

## **The extension of the Public Lending Right to rights holders of books in non-print formats**

### **Response from: The Libraries and Archives Copyright Alliance (LACA)**

LACA, The Libraries and Archives Copyright Alliance, advocates for a fair and balanced copyright framework which respects the rights of copyright holders whilst placing equal value on the importance of users' liberties. We support the principle that authors should be remunerated for public lending and welcome the extension of the Public Lending Right (PLR) scheme so that it covers the loan of audio-books and e-books downloaded on a library's premises. Likewise we welcome changes to the scheme so that producers and narrators are also remunerated for public lending.

We note that remote e-lending is not covered in this consultation or in the provisions in the Digital Economy Act 2010 that will extend the PLR due to concerns over its compatibility with the Information Society Directive (2001/29/EC). Not only is remote access integral to the concept of e-lending, as was recognised in the 2013 Seighart Review of E-lending in Public Libraries in England, but currently we understand that download stations are possible for e-audio but not for e-book, so extending PLR to onsite only e-book loans is virtually meaningless as the amount of onsite e-lending is negligible at present. This situation is unsatisfactory, and we trust the government will keep abreast of the matter and take it into account when contributing to the review of EU copyright law.

March 2014

*Chair* Naomi Korn

*Tel* +44 (0)20 7255 0500 (CILIP)  
*Email* [policy@cilip.org.uk](mailto:policy@cilip.org.uk) (CILIP)  
*Web site* [www.cilip.org.uk/laca](http://www.cilip.org.uk/laca)

Representing ARA: The Archives & Records Association, ARLIS/UK & Ireland: The Art Libraries Society of the UK and Ireland, BIAL: British and Irish Association of Law Librarians, The British Library, CILIP: the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals, IAML/UK & Ireland: The International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres, JISC: Joint Information Services Committee, LIS-COPYSEEK online community, Museum Libraries, The National Library of Scotland, The National Library of Wales, Share the Vision, Society of Chief Librarians in England and Wales, and SCONUL: Society of College, National and University Libraries, Wellcome Trust.