



**CCLI**

*encouraging the spirit of worship*

**IMPORTANT  
CHANGES TO  
COPYRIGHT LAW**

## Christian Copyright Licensing International

The Copyright Designs & Patents Act 1988 (CDPA) was amended with effect from January 2011. This leaflet includes information to help you determine whether or not your church is affected by the change in the law.

## Playing Sound Recordings at Church

July 2011

[www.ccli.co.uk/ppl](http://www.ccli.co.uk/ppl)

## What has changed?

Previously, charities, churches and other not-for-profit organisations were exempt from requiring a licence from Phonographic Performance Ltd (PPL) if they played sound recordings in the course of their activities. That exemption has now been removed.

## Why did the law change?

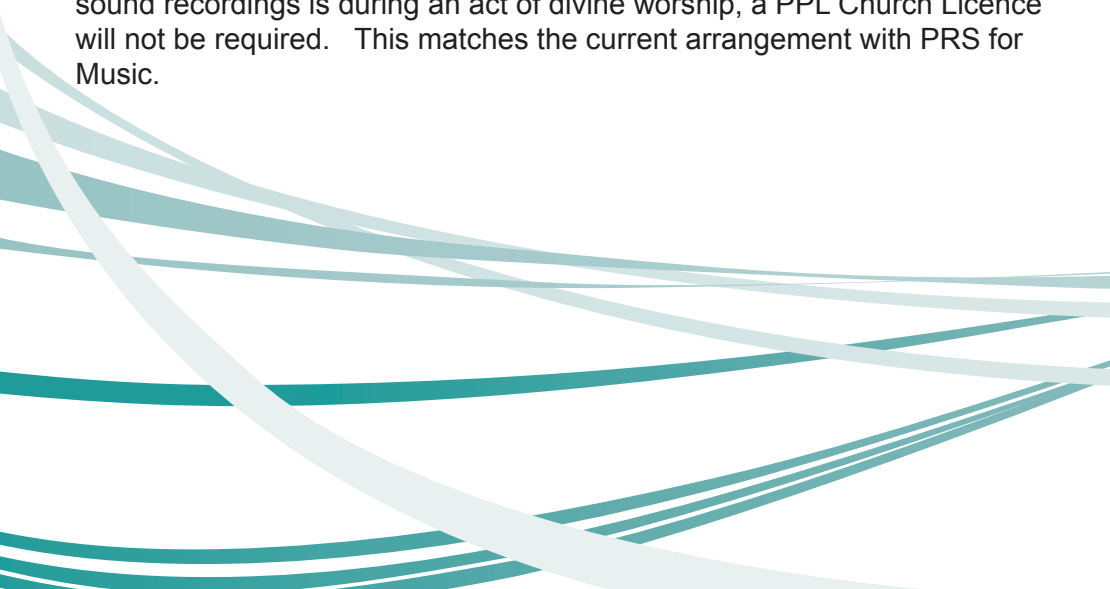
The Government sought to simplify the law and provide greater understanding of the rights of music users and those who own the copyright. A Government consultation process took place in 2009, during which CCLI raised concerns because of the likely impact the proposed changes would have on churches. However, the exemptions were removed with effect from 1 January 2011.

CCLI has therefore been working with PPL to negotiate the best licensing options for churches. This has resulted in lower licence fees and will improve royalty distribution to Christian copyright owners.

## Grace period

Churches that play sound recordings now require a licence from PPL in addition to their PRS for Music Church Licence. To ease the transition process, PPL has granted a grace period of one year during which churches will be safe from prosecution. However, churches that require a licence must have obtained one by 1 January 2012.

CCLI has obtained agreement from PPL that, if the only time a church plays sound recordings is during an act of divine worship, a PPL Church Licence will not be required. This matches the current arrangement with PRS for Music.



## Which churches have been affected by the CDPA changes?


The changes affect churches that play sound recordings in the course of their activities, including other groups that use church premises throughout the week.

## Performance rights in a Sound Recording

There are three distinct groups of people who have performance rights in a sound recording, for example a CD, and they are administered by two organisations:

1. The copyright owners & composers of the songs (administered by PRS for Music)
2. The group or artist performing the song on the CD (administered by PPL)
3. The manufacturer of the CD (administered by PPL)

Prior to 1 January 2011 churches didn't need to worry about the rights administered by PPL (2 and 3 above) because they were exempted by the CDPA. That meant a church only needed a PRS for Music Church Licence in order to play sound recordings during activities such as youth clubs, coffee mornings, social events etc. **Churches now need both a PRS for Music Church Licence and a new PPL Church Licence.**



## How can I buy a PPL Church Licence?

CCLI will be getting in touch with you later in 2011 to provide more information about how the licence can be purchased. The options available will be based upon your existing licence(s) expiry date and whether or not you already have a PRS for Music Church Licence, as follows:

**If your church has a PRS for Music Church Licence** it permits you to play music during church activities, either live or from a sound recording. However, only the rights of the copyright owner/composer are covered when it comes to sound recordings. Now you also need a PPL Church Licence, unless sound recordings are only ever used during acts of divine worship, or you only need your PRS for Music Church Licence for live performances. See the chart overleaf.

**If your church does not have a PRS for Music Church Licence** then you are less likely to need the new PPL Church Licence. However, if your church does need the new PPL Church Licence then you will almost certainly require the PRS for Music Church Licence too. CCLI will contact you again to provide further information about both licences so that you can determine whether or not either of them is required. See the chart overleaf.



**Does your church currently have a PRS for Music Church Licence?**

**Yes**

**No**

**Is the expiry date of your current CCLI licence(s) in November, December, January or February?**

**Yes**

**No**

CCLI will add the new PPL Church Licence to your next licence renewal reminder.

The licence fee will be pro-rated to cover the period 1 Jan 2012 to your licence expiry date.

If you do not need the new PPL Church Licence, simply deduct the PPL licence fee from the Total Sum Due when paying for your other licence(s).

CCLI will send you a pro-forma invoice for the new PPL Church Licence in the autumn of 2011.

The licence fee will be pro-rated to cover the period 1 Jan 2012 to your licence expiry date.

You will be provided with login details that enable you to pay online if you wish.

If you do not need the new PPL Church Licence you will be able to indicate this online too.

Full details will be included with the pro-forma invoice.

CCLI will send you extra information with your licence renewal reminder, giving you the option to purchase the new PPL Church Licence and/or the PRS for Music Church Licence at the same time as renewing your other licences.

The new licence fees will be pro-rated to cover the period 1 Jan 2012 to your 2012 expiry date.

If you do not need the new licences simply renew your existing licence(s) as normal.

**Is the expiry date of your current CCLI licence(s) in either November or December?**

**Yes**

**No**

In autumn 2011, CCLI will send you a letter showing the pro-rated sums you would need to pay for the new PPL Church Licence and/or PRS for Music Church Licence.

The new licence fees will be pro-rated to cover the period 1 Jan 2012 to your 2012 expiry date.

You will be provided with login details that enable you to pay online if you wish.

If you do not need to purchase either of the new licences simply ignore the letters.

## Glossary

### CDPA

is the Copyright, Designs & Patents Act, 1988 which sets out the law governing copyright.

### Sound Recording

refers to any song or piece of music recorded on CD, DVD, cassette, video or other mechanical format and includes MP3 and similar digital file formats.

### PPL

is Phonographic Performance Ltd, an organisation which represents the rights of performers and record companies for the public performance and broadcast of sound recordings and music videos.

### PRS for Music

is an organisation which represents the rights of composers, copyright owners and music publishers in live performances and sound recordings played in a public place. Music played through media such as radio, TV and streamed directly from the internet is also included.

### Grace Period

is a period of one year from 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2011 during which churches do not risk prosecution if they play sound recordings in public without having a PPL Church Licence. Thereafter a licence is required.

### Performance Rights

the CDPA provides the creators of original musical, literary and dramatic works certain economic and moral rights within their work. This includes the performances of such works and includes those who perform and/or record those works.

### Government Consultation

For more information about the consultation process which took place prior to the CDPA amendment, please visit the website of the Intellectual Property Office (IPO) where you can also find a copy of the Government's response: [www.ipo.gov.uk/press-release-20091112.htm](http://www.ipo.gov.uk/press-release-20091112.htm)

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