what falls within our mandated repertoire and paid on net of commission deductions.

Distribution basis

Revenue is distributed on a census basis where work registrations have been in place at the time of invoicing (subject to a minimum value requirement). The volume of data in the reporting is high, and the quality is generally good, as so much of the reported data is auto-matched. Where a match cannot be established automatically, ICE Services will seek to manually match high-value usages.

Distribution cycle

We aim to distribute revenue monthly, following the pattern of usage reported, six months after the end of the quarterly performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

All reported usage is loaded and passed through the automatch process. Works with insufficient streams to generate at least €0.01 are not loaded into ICE Services systems and do not, therefore become distributable.

YouTube

Introduction

A significant proportion of YouTube streams are accounted for by music videos, both in the form of official videos uploaded by record companies and in user-generated content. ICE Services operates licensing for this service and processes the usage data, which they pass to us for distribution to our members.

Royalty source

YouTube pays a blanket licence fee to ICE Services for MCPS rights administered by ICE Services throughout the term of the licence.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

YouTube revenue apportionment between MCPS and PRS works on a points basis. This reflects the individual usages controlled between MCPS and PRS, and the different set of rights (performing and mechanical rights) that we administer.

Each stream of a society-controlled work generates a single point. Controlled content varies between PRS and MCPS, so these points are weighted to take account of the established 50/50 streaming split between the two. The MCPS side is further upweighted by 3:13 to compensate for the synchronisation rights in a YouTube video.

This creates a weighting of 5:8 (that is $5/13:8/13$) in favour of MCPS for each controlled stream.

Each performing right point generated is worth one, while each mechanical point generated is worth 1.6.

This ratio does not represent the apportionment of the total licence fee. We control a broader spectrum of performing rights repertoire used on YouTube, which is paid in the PRS distribution, than we do for mechanical rights repertoire, which is paid in the MCPS distribution. At the level of split between PRS and MCPS, this dilutes the impact of the higher weighting given to mechanical usages.

We also apply a weighting based on the territory in which the streaming takes place. This accounts for the varying value of the same music, which we control, in different countries. Based on market forces, the same amount of music used in different territories generates different values.

These weightings are maintained by ICE Services as the administrator for our licence deal with YouTube.

Revenue is apportioned to individual works on the basis of the number of streams each work accumulates within the streamed content made available on YouTube.

Distribution basis

YouTube is paid on a census basis (subject to a minimum stream threshold requirement). Only videos that have accumulated sufficient streams to generate a payment of at least €0.01 are loaded into ICE Services systems and run through an automatch process.

Distribution cycle

We aim to distribute revenue monthly, following the pattern of usage reported six months after the end of the quarterly performance period.

. Some YouTube data goes through an extra processing step to identify the music using music recognition technology and so distribution of this data lags by an additional quarter.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data is provided by the licensee in an electronic format. YouTube also uses music recognition technology to provide ICE Services with accurate and comprehensive data.

Processing thresholds and rules

All reported YouTube videos exceeding the minimum stream threshold are loaded and passed through the automatch process. Videos with insufficient streams to generate at least €0.01 are not loaded into ICE Services systems and do not, therefore, become distributable.

Other notes

This policy was confirmed by the Distribution Committee in April 2014. An amendment was made in November 2015 related to territory weightings. Further reviews have been carried out by the Committee in 2019 and 2022.

Spotify

Introduction

Spotify holds a significant market share in the online music market in the UK and across other territories. ICE Services operates licensing for this service and processes the usage data, which they pass to us for distribution to our members. ICE Services charges for and distributes Spotify's use of the repertoire we control across each territory, for each service type separately, using different criteria.

Royalty source

There are different fees or licence fee calculations for each of the service types, which use a mixture of different criteria and minimum payment thresholds.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

Spotify revenue is apportioned 50% to PRS and 50% to MCPS in accordance with established splits for on-demand streaming services.

The blanket fees and criteria established in the Spotify licence mean that an amount of revenue is directly attributable to each service type and period. Within service types and periods, revenue is apportioned to individual tracks on the basis of shares in total streams.

Distribution basis

Spotify is distributed on a near census basis. It would be prohibitively expensive for ICE Services to load and process all reported data - the lesser streamed tracks would not generate sufficient streams to trigger a payment, so thresholds are used.

Distribution cycle

We aim to distribute revenue monthly, following the pattern of usage reported six months after the end of the quarterly performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data is provided by Spotify in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

Some load thresholds are employed to reduce file size and avoid unnecessary cost.

GEOL within broadcast blanket

Introduction

Many major TV broadcasters offer their audiovisual content for consumption online, often after the content has been broadcast on TV. In most instances, the licence fee for this online service is negotiated within the blanket licence fee paid by the broadcaster. This section covers General Entertainment Online Licence (GEOL) fees included within the broadcast blanket licences of BBC, Channel 4, Five, and ITV, amongst others.

Royalty source

The fees are set on either an individual basis or as part of the broadcaster's blanket licence, and they consider factors such as viewer hours consumed, music hours consumed, and level of music use.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

Revenue for these services is split depending on the type of exploitation involved and is in accordance with the splits detailed in the '[Key Concepts](#)' of this 'Online Revenue' section. Examples of the major GEOL services licensed within a blanket broadcast licence are Channel 4 (formerly All4), BBC iPlayer, BBC Sounds, ITV X (formerly ITV Hub) and My5.

Annual fees are established within the negotiated broadcast blanket licence. Revenue is apportioned to productions by pro-rating the total amount available for the service over all points generated within the period. One point represents a stream containing one minute of music, e.g. a production accumulating 10,000 streams and containing 25 minutes of music would generate 250,000 points.

Revenue is apportioned to usage from the total portion of the blanket licence fee that is allocated to TV (or Radio in the case of BBC Sounds). The allocation of royalties is benchmarked against the value per viewer hour achieved by blanket standalone GEOL licences, reviewed annually. Channel 4 (formerly All4) and My5 have a minimum allocation based on a fixed allocation derived from historical licence negotiation, but are allocated more if so determined by the value per music hour calculation.

Distribution basis

Distributions are made on a census basis.

Distribution cycle

We distribute these revenues quarterly, one quarter after the end of the quarterly performance period.

Data provider and format

Data is provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

All usage goes through both an automatch and, where necessary, a manual match process.

Other notes

This policy was reviewed by the Distribution Committee in February 2021, with a change made for revenue allocation to be based on viewer hours. Reviews of this policy happen on an annual basis.

Blanket GEOL Standalone Licences

Introduction

A standalone GEOL licence is issued to online audiovisual content providers that are not covered by a broadcast blanket licence. Examples of major services covered by this licence include Apple iTunes, Amazon Prime, Disney+, Microsoft Xbox and Netflix.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

GEOL revenue is split between MCPS and PRS based upon the type of service offered. All productions generate performing right and mechanical royalties. Revenue is apportioned between MCPS and PRS in line with the mechanical and performing right splits as detailed in the '[Key Concepts](#)' section for 'Online Revenue' depending on the type of GEOL service.

Revenue is pro-rated across all productions within the fixed performance term, based on the duration of music in each production streamed or downloaded. Because the total amount of music consumed within each performance period can vary, the value of one minute of music can vary from one period to another. For calculation purposes we use a points-based system where one point represents one minute of music in a production. For example, a production containing 25 minutes of music that is streamed/downloaded 10,000 times would generate 250,000 points. This ensures a consistent valuation for music featured in productions streamed or downloaded within a given time period.

Distribution basis

All reported usage runs through an automatic matching process. High value usages that the system is unable to match are matched manually.

Distribution cycle

We distribute these revenues quarterly, two quarters after the end of the quarterly performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data is provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

All usage goes through an automatch and/or manual match process.

Other notes

This policy was reviewed in January 2017. Previously, we adjusted the extent of controlled usage for MCPS and PRS. As of January 2017, we no longer make these adjustments.

Cloud Locker Services

Introduction

Cloud Locker Services have a 'scan and match' functionality which scans an end user's device and attempts to identify tracks which are already stored by the service. Where a match is found, the server copy is made available, by streaming or download, to a variety of the end user's devices, rather than the user's copy being uploaded.

ICE Services operates licensing for this service and processes the usage data, which they pass to us for distribution to our members.

Royalty source

Cloud Locker Services are charged on a per-subscriber basis.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

Revenue for cloud locker services is split 25% to PRS and 75% to MCPS on the basis that the end user experience of the service is essentially one of 'ownership' rather than just 'streaming'.

Distribution basis

All reported usage above the threshold is run through an automatic matching process. High-value usages that the system is unable to match are matched manually.

Distribution cycle

PRS distributes these revenues quarterly, six months after the end of the quarterly performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data is provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

Cloud locker services produce vast amounts of data for relatively small licence fees, making it completely uneconomic to process everything. For this reason, a threshold sampling mechanism is used whereby the highest value (most used) works are processed and then distributed, and the remainder are considered non-distributable. The actual value of the threshold varies, but for each service is pitched to give a 3% cost-to-revenue ratio.

Other notes

This policy was agreed by the Distribution Committee in May 2013 and reconfirmed by them in June 2014.

BBC iPlayer

Introduction

BBC's iPlayer is a significant online audiovisual content provider in the UK. Access is free to its on-demand or live online simulcast services via a range of devices, including PCs, mobile devices, and tablet computers.

Royalty source

BBC's iPlayer service in the UK is covered under the terms of their broadcast blanket licence agreement with PRS for Music on behalf of both MCPS and PRS.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

Revenue is apportioned to usage from an overall allocation that is benchmarked against the value per hour streamed on blanket standalone GEOL licences, reviewed annually.

Distribution basis

BBC iPlayer is paid on a census basis.

Distribution cycle

iPlayer revenue is distributed quarterly, one quarter after the end of the quarterly performance period.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data is provided by the BBC in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

All reported data is passed through an automatch process, with manual matching where it is deemed cost-efficient to do so. Currently, a production value of approximately £5 is deemed cost-effective, and we continue to review the appropriate threshold levels to ensure an optimal balance between cost and accuracy.

Other Notes

There is a separate licence for the BBC Studios Global iPlayer. This is apportioned and distributed as a standard UK streaming service. The basis of revenue allocation was reviewed in November 2017 by the Distribution Committee.

Multi-Territory Transactional Licences

Introduction

On behalf of PRS and MCPS, PRS for Music represent some rights-holders' interests for transactional online services across multiple territories.

ICE Services operates licensing and processes the usage data for multi-territory online licences, which they pass to us for distribution to our members.

Royalty source

Revenues collected for distribution under this section are collected per transaction, line by line.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

Revenues are invoiced on a transactional basis to value individual usages. No other apportionments are made, and items are distributed as invoiced, net of administration charge/commission.

Distributions are made in accordance with the invoice on a census basis.

Distribution cycle

We aim to distribute revenue monthly, following the pattern of usage reported six months after the end of the quarterly performance period, if invoices are settled in time for this distribution to take place.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data is provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

All usage goes through an automatch and, where necessary, a manual match process so that ICE Services can invoice for as much of its mandated repertoire as possible.

Limited Online Music Licence

Introduction

The LOML scheme will be phased out from December 2024 as we are releasing a range of more targeted tariffs as replacements.

There are two types of Limited Online Music Licence – LOML and LOML+⁶

LOML is applicable to online services generating less than £12,500 gross revenue per annum. The cost of our licence depends upon the type of service, whether streaming or download or general entertainment, and the extent of usage, based on number of streams, downloads, and music hours consumed.

LOML+ scheme deals with online services which generate between £12,500 and £200,000 gross revenue per annum. The same considerations as LOML are used to determine the licence fee.

The difference between LOML and LOML+ is that only LOML+ licensees are required to provide reporting of the music they used. This is because it is not cost effective to obtain and process all the uses from small services that generate less than £12,500 of their own gross revenue per annum.

Royalty source

Licence fees are collected from licensees whose service generates less than £200,000 per annum, either through the LOML or LOML+ scheme.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

LOML licensees are not required to supply reporting to go with their licence fees, so no calculations are performed.

LOML+ licensees do need to supply music reporting. We apportion revenue between MCPS and PRS in line with the mechanical and performing right splits as detailed in the '[Key Concepts](#)' section for 'Online Revenue', depending on the type of GEOL service.

Distribution basis

It is not cost-effective to obtain music reporting from LOML licensees, and this can deter very small DSPs from using our music or licensing music with us. The revenue is aggregated and distributed over representative data from the Small & Community Radio Station analogy, built from a large range of stations.

LOML+ licensees do provide reporting. In this instance, all reported usage above the threshold is run through an automatic matching process. High-value usages that the system is unable to match are matched manually.

⁶ View a matrix detailing the structure here:

www.prsformusic.com/licences/using-music-online/limited-online-music-licence

www.prsformusic.com/licences/using-music-online/limited-online-music-licence-plus

Distribution cycle

We aim to distribute LOML revenue annually in July. We seek to distribute LOML+ revenue on a quarterly basis, one quarter after the end of a quarterly performance period, if invoices have been settled in time for distributions to take place.

Processing policy**Data provider and format**

LOML licensees do not provide actual data.

LOML+ licensees provide data in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

Where applicable, all usage goes through an automatch and, where necessary, manual match process so that we can invoice for as much of our mandated repertoire as possible.

LOML replacement tariffs

All being phased in across 2024 - 2026

Places of Worship

Internet Radio

Podcasts

Music Services

Digital Music for Business

Introduction

The Digital Music for Business licence covers online music use, where music is not the focus of the business, and no revenue is generated from the use of music or content containing music. This licence mainly applies to the background use of music and excludes podcasts and internet radio.

Royalty source

The fee structure of the licence is based on the estimated usage of clips, streams, on-demand (hours of content) or downloaded (hours of content).

Distribution policy

Distribution basis

Licensees are not required to provide reporting under this licence. The revenue is distributed using the Small and Community Radio Station analogy. This enables a cost-effective means of distribution.

Distribution cycle

We aim to distribute on an annual basis.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Digital Music for Business licensees do not provide actual data.

Digital Music Licence for Schools

Introduction

Our Digital Music Licence for Schools licence covers a range of online activities outside of the educational curriculum. Examples include but are not limited to live streaming and on-demand streaming of student activities such as student performances shared online with parents and carers, student radio or podcasts, and sharing of music/ video on a school's website.

Royalty source

An annual blanket licence is issued on a per pupil basis, covering primary and secondary schools, including sixth forms and school-based nurseries in England that are wholly or partially government-funded.

Distribution policy

Distribution basis

As licensees are not required to provide reporting under this licence, the revenue is distributed using an analogy. This analogy is combined from two existing datasets used in the PRS UK Schools and MCPS recorded media distributions.

The society split for distribution is 33.3% PRS and 66.7% MCPS.

Distribution cycle

We aim to distribute on an annual basis.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Educational Establishments under this licence do not provide actual data.

Online Karaoke Services

Introduction

We issue joint licences to several online karaoke services for streaming and permanent downloading. These licences cover the performing and mechanical rights in the musical work, and the right to present the lyrics in graphic form in conjunction with the sound recording of the musical work.

Royalty source

The majority of licence fees are calculated as a flat rate fee, ranging from £142 to £18,042 as of January 2019, for different units of usage:

1,450 - 125,000	karaoke downloads
30,000 - 3,813,559	karaoke streams

If a service generates more than £200k, the licence fee is calculated as the greater of a percentage of revenue or a minimum per track.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

The standard splits between MCPS and PRS are adjusted in favour of MCPS to reflect the graphic use of lyrics, resulting in the following splits:

- Streaming: 34.8% to PRS, 65.2% to MCPS
- Permanent downloads: 17.4% to PRS, 82.6% to MCPS

Where synchronisation rights are included in online karaoke licences, the adjustment in favour of MCPS is increased further to:

- Streaming: 28.8% to PRS, 71.2% to MCPS
- Permanent downloads: 14.4% to PRS, 85.6% to MCPS

Distribution basis

All reported usage data is processed for distribution.

Distribution cycle

As with other non-MTOL online services, we aim to distribute on a quarterly basis, one quarter after the end of a quarterly performance period, if invoices are settled in time for this distribution to take place.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data is provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

All identifiable data will be processed for distribution. All goes through an automatch and, where necessary, a manual match process.

Business to Business Music Suppliers (MSB2B)

Introduction

Suppliers of background music systems to businesses are increasingly moving to online content delivery methods to their customers. This method of supply requires a joint licence on behalf of both MCPS and PRS. The licensing scheme requires many of these companies to supply us with actual usage data.

Royalty source

The licence fee is calculated as the greater of a percentage of revenue or a minimum per site/per month.

Distribution policy

Revenue apportionment/performance value calculation

Where licensees supply usage data, each licensee's revenue is distributed directly over the usage data they report. Where no data is obtainable, the money is distributed pro rata over a suitable alternative data source.

Distribution basis

Distributions are made on a census basis, where usage data is supplied or on an analogy basis, where no data is supplied.

Distribution cycle

We aim to distribute on a quarterly basis, one quarter after the end of a quarterly performance period, if invoices are settled in time for distribution to take place.

Processing policy

Data provider and format

Data is provided by the licensee in electronic format.

Processing thresholds and rules

All reported data is processed for distribution.

Other notes

This revenue source should not be confused with the money PRS collects for the public performance end use of music supplied to businesses under the terms of this licence. For details of this see the 'Background Music Suppliers' section in the PRS Distribution Policy.

Overseas Income

Summary

When we receive monies collected by other societies, for the use of repertoire in other territories, we will attempt, wherever possible, to distribute line by line against the usage data supplied.

Appendix

Commission Rates

MCPS commission rates vary from time to time. View the current rates here:
www.prsformusic.com/royalties/your-statement/mcps-commission-rates

Source Types

MCPS Distribution Source Types and Usage Group mapping

For broadcast and online, foreign, library and residual schemes. NOTE: "n" denotes a number between 0-9.

Name	Source Type	Distribution	Category	Usage Group	Description
Overseas	3	D&M	International	020	South African (SAMRO) General & Broadcasting (TV only)
				021	Australian (APRA) General & Broadcasting
				047	Japanese (JASRAC) General & Broadcasting
				048	Israeli (ACUM) General & Broadcasting
				048M	Norwegian (NCB) General & Broadcasting
				074	Austrian (AKM/AUME) General & Broadcasting
				075	Belgian (SABAM) General & Broadcasting
				079	Hungarian (ARTISJUS) General & Broadcasting
				081	Netherlands (BUMA/STEMRA) General & Broadcasting
				084	French (SACEM/SDRM) General & Broadcasting
				085	German (GEMA) General & Broadcasting
				086	Hong Kong (CASH) General & Broadcasting
				087	Italian (SIAE) General & Broadcasting
				088	Mexican (SACM) General & Broadcasting
				093	Spanish (SGAE) General & Broadcasting
				095	Swiss (SUISA) General & Broadcasting
				096	Greek (AEPI) General & Broadcasting
				121	Portuguese (SPA) General & Broadcasting
				123	Polish (ZAIKS) General & Broadcasting
				136	Czech Republic (OSA) General & Broadcasting

				141	Slovakian (SOZA) General & Broadcasting
				147	Brazilian (UBC) General & Broadcasting
				149	Argentinian (SADAIC) General & Broadcasting
				159	Croatian (HDS) General & Broadcasting
				192	Romanian (UCMR-ADA) General & Broadcasting
				234	Serbia and Montenegro (SOKOJ) General & Broadcasting
				253	Chinese (MCSC) General & Broadcasting
				256	New Zealand General & Broadcasting
				HFOX	USA (HFOX) General & Broadcasting
Video	7	D&M	Media	VP1	Video Production
Ireland com	23	D&M	MCPS Ireland	IRM	Irish – Recorded media
Ireland Blkt	24	D&M	MCPS Ireland	IBL	Irish – Blanket
Ireland Other	27	D&M	MCPS Ireland	ICR	Irish – Commercial Records
TV	47	D&M	Broadcast	Groupings	
	201			Annnn	BBC Channels
	203			ANnnn	BBC Television
	204			CSnnn	Retransmission TV
	205	D&M	Broadcast	Dnnnn	Commercials TV
	206			DCnnn	Retransmission Commercials
	207			DNnnn	ITV Commercials
	208			ENnnn	ITV and Regions
	210			F002n	Channel 4 Channels
				Hnnnn	Channel 5 Channels
				Snnnn	General TV Channels
				SCnnn	S4C Channels
				Individual Usage Groups	
				AX004	BBC FOUR PROMS
				E0001	ITV1
				GE05	BBC iPlayer

				GL02	General Licensing
				GM001	ITV Breakfast
				GM002	CITV Breakfast
				LM001	Television – Library Individual
				LM002	Television – Commercial
				LM003	Television – Library per Programme
				LM004	Television – Infomercials Library
				QQD	CNN
Radio	48	D&M	Broadcast	Groupings	
	202			Bnnnn	BBC Radio
	209			BEnnn	BBC Radio (NSPD)
	211			BFnnn	BBC Radio (SPD)
				Cnnnn	Commercials Radio
				CEnnn	Commercials Radio (NSPD)
				CFnnn	Commercials Radio (SPD)
				LA to LAn	Euro Cable Re-trans – BBC
				Rnnnn	General Radio
	202			REnnn	General Radio (NSPD)
	209			RFnnn	General Radio (SPD)
	211		Broadcast	Individual Usage Groups	
				A	BBC Network Radio
				A1	BBC Radio 1
				A2	BBC Radio 2
				A3	BBC Radio 3
				A4	BBC Radio 4
				A5	BBC Five Live
				A6	BBC Regional & Community Radio
				A7	BBC 6 Music
				A7F	BBC 6 Music (SPD)
				A8	BBC Five Live Sport Extra
				A9	BBC 1Xtra

				A9F	BBC 1Xtra (SPD)
				AAE	Quality Country Radio Commercials
				AAG	Historical Irish Independent Radio
				AAH	Quality Country Radio
				B	BBC Local Radio
				B1	BBC7
				BIGL	Big L 1395am
				FZ	Irish Grand Rights
				F1860	BT Sport 1 (SPD)
				F1862	BT Sport 2 (SPD)
				F1867	BT Sport 1 Commercial (SPD)
				F1869	BT Sport 2 Commercial (SPD)
				G0227	Small & Community Radio Services
	48	D&M	Broadcast	GOLD	Gold Analogy
	202			H	RTE Radio
	209			L	Independent Local Radio Commercials
	211			LM005	Radio – Library
				LM006	Radio – Commercial
				O	Independent Local Radio
				O1	Capital Gold 1548 Balancing Adjustments
				P	BBC World Service
				Q	BBC Special Overseas Service
				SG2	Student Broadcast Network
				SMANA	Smooth Analogy
				UZ	UK Grand Right Secondary Usage
				X	Irish Independent Radio
				Y	Irish Independent Radio – Comms
				YOUTH	Youth Project Voice Radio
				ZA	Classic FM
				ZAF	Classic FM (SPD)
				ZB	Classic FM Commercials
				ZBF	Classic FM Commercials (SPD)

				ZC	Virgin Radio UK
				ZD	Virgin Radio UK Commercials
				ZE	Capital FM
				ZEF	95.8 Capital FM (Greater London) (SPD)
				ZF	Capital FM Commercials
				ZFF	95.8 Capital FM (Greater London) Commercials (SPD)
				ZG	Capital Gold 1548
				ZH	Capital Gold 1548 Commercials
				ZJ	UCB Europe
				ZK	UCB Europe Commercials
	48	D&M	Broadcast	ZL	Talksport
	202			ZM	Talksport Commercials
	209			ZW	Classic FM Balancing Adjustment
	211			ZX	Virgin Radio UK Balancing Adjustment
				ZY	Capital Radio 95.8 FM Balancing Adjustments
				ZZ	Talksport Balancing Adjustment
Other Audio Visual Library	49	D&M	Media	LM007	Other AV [LIB] – Corporate Videos
				LM008	Other AV [LIB] – Public Loc Commercial
				LM009	Other AV [LIB] – Feature Film
Other Audio Visual Commercial	50	D&M	Media	LM010	Other AV Commercial – Corporate Videos
				LM011	Other AV Commercial – Multi Media Paying
				LM012	Other AV Commercial – Multi Media Non Paying
				LM013	Other AV Commercial – Public Location
				LM014	Other AV Commercial – Feature Film
Non Retail Audio Product	51	D&M	Media	LM015	Non Retail AV Sound Tapes – Commercial
				LM016	Non Retail AV Sound Tapes – Novelty Products
				SG4	Non Retail Audio Product
				SG6	Specialist Music Products

International ECL	64	D&M	International	040M	Austrian (AUME) ECL
				048M1	Norway (NCB) ECL
				075M	Belgian (SABAM) ECL
				081M	Netherlands (STEMRA) ECL
				084M	French (SDRM) ECL
				085M	German (GEMA) ECL
				087M	Italian (SIAE) ECL
				093M	Spanish (SGAE) ECL
				095M	Swiss (SUISA) ECL
	64	D&M	International	096M	Greek (AEPI) ECL
				121M	Portuguese (SPA) ECL
TV Library	67	D&M	Media	LM017	Television Ads – Library
Radio Library	68	D&M	Media	LM018	Radio Ads – Library
Non Retail Audio Product Library	69	D&M	Media	LM019	Non Retail AP Library – Sound Tapes
Web Multi Media	70	D&M	Media	LM020	New Technology Library – Multi Media Paying
				LM021	New Technology Library – Multi Media Non Paying
Ringtones	72	D&M	Online & Ringtone	G0nnn	Ringtones
	86				
Joint Online	76	D&M	Online & Ringtone	OLnnn	Joint Online
	87				
	88				
Overseas Joint Online	77	D&M	Online & Ringtone	I0001	International Licensing Revenue from Live Events in UAE
EMI SACEM Ireland	84	D&M	AP & DVD	ICR	Irish – Commercial Records
SonyBMG Ireland AP	94	D&M	AP & DVD	ISO	Irish – Sony / BMG
All Media- Library	157	D&M	Media	LM022	All Media Library
GEOD (General Entertainment On Demand)	161	D&M	Online & Ringtone	GEnn	GEOD (General Entertainment On Demand)

				PROnn	PRS for Music Online
IPC	165	D&M	Broadcast	In to Innnn	IPC
Warner Ireland	175	D&M	AP & DVD	IWA	Irish – Warner
TV Ads (Commercial)	179	D&M	Media	LM023	Television – Commercial
Radio Ads (Commercial)	180	D&M	Media	LM024	Radio – Commercial
Fitness Music Services	191	D&M	Media	SG7	Fitness Music Service
				OL54P	Fitness Professionals Ltd – Online
				PH57F	UK Aerobics & Keep Fit
Music Services Business to Business (MSB2B)	194	D&M	Media	SG7	Fitness Music Service

For recorded media schemes

Name	Code	Distribution	Category
ECL	30	B	AP & DVD
AP1	32	B	AP & DVD
AP1	36	B	AP & DVD
AP6	37	B	AP & DVD
Audit Rec	39	B	AP & DVD
ECL GEMA	40	B	AP & DVD
AP2	41	B	AP & DVD
AP2A	42	B	AP & DVD
EMI	43	B	AP & DVD
ITV Secondary	52	B	Broadcast
Spare	53	B	Spare
Universal	54	B	AP & DVD
Universal Ireland	55	B	AP & DVD
Universal Club	56	B	AP & DVD
TV BBC	57	B	Broadcast
TV BBC	58	B	Broadcast
Spare	61	B	Spare
Warner Ireland	62	B	AP & DVD
AP Continental	63	B	AP & DVD
V2 UK	65	B	AP & DVD
ITV Secondary Nth America	71	B	Broadcast
Audit Recoveries	73	B	AP & DVD
DVD	74	B	AP & DVD
Audit Recovery (AUD 3)	75	B	AP & DVD
EMI SACEM AP	80	B	AP & DVD
EMI SACEM DVD	81	B	AP & DVD
DVDOS (Warner Ireland)	89	B	AP & DVD
Warner DVD	90	B	AP & DVD
AVP	91	B	Media
SBMGAP (Sony)	92	B	AP & DVD
SBMGDVD (Sony)	93	B	AP & DVD

AP1 Non-VAT	96	B	AP & DVD
AP6 Non-VAT	97	B	AP & DVD
Universal Continental	134	B	AP & DVD
Universal UK AP	155	B	AP & DVD
Universal UK DVD	156	B	AP & DVD
Beggars Banquet AP	163	B	AP & DVD
Beggars Banquet DVD	164	B	AP & DVD
BBC AVP	171	B	Media
BBC AVP US	172	B	AP & DVD
Audit Recoveries – AUD4 (AVP audit)	174	B	AP & DVD
AVPUS	181	B	AP & DVD
DTOUS	182	B	Online & Ringtone
Universal SACEM UK AP	183	B	AP & DVD
Universal SACEM Irish AP	184	B	AP & DVD
Universal SACEM UK DVD	185	B	AP & DVD
Universal SACEM Irish DVD	186	B	AP & DVD
EMIAP	187	B	AP & DVD
EMIDVD	188	B	AP & DVD
AVPEU	192	B	AP & DVD
Karaoke	193	B	AP & DVD
Parlophone Records (UK AP)	213	B	AP & DVD
Parlophone Records (Irish AP)	214	B	AP & DVD
Parlophone Records (UK DV)	215	B	AP & DVD
Parlophone Records (Irish DVD)	216	B	AP & DVD
SABAM PIAS AP – UK	217	B	AP & DVD
SABAM PIAS AP – DVD	218	B	AP & DVD
DJ Promos	227	B	AP & DVD
General Interest Covermount	228	B	Media
Premiums	229	B	Media
DMD (Digital Memory Device)	230	B	Media

Production Music Rate Card

Guidance on using Production Music, and the MCPS Production Music rate card: www.prsformusic.com/licences/using-production-music/production-music-guide

Glossary

Admin rate	The percentage of licensed revenue deducted by PRS for Music in order to cover costs of collection, distribution and the relevant share of society overheads
Affiliate society	Performing right organisation based outside of the UK with whom PRS has a reciprocal agreement
Analogy	A set of data deemed to be representative of actual usage processed for distribution purposes, instead of any actual usage data
Annual station value	The total revenue available to cover a year's music use for a specific broadcast station
Audience hours	The aggregate number of hours consumed by all viewers of a TV station or listeners to a radio station within a given time period
Automatch	Automatch is where the PRS for Music system can establish a match between performance reporting and the relevant work registration without human intervention
AV	Audiovisual
Background music supplier	A commercial organisation specialising in the provision of background music services to commercial organisations.
Blanket licence	A licence granting the licensee the right to use all the licensed repertoire without prior approval
Broadcast logs	The combination of both the transmission schedule of a broadcaster and, where appropriate, the accompanying cue sheets
Carried forward	Taking an item through to subsequent distributions not having fully processed it in time for its originally scheduled distribution
Census	A method of calculating music usage for royalty distributions, which attempts to include every instance of music use of every musical work used
Covers repertoire	Works performed where the performer is not a rights-holder of the work
Cue sheet	The list of works used in a certain production, combined with the related usage durations
CUP code	A code used to identify that although research has finished a musical usage is not being included in the distribution. Some CUP codes cause items to be included on the unidentified performances list, others do not because they are items, such as birdsong for example, that are not actually distributable
Distribution basis	The rules governing the data set used to make a distribution
Distribution committee	A sub-committee of the Members' Council, responsible for distribution policy decisions.
Distribution policy	The set of rules governing the methods, processes and data sets used in distributions to assign monetary value to music usage
Distribution section	The grouping of music usages. In the case of broadcast, this will be a TV or radio station, for public performance repertoire it will be the sharing a common means of exploitation and for online, an individual service
DSP	Digital service provider
Fitness music service	A commercial organisation specialising in the provision of music for organised fitness sessions
Fixed Point Value (FPV)	The per-unit valuation within a distribution section
GEOL service	General Entertainment Online service e.g. Netflix
Gross annual revenue	The total annual revenue allocated to a specific distribution section, prior to admin deductions
Idents	A short visual image or soundbite used between programming, which identifies the particular TV station or radio channel to the audience
Ipsos	A market research company that provides music survey services to PRS for Music
Manual match	Establishing a match between performance reporting and the relevant work registration by a human being. Manual match occurs where automatch has failed.
Manual match threshold	The minimum value at which manual effort will be employed to match performance reporting to works registrations
Music percent	The proportion of total broadcast time featuring music

Music consumption	Aggregate audience hours multiplied by music percentage; giving a result of audience hours containing music
Music recognition technology	An algorithm-based method of automatically matching audio performance to a database of sound recordings
Music usage	Can mean either an individual play, performance or broadcast of an individual work or the amount of music used, e.g. for broadcasters this can mean the duration of the music used
Net annual revenue	The total annual revenue allocated to a specific distribution section, following the deduction of admin
Non-licence revenue (NLR)	The interest earned on investments and royalties awaiting distribution.
Original material/original repertoire	Works performed where one of the performers is a rights-holder of the work - the opposite of covers repertoire
Performance data	A file supplied to PRS for Music by either a licensee or third party, which collects all music usage information for a specific distribution section and time period
Points	A point is a single unit employed for distribution purposes. This differs from music usage as it also encompasses any weightings, such as duration, as determined by distribution policy. A point is a minute of broadcast time, a single public performance, plus a number of other units in online distribution areas, including a streamed minute and a price-weighted download
Processing performance data	The process of matching performance reporting to works registrations
Public reception	The use of radios and TVs in public premises
Reconciliation	The distribution of residual revenues across all applicable usage data, following the end of a licence period
Residual revenue	Revenue remaining at the end of a licence period following distributions made in respect of all performance data
Sample/sample rate	A proportion of actual performance data
Set list	The list of works and durations within a live event
Survey	A collection of visits to licensees in order to gather performance data
Talk radio station	A radio station for whom less than 15% of broadcast time contains music
Time of day weightings	The distribution policy applied to all TV and Radio broadcast distributions, which dictates that a minute of music broadcast during High Peak hours will be worth three times as much as a minute during Non-Peak hours, and a minute of music broadcast during Low Peak hours will be worth two times as much as a minute during Non-Peak hours.
Transactional licence	A licence where the terms are laid out on a unit-by-unit basis and invoiced after the processing of performance data, in order to calculate an aggregate value
Tunecode	A unique identifier for each work held on the works database