



Rt Hon Oliver Dowden MP
 Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport
 Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport
 100 Parliament Street
 London SW1A 2BQ

20 April 2020

Dear Secretary of State

Re: A UK Creators Council – listening to hundreds of thousands of UK creators directly

We are writing jointly on behalf of our hundreds of thousands of members as we believe, in the current health crisis and beyond, there is a need for the Government to engage with UK creators and their representatives directly to help inform future policy-making.

We have broached this with previous DCMS ministers, at the time over Europe and managing key issues for the creative economy with Brexit. And while we welcome the help for freelancers and the self-employed so far, we feel that concerns remain over support in this crisis and its aftermath which emphasise the need for closer working with ministers and the Department.

We can offer our expertise and resources to assist the Government in supporting the artists, writers, musicians, performers and other creators who are affected by the current crisis and further challenges to the UK's successful creative economy looking ahead.

As a group, we previously requested roundtable communication with DCMS, forming a 'UK Creators Council' to complement the Creative Industries Council where the Department already meets those who ably represent industry. This would ensure a holistic approach, which has been supported by many in Parliament and by recent studies on the needs of creators in the UK.

As membership organisations covering the breadth of our vital creative economy, we would be very willing to engage with you to discuss such closer co-operation, in the current crisis and beyond.

With best regards and yours sincerely

Barbara Ann Hayes
**Deputy Chief Executive,
 Authors' Licensing and
 Collecting Society**

Andrew Chowns
Chief Executive, Directors UK

Molly Rosenberg
**Director, Royal Society for
 Literature**

Andrew Prodger
**Chief Executive, British Equity
 Collecting Society**

Christine Payne
General Secretary, Equity

Nicola Solomon
**Chief Executive, Society of
 Authors**

Horace Trubridge
**General Secretary, Musicians
 Union**

Ellie Peers
**General Secretary, Writers'
 Guild of Great Britain**

Gilane Tawadros
**Chief Executive, Design and
 Artists Copyright Society**