



Department for Culture, Media & Sport

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Dame Caroline Dinenage MP
Chair, CMS Select Committee
House of Commons
London
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Dame Caroline,

New label-led measures to boost earnings for UK artists in the music industry

Following the predecessor Committee's landmark 2021 report on the Economics of Music Streaming, I am writing to share a major development that directly responds to the issues it raised. The Committee's scrutiny helped catalyse the reforms that are now being taken forward by the music industry through meaningful industry-led action to improve outcomes for UK music creators.

This Government wholeheartedly shares the Committee's view that creators must be fairly rewarded for their work and that the music streaming market must evolve to better support sustainable careers in music. In response to the predecessor Committee's recommendations in the last Parliament, the Creator Remuneration Working Group was convened to bring the industry together in pursuit of fairer outcomes. I am pleased to report that this process has now led to a significant package of measures, developed by the British Phonographic Industry (BPI) with support from the Association of Independent Music (AIM) and wider industry representatives, and adopted by the UK divisions of Universal Music Group, Sony Music Entertainment and Warner Music Group.

These measures include a set of Principles designed to support legacy artists, songwriters, and session musicians. They include commitments to disregard certain unrecouped advances, provide new marketing and administrative support for back-catalogue artists, offer clearer routes to contract renegotiation, ensure financial support for songwriters attending label-organised sessions, and raise minimum fees for session musicians (as agreed between the BPI and Musicians' Union (MU) in December 2024).

Together, these actions are estimated by the labels to deliver tens of millions of pounds in new investment to support creators by 2030. They represent a significant and welcome step towards a more balanced and equitable streaming economy. Importantly, these measures are unique to the UK and show the power of constructive industry-government collaboration in delivering real change.

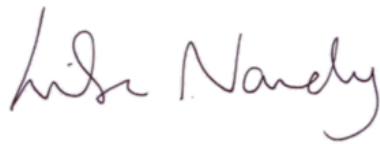


This Government is committed to ensuring these Principles are fully implemented and that their impact is rigorously assessed over the next 12 months. Should further intervention be necessary we will not hesitate to act to ensure the package delivers on its core objective: to improve incomes and working conditions for UK music creators.

This new agreement sits alongside our £10 million-per-year Music Growth Package, announced as part of the Creative Industries Sector Plan, and represents a key milestone in our broader programme of work to foster a thriving, fair and globally competitive music sector.

I would like to thank you and your Committee, and your predecessor Committee, once again for your leadership on this issue. Without the initial Committee inquiry and follow-up reports, these reforms would not have been possible. I look forward to continuing to work with you to ensure the UK remains the best place in the world to make and enjoy music.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Lisa Nandy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rt Hon Lisa Nandy MP
Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport