

C[©]OPYRIGHTAGENCY

Report to Code Compliance Reviewer on compliance with Collecting Societies Code of Conduct for 2021–22

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CONTENTS

- Introduction 4**
- Overview of Copyright Agency..... 5**
- Compliance with the Code 6**
 - Legal framework (clause 2.1)..... 6
 - Members (clause 2.2) 7
 - Paragraph (a): eligibility for membership 7
 - Paragraph (b): treatment of members 7
 - Paragraph (c): transparency of dealings with members 7
 - Paragraph (d): availability of Constitution 7
 - Licensees (clause 2.3)..... 8
 - Paragraph (a): treatment of licensees 9
 - Paragraph (b) transparency of dealings with licensees..... 9
 - Paragraph (c) Information about licences and licence schemes 9
 - Paragraph (d): setting of licence fees..... 9
 - Paragraph (e): acknowledgement of industry associations 10
 - Paragraph (f): consultation with industry associations 10
 - Paragraph (g): response to requests for licence fee methodology or factors 10
 - Paragraph (h): request for ADR..... 10
 - Distribution of remuneration and licence fees (clause 2.4) 10
 - Paragraph (a): distribution policy..... 11
 - Paragraph (b): distribution in accordance with distribution policy and Constitution 11
 - Paragraph (c): licensee requests regarding rights payments..... 11
 - Paragraph (d)(i): consultation with members 12
 - Paragraph (d)(ii): Plain English guidelines 12
 - Collecting society expenses (clause 2.5)..... 12
 - Paragraph (a): expenses of managing and operating the society..... 12
 - Paragraph (b): other amounts..... 12
 - Governance and accountability (clause 2.6) 13
 - Paragraph (a): Board accountable to members..... 13
 - Paragraph (b): maintenance of financial records 14
 - Paragraph (c): audit of financial records 14
 - Paragraph (d): information to members..... 14
 - Paragraph (e): information in annual report 14
 - Paragraph (f): information in annual publications..... 14
 - Paragraph (g): information about expired undistributed funds..... 14
 - Staff training (clause 2.7) 14
 - Education and awareness (clause 2.8) 15
 - Paragraph (a): activities to promote awareness 16
 - Paragraph (b): factors affecting activities to promote awareness 17
 - Paragraph (c): particular information about membership and licensing 17
 - Paragraph (d): guidelines about expired undistributed funds..... 17
 - Paragraph (e): online portal for Code 17
 - Reporting by declared collecting societies (clause 2.9) 17
 - Paragraph (a): information in annual reports 18
 - Paragraph (b): information about licensee classes and expired unpaid allocations 18
 - Information request from CAG..... 18
 - Complaints and disputes (clause 3)..... 18
 - Paragraph (a): procedures for complaints and disputes 19
 - Paragraph (b): application of procedure to complaints 19
 - Paragraph (c): procedures comply with ISO 10002 19
 - Paragraph (d): review of procedures 20
 - Publicity and reporting (clause 4)..... 20
 - Paragraph (a): publicising the Code..... 20
 - Paragraph (b): statement about Code compliance in annual reports 20
 - Paragraph (c): notification of contraventions..... 20

Complaints summary21
Follow up on Code Reviewer comments in last report21

INTRODUCTION

This report covers Copyright Agency’s compliance with its obligations under the Code of Conduct for Copyright Collecting Societies during 2021–22.

It will be [published on the Code of Conduct website](#).

As in previous years, we will provide detailed information about our operations for the year, and the external auditor’s report (Directors’ Report and Financial Report), in our Annual Report. It will be provided to the Minister, tabled in Parliament, and published on our website.¹

¹ Previous annual reports are available at copyright.com.au/about-us/governance/annual-reports/

OVERVIEW OF COPYRIGHT AGENCY

Copyright Agency is a company limited by guarantee. We have more than 38,000 members, who include writers, artists, surveying firms, publishers and other collecting societies. Our operations can be broadly categorised as follows:

- in accordance with our appointments by the Australian Government:
 - management of statutory licences for educational and government use of text, images and print music, including negotiation, collection and distribution of fair compensation for content creators;² and
 - management of the artists' resale royalty scheme;³ and
- in accordance with the authority of our members, and with the oversight of the Copyright Tribunal, formulation and management of 'voluntary' licensing arrangements, principally for the business sector.

We report annually to the relevant Minister (currently the Attorney General) in accordance with statutory obligations in the [Copyright Act](#), and to the Minister for the Arts in accordance with the statutory obligations in the [Resale Royalty Right for Visual Artists Act](#). Annual reports are tabled in Parliament and are [available from the Copyright Agency website](#).

Copyright Agency also operates in accordance with the Australian Government [guidelines for 'declared' collecting societies](#).

² Copyright Agency is 'declared' by the Minister as the collecting society appointed to manage the statutory licences in Part VB of the Copyright Act: the statutory licence for educational use of text, images and print music, and the statutory licences for people with disabilities. Copyright Agency is also declared by the Copyright Tribunal under section 153F of the Copyright Act as the collecting society for Division 2 Part VII in relation to copying of published editions and works (other than those in sound recordings, films and broadcasts). The declarations are available from our website.

³ Copyright Agency was appointed by the Minister for the Arts, following an open tender process.

COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE

LEGAL FRAMEWORK (CLAUSE 2.1)

- (a) **This Code is one element of a broader legal and regulatory framework within which Collecting Societies operate. This Code sets minimum standards for the conduct of Collecting Societies and complements the following regulatory instruments, which each Collecting Society will comply with:**
- (i) **the Corporations Act 2001 and the Corporations Regulations;**
 - (ii) **the Copyright Act 1968 and the Copyright Regulations;**
 - (iii) **its Constitution;**
 - (iv) **the Attorney-General's Guidelines for Declared Collecting Societies (where applicable);**
 - (v) **its obligations under the Privacy Act 1988, including the Australian Privacy Principles, or any Privacy Code that applies to the Collecting Society;**
 - (vi) **in the case of the declared Collecting Society under that Act, the Resale Royalty Right for Visual Artists Act 2009; and**
 - (vii) **any other applicable legislation, relevant decisions of courts or tribunals (including the Copyright Tribunal), and other binding legal requirements, conditions or guidelines that apply to the Collecting Society.**
- (b) **The Code does not apply to matters that are covered by the jurisdiction of the Copyright Tribunal of Australia, such as the determination of licence fees payable.**

In 2021–22, we complied with our obligations under the legislation and other regulatory documents set out in Clause 2.1 of the Code.

Governance documents published on our website include: Constitution; Corporate Governance Statement; Customer Service Charter; Privacy Policy; dispute management procedures; and complaints management procedures.⁴

Other documents accessible from the website include: Code of Conduct for Copyright Collecting Societies; Australian Government Guidelines for Declared Collecting Societies; Declaration by Attorney General of Copyright Agency for Part VB of the Copyright Act; and Declaration by Copyright Tribunal of Copyright Agency for Division 2 Part VII of the Copyright Act.⁵

Compliance is overseen by our in-house legal team. Amongst other things, the team monitors relevant legal and regulatory developments, and oversees implementation of any necessary or desirable changes to our policies or practices.

In November 2021, we were subjected to a cyber attack. We notified the Office of the Information Commissioner and the Australian Signals Directorate. We provided members with an update, on our website, in early December 2021 (see [here](#)).

We undertook a privacy assessment, and notifications were sent to all affected individuals and an update provided to the Privacy Commissioner at the end of 2021. The Privacy Commissioner's office has advised that they are satisfied with Copyright Agency's response to the data breach and has closed our file.

⁴ copyright.com.au/about-us/governance/

⁵ copyright.com.au/about-us/governance/

MEMBERS (CLAUSE 2.2)

- (a) **The membership of a Collecting Society will be open to all eligible creators of copyright material, and to anyone who owns or controls copyright material or the resale royalty right or both, in accordance with the Constitution of the Collecting Society.**
- (b) **Each Collecting Society will treat its Members fairly, honestly, impartially, courteously, and in accordance with its Constitution and any Membership Agreement.**
- (c) **Each Collecting Society will ensure that its dealings with Members are transparent.**
- (d) **Each Collecting Society will provide a copy of its Constitution to a Member at the time that the Member first joins the Collecting Society, or at any time on request. A Collecting Society will also provide a copy of its Constitution to a potential Member on request.**

Paragraph (a): eligibility for membership

Eligibility for membership is set out in Clause 2 of the Constitution. Creators and owners of copyright in Works and Published Editions (as defined in the Copyright Act) are eligible.

Membership is free. New members can apply for membership online.⁶

Applications for membership are approved by the Senior Management Team, under delegation from the Board, and reported to the Board.

Paragraph (b): treatment of members

We have adopted a range of policies and processes aimed at ensuring that members are treated fairly, honestly, impartially, courteously, and in accordance with our Constitution and membership agreements. These include: a Service Charter, induction training for new staff and periodic updates to staff on requirements under the Code of Conduct.

Paragraph (c): transparency of dealings with members

Our communications with members and potential members regarding membership arrangements, distributions of licence fees and payments include:

- information on our website;
- updates in our monthly e-Newsletter, Creative Licence;
- social media posts;
- broadcast and one-on-one communications about changes to membership, distribution or payment arrangements;
- responding to enquiries in accordance with the Service Charter;
- secure online member accounts that enable members to review their membership, distribution and payment details; and
- information in our annual reports, which are published on our website.

Paragraph (d): availability of Constitution

Our Constitution is available to the public [on our website](#). We direct new and potential members to it.

⁶ members.copyright.com.au

LICENSEES (CLAUSE 2.3)

- (a) **Each Collecting Society will treat Licensees fairly, honestly, impartially, courteously, and in accordance with its Constitution and any licence agreement.**
- (b) **Each Collecting Society will ensure that its dealings with Licensees are transparent.**
- (c) **Each Collecting Society will:**
 - (i) **make available to Licensees and potential Licensees information about the licences or licence schemes offered by the Collecting Society, including the terms and conditions applying to them, and about the manner in which the Collecting Society collects remuneration and/or licence fees for the use of copyright material; and**
 - (ii) **to the extent it reasonably can, having regard to the complexity of the questions of fact and law necessarily involved, take steps to ensure that all licences offered by the Collecting Society are drafted so as to be plainly understandable to Licensees, and are accompanied by practical and suitable explanatory material.**
- (d) **Each Collecting Society’s policies, procedures and conduct in connection with the setting of licence fees for the use of copyright material will be fair and reasonable. In setting or negotiating such licence fees, a Collecting Society may have regard to the following matters:**
 - (i) **the value of the copyright material;**
 - (ii) **the purpose for which, and the context in which, the copyright material is used;**
 - (iii) **the manner or kind of use of the Copyright Material;**
 - (iv) **any relevant decisions of the Copyright Tribunal; and**
 - (v) **any other relevant matters.**
- (e) **The Collecting Societies acknowledge the important role played by relevant industry associations in relation to the formulation of terms and conditions applying to licences or licence schemes offered by some Collecting Societies.**
- (f) **Each Collecting Society will where appropriate consult in good faith with relevant industry associations in relation to the terms and conditions applying to licences or licence schemes offered by the Collecting Society.**
- (g) **Each Collecting Society will, in response to a reasonable request, make available to a Licensee or potential Licensee:**
 - (i) **the methodology for calculating the licence fees applicable to that Licensee or potential Licensee; and**
 - (ii) **matters taken into consideration in determining the licence fee to the extent that such information is not commercial-in-confidence and does not otherwise directly affect a commercial negotiation between the Collecting Society and the Licensee or potential Licensee.**

The Code Compliance Reviewer is able to consider whether a request or a Collecting Society’s response to it has been reasonable.

(h) A Collecting Society may not unreasonably refuse a request from a Licensee to engage in an alternative dispute resolution (ADR) process in respect of a licensing dispute. Whether a Collecting Society has acted reasonably in response to a request made pursuant to this clause is a matter for consideration by the Code Compliance Reviewer in their annual report on the Collecting Societies’ compliance with the Code.

Paragraph (a): treatment of licensees

We have adopted a range of policies and processes aimed at ensuring that our licensees are treated fairly, honestly, impartially, courteously, and in accordance with our Constitution and licence agreements. These include: a Service Charter, induction training for new staff and periodic updates to staff on requirements under the Code of Conduct.

Paragraph (b) transparency of dealings with licensees

Information on our website about licensing includes:

- plain English guides for different types of businesses;⁷
- plain English guides on our pay-per-use licences;⁸
- information for media monitoring organisation customers;⁹
- data processing protocols;¹⁰ and
- information in annual reports.

We have data access arrangements with the with the Copyright Advisory Group to the Australian Education Senior Officials Committee (CAG) and Universities Australia (UA) to provide access to data from surveys in schools, universities and TAFEs. The survey records are ‘processed’ by Copyright Agency to extract information relevant to estimating the overall extent of content usage under the statutory licence, in accordance with data processing protocols agreed with CAG and UA. This information is taken into account (together with other matters) in licence fee negotiations.¹¹

Paragraph (c) Information about licences and licence schemes

We publish information about licences and licence schemes on our corporate website and on the RightsPortal website (rightsportal.com.au). Further information is available on request.

We also provide information about our licences via other channels, including seminars, trade shows, trade publications and in response to specific enquiries.

We regularly review the terms of our licence agreements to ensure that they are written in plain language, correspond with our mandate, and reflect feedback from licensees.

Paragraph (d): setting of licence fees

For the statutory licences for education and government, we mostly deal with bodies or departments representing a class of licensees (such as Universities Australia, Copyright Advisory Group to the Australian Education Senior Officials Committee for most schools and TAFEs, and the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications for the Commonwealth) rather than individual licensees.

⁷ <https://www.copyright.com.au/licences-permission/commercial-licences/plain-english-guides/>

⁸ <https://www.copyright.com.au/licences-permission/commercial-licences/pay-per-use-plain-english-guides/>

⁹ <https://www.copyright.com.au/licences-permission/commercial-licences/information-mmo-customers/>

¹⁰ Surveys in schools have been ‘paused’ since March 2020, by agreement between Copyright Agency and Copyright Advisory Group to the Australian Education Senior Officials Committee. Future data collection arrangements from schools is currently before the Copyright Tribunal.

¹¹ Surveys in schools have been ‘paused’ since March 2020, by agreement between Copyright Agency and Copyright Advisory Group to the Australian Education Senior Officials Committee. Future data collection arrangements from schools is currently before the Copyright Tribunal.

We are currently in advanced negotiations with CAG in relation to new agreements from 2023 for the school sector and for the TAFE sector.

In May 2022, the Copyright Tribunal issued its determination regarding licence fees payable by the 39 members of Universities Australia ([here](#)). In June 2022, the universities applied to the Federal Court for judicial review of aspects of the determination. Our announcement to members, including interim arrangements pending resolution of the appeal, is [here](#).

We also have individual licence agreements with more than 1,000 other education providers, such as registered training organisations, and with licensees for our voluntary licences. These include licences for media monitoring organisations.

In October 2021, the Copyright Tribunal issued a determination regarding licence fees payable by media monitoring organisations, Isentia and Meltwater. The Tribunal did not initially publish the full determination at the time due to confidentiality issues. On 19 July 2022, the Tribunal published a redacted version of its determination ([here](#)). Our announcement of the determination for members is on our website [here](#). As indicated in the announcement, we have engaged an independent expert to provide advice on how to best approach the development of recommendations for future media monitoring licence agreements.

Copyright Agency sought judicial review of certain aspects of the Tribunal's decision. The Full Federal Court heard the appeal in May 2022 and the Court has reserved its judgement.

Paragraph (e): acknowledgement of industry associations

We acknowledge the role of industry associations. These include Public Relations Institute of Australia, Australian Local Government Association, Association of Corporate Counsel, Early Childhood Australia and Independent Tertiary Education Council Australia.

Paragraph (f): consultation with industry associations

The Commercial Licensing team worked with the Australian Psychological Society (APS) to develop a licence for their sole practitioner members as APS felt it would be of benefit to their members.

Paragraph (g): response to requests for licence fee methodology or factors

Where licensees requested further information in connection with negotiation of licence fees, we provided the information.

Paragraph (h): request for ADR

We did not receive any requests in 2021–22.

DISTRIBUTION OF REMUNERATION AND LICENCE FEES (CLAUSE 2.4)

- (a) Each Collecting Society will maintain, and make available to Members on request, a distribution policy that sets out from time to time:**
 - (i) the basis for calculating entitlements to receive payments from remuneration and/or licence fees collected by the Collecting Society (Revenue);**
 - (ii) the manner and frequency of payments to Members; and**
 - (iii) the general nature of amounts that will be deducted from Revenue before distribution.**

- (b) **Each Collecting Society will distribute payments to its Members in accordance with its Constitution and distribution policy.**
- (c) **Each Collecting Society will, in response to a reasonable request by a Licensee or their representative, provide more detailed information about particular rights payments made pursuant to a licence. Such information should only be provided to the extent that it is not commercial-in-confidence and does not otherwise directly affect a commercial negotiation between the Collecting Society and the Licensee or potential Licensee. Such information is to be provided:**
- (i) on an anonymised basis; and**
 - (ii) where the Collecting Society can do so at a reasonable cost.**
- The Code Compliance Reviewer is able to consider whether a request or a Collecting Society’s response to it has been reasonable.**
- (d) **Each Collecting Society will:**
- (i) consult with Members prior to making any substantive changes to their distribution policy; and**
 - (ii) publish ‘plain English’ guidelines on their distribution policy and make them available to Members and Licensees.**

Paragraph (a): distribution policy

We publish on our website:

- our distribution policy;¹²
- distribution schedule;¹³
- payment timetable (when payments are made to members’ bank accounts);¹⁴
- information sheets about individual distributions;¹⁵ and
- deductions before distribution.¹⁶

Paragraph (b): distribution in accordance with distribution policy and Constitution

We distribute payments in accordance with our Constitution and distribution policy.

We inform members of proposed and recent changes to distribution policies and processes, using a range of channels including one-one communications, group meetings, the corporate website (including information sheets about each major distribution) and the eNewsletter ‘Creative Licence’.

Paragraph (c): licensee requests regarding rights payments

In 2021–22, we did not receive any requests regarding rights payments, but we did receive a request for information from the Copyright Advisory Group to Australian Education Senior Officials Committee (CAG), that is outlined in our report on Clause 2.9.

¹² <https://www.copyright.com.au/membership/payments/distribution-policy/>

¹³ <https://www.copyright.com.au/membership/payments/distribution-schedule/>

¹⁴ <https://www.copyright.com.au/membership/payments/payment-timetable/>

¹⁵ <https://www.copyright.com.au/membership/payments/distribution-schedule/>

¹⁶ <https://www.copyright.com.au/membership/administration-fees/>

Paragraph (d)(i): consultation with members

There were no substantive changes to distribution policies in 2021–22. Our information sheets on each major distribution outline any changes since the previous distribution.

In July 2022, we amended our distribution policy ([here](#)) and webpages on Fees ([here](#)) and Unpaid Allocations ([here](#)) to reflect a change in policy regarding unpaid allocations ('rollovers'), to take effect from 1 July 2022. There will also be information about the change in a forthcoming issue of our e-newsletter, Creative Licence.

Paragraph (d)(ii): Plain English guidelines

Our distribution policy, and information sheets about individual distributions, are in Plain English.

COLLECTING SOCIETY EXPENSES (CLAUSE 2.5)

Each Collecting Society will deduct from its total Revenue:

- (a) **the expenses of managing and operating the Collecting Society; and**
- (b) **any other amounts authorised by its Constitution. These may include, for example, the costs of promotional activities, educational programs, cultural funds, donations in support of creators and owners of copyright material, membership of industry associations, or other charitable purposes.**

Paragraph (a): expenses of managing and operating the society

Our operating costs associated with managing statutory and voluntary licence schemes are met from our revenue. In a few cases, we deduct a fixed percentage, but in most cases our deductions are based on actual and projected costs.

The methodology for deduction from licence fees for anticipated operating costs is described on the Fees webpage on our website.¹⁷ Members also receive itemised information about deductions with each payment.

The Board of Directors approves our annual operating budget, and reviews the budget at each Board meeting.

We publish information about expenses, including the expense to revenue ratio for the financial year, in each year's Annual Report.

Paragraph (b): other amounts

Our Constitution allows us to deduct up to 1.5% of revenue for cultural or benevolent purposes. The Board of Directors approves the amount allocated for these purposes. We publicly invite applications for cultural support, and successful applications are approved by the Board following a recommendation process by a committee of the Board.¹⁸

¹⁷ <https://www.copyright.com.au/membership/administration-fees/>

¹⁸ There is information about Cultural Fund grants at www.copyright.com.au/cultural-fund and in Annual Reports.

GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY (CLAUSE 2.6)

- (a) **The Board of Directors of a Collecting Society will be accountable to its Members.**
- (b) **Each Collecting Society will at all times maintain proper and complete financial records, including in relation to:**
 - (i) **the collection and distribution of Revenue; and**
 - (ii) **the payment by the Collecting Society of expenses and other amounts described in clause 2.5.**
- (c) **Each Collecting Society will ensure that its financial records are audited at least annually.**
- (d) **Consistent with its obligations under the *Privacy Act 1988* and any applicable duty of confidentiality, a Collecting Society will provide a Member, on request, with reasonable information about that Member's entitlement to receive a payment from Revenue.**
- (e) **Each Collecting Society will include in its Annual Report information about:**
 - (i) **total Revenue during the reporting period;**
 - (ii) **the total sum and general nature of expenses and other amounts described in clause 2.5; and**
 - (iii) **the allocation and distribution of payments to Members in accordance with the distribution policy.**
- (f) **Each Collecting Society will provide detailed information in its annual publications, at an anonymised or aggregate level where appropriate, about the accounting and distribution of licence revenue. This information is to be reported in a consistent format year on year. Categories for reporting should include, but are not limited to:**
 - (i) **classes of Licensees from whom licence revenue is received;**
 - (ii) **classes of Members to whom licence revenue is paid;**
 - (iii) **categories of copyright material copied/licensed in respect of which licence revenue is received; and**
 - (iv) **domestic vs international payments of licence revenue.**
- (g) **Each Collecting Society will provide detailed annual reporting of expired undistributed funds, including:**
 - (i) **the reason/s why funds remain undistributed to rightsholders;**
 - (ii) **the steps taken to locate rightsholders and distribute funds to; and**
 - (iii) **detailed information on the allocation and use or proposed use of the funds by the Collecting Society for which funds are to be applied.**

Paragraph (a): Board accountable to members

In accordance with our Constitution, our Board includes directors elected by author, artist and publisher members respectively, and directors appointed by the Australian Society of Authors and Australian Publishers Association. The current directors, and the capacity in which they were elected or appointed, are [listed on Copyright Agency's website](https://www.copyright.com.au/about-us/our-people/our-board/).¹⁹

¹⁹ <https://www.copyright.com.au/about-us/our-people/our-board/>

Paragraph (b): maintenance of financial records

We maintain proper and complete financial records. We provide detailed reports to the Board and to its Audit and Finance Committee.

Paragraph (c): audit of financial records

Our financial records are audited annually.

Information about revenue, expenses and distribution of licence fees is included in each year's Annual Report.

Annual Reports, including the auditors' reports, are published on our corporate website, made available to members, provided to the relevant Minister, and tabled in Parliament.²⁰

We provide, on request, information to members about entitlement to payment, taking into account privacy and confidentiality obligations.

Paragraph (d): information to members

We provide reasonable information to members, at their request, about their entitlement to receive a payment.

Paragraph (e): information in annual report

Our annual reports provide information about:

- total revenue for the period;
- total amount, and nature of, expenses; and
- total amounts allocated and paid to members, including breakdowns by licence sectors.

Paragraph (f): information in annual publications

Our annual reports include information about the accounting and distribution of licence revenue, including:

- classes of Licensees from whom licence revenue was received;
- classes of Members to whom licence revenue was paid;
- categories of copyright material for which licence revenue was received; and
- domestic vs international payments of licence revenue.

Paragraph (g): information about expired undistributed funds

Our annual reports include information about expired undistributed funds, including:

- the reason/s why funds remain undistributed to rightsholders;
- the steps taken to locate rightsholders and distribute funds; and
- information on the allocation and use or proposed use of the funds.

STAFF TRAINING (CLAUSE 2.7)

Each Collecting Society will take reasonable steps to ensure that its employees and agents are aware of, and at all times comply with, this Code. In particular, a

²⁰ www.copyright.com.au/annual-reports

Collecting Society will take reasonable steps to ensure that its employees and agents are aware of the procedures for handling Complaints and resolving Disputes set out in clause 3, and are able to explain those procedures to Members, Licensees and the general public.

Our procedures for staff awareness of the Code include:

- induction training for new staff on the Code requirements;
- policy documents implementing Code requirements on the company's intranet; and
- periodic updates to staff on Code requirements.

EDUCATION AND AWARENESS (CLAUSE 2.8)

- (a) Each Collecting Society will engage in appropriate activities to promote awareness among Members, Licensees and the general public about the following matters:**
- (i) the importance of copyright;**
 - (ii) the role and functions of Collecting Societies in administering copyright generally; and**
 - (iii) the role and functions of that Collecting Society in particular;**
- and will make information about these matters available, on reasonable request, to Members, Licensees and the general public.**
- (b) In deciding what activities are appropriate for the purposes of paragraph (a), a Collecting Society will take into account the following factors:**
- (i) its size;**
 - (ii) the number of Members it has;**
 - (iii) the number of Licensees it has;**
 - (iv) the amount of Revenue it collects annually; and**
 - (v) the possibility of undertaking activities jointly with another Collecting Society.**
- (c) Without limiting paragraph (a) or any other obligation in this Code, each Collecting Society will produce and make available appropriate information about the following:**
- (i) the eligibility criteria for membership of the Collecting Society;**
 - (ii) the benefits of membership of the Collecting Society;**
 - (iii) the responsibilities of Members under the Constitution of the Collecting Society and any Membership Agreement;**
 - (iv) any policies and procedures of the Collecting Society that affect Members;**
 - (v) the benefits to Licensees of obtaining a licence from the Collecting Society;**
 - (vi) the responsibilities of Licensees under a licence granted by the Collecting Society, and under the *Copyright Act 1968* and other applicable laws; and**
 - (vii) any policies and procedures of the Collecting Society that affect Licensees.**
- (d) Each Collecting Society will make available plain English guidelines stating how expired undistributed funds will be allocated and spent by the Collecting Society, and how such expenditure will serve the interests of Members.**
- (e) The Collecting Societies will establish and maintain a consolidated online portal for the public dissemination of governance, financial and data information, including all documents relating to the Collecting Societies' compliance with the Code.**

Paragraph (a): activities to promote awareness

Education and awareness activities for our members, licensees and other stakeholders include:

- information on the [Code of Conduct website](#), and communications to members, licensees and other stakeholders about that website;
- information on our corporate website and other websites;²¹
- eNewsletter to members and other stakeholders ('Creative Licence');
- Canvas eNews to visual arts stakeholders;
- social media channels, including Copyright Agency's Facebook pages²² and Twitter account;
- presentations at Copyright Agency events and other events;²³
- training for licensees participating in surveys of usage;
- engagement with industry and professional associations who represent members and licensees; and
- mainstream and specialist media (such as industry magazines and newsletters).

Copyright Agency also uses the above channels to provide information about:

- matters relating to membership, including eligibility, benefits, responsibilities, policies and procedures; and
- matters relating to licensing, including benefits, responsibilities, obligations under copyright law, policies and procedures.

Information relating to membership on our website includes:

- membership terms and conditions;²⁴ and
- information about distributions, including distribution policy, information about each distribution (such as the data used), and forthcoming distributions.

Information on the website relating to licensing includes:

- licences available for various sectors (e.g. business, not-for-profit, education);
- pay-per-use licences;
- plain English guides; and
- works excluded from voluntary licences.

We have also provided funding to other organisations to conduct copyright education and awareness activities, including to:

- Australian Copyright Council;
- National Association for the Visual Arts; and
- Australian Society of Authors.

We also create awareness of Copyright Agency and its role through sponsorship and publicity associated with grants from the Cultural Fund.²⁵ For example, in 2021–22, we supported the Educational Publishing Awards Australia (EPAAs)²⁶ and the Australian Reading Hour with

²¹ Including rightsportal.com.au and resaleroyalty.org.au

²² facebook.com/CopyrightAgencyLimited; facebook.com/ResaleRoyalty; facebook.com/CulturalFund; twitter.com/CopyrightAgency

²³ Copyright and other events are listed on our website: www.copyright.com.au/events

²⁴ www.copyright.com.au/membership-terms

²⁵ <https://www.copyright.com.au/culturalfund/>

²⁶ <http://edpubawards.com/>

(among others) the Australian Publishers Association and the Australian Library and Information Association.²⁷

Paragraph (b): factors affecting activities to promote awareness

Our activities to promote awareness are proportionate to the number of members and licensees we have, and our revenue.

We liaise with other Collecting Societies and some activities are done jointly from time to time. The Collecting Societies jointly support the services provided by the Australian Copyright Council, including information, advice and training on a large range of copyright issues.

Paragraph (c): particular information about membership and licensing

Membership:

- our website includes a 'Join Us' webpage, with information about eligibility, benefits of membership and how to join;²⁸
- our membership terms are available on our website;²⁹
- policies and procedures affecting members are published on our website, including those relating to distributions and disputes.

Licensing:

- benefits of obtaining a licence are set out on our website, including a video for individually licensed education institutions³⁰ and a webpage for businesses;³¹
- information for licensees about their responsibilities is provided in training sessions, and is also available on our website, such as guidelines for online teaching;³²
- policies and procedures affecting licensees are published on our website, including those relating to applying for a licence (including where this can be done online).³³

Paragraph (d): guidelines about expired undistributed funds

There is a webpage about unpaid allocations on our website.³⁴

Paragraph (e): online portal for Code

With other collecting societies, we launched a website for the Code in July 2019:

<https://www.copyrightcodeofconduct.org.au/>. The site is jointly maintained by the societies.

REPORTING BY DECLARED COLLECTING SOCIETIES (CLAUSE 2.9)

- (a) **The Annual Report of a Declared Collecting Society shall include the following information in relation to each statutory licence for which the society is declared,**

²⁷ <https://www.alia.org.au/ideas-campaigns-and-events-your-library/australian-reading-hour>

²⁸ <https://www.copyright.com.au/membership/join-us/>

²⁹ <https://www.copyright.com.au/membership/join-us/terms-conditions-new-members/>

³⁰ <https://www.copyright.com.au/licences-permission/educational-licences/independent-colleges/>

³¹ <https://www.copyright.com.au/faq-why-need-copyright-licence/>

³² <https://www.copyright.com.au/licences-permission/educational-licences/online-teaching/>

³³ For example, link to online application on <https://www.copyright.com.au/licences-permission/educational-licences/independent-colleges/>.

³⁴ <https://www.copyright.com.au/membership/payments/unpaid-allocations/>

for the financial year to which the Annual Report pertains:

- (i) For each Statutory Licensee Class:
 - A. total licence fees received;
 - B. income on investments of licence fees;
 - C. total amount allocated and paid to Members;
 - D. the total amount of licence fees held in trust; and
 - E. total licence fees for which the trust period expired.
 - (ii) the total expenses of the Declared Collecting Society.
- (a) A Declared Collecting Society will, upon request from a representative of a Statutory Licensee Class, provide the following information to the extent that it can do so at a reasonable cost:
- (i) proportions to classes of recipients from the distribution of licence fees from the Statutory Licensee Class;
 - (ii) for each of the total amounts referred to in clause 2.9(a)(i)(E), the proportion not paid to rights holders due to:
 - A. the entitled Member not being located;
 - B. the relevant rights holder not being a Member;
 - C. entitlement Disputes;
 - D. the amounts being below the distributable threshold; and
 - E. other reasons (which reasons the Declared Collecting Society may elect to specify).

Paragraph (a): information in annual reports

Our Annual Reports provide the information set out in clause 2.9(a).

Paragraph (b): information about licensee classes and expired unpaid allocations

The Annual Reports also provide information regarding:

- classes of recipients of licence fees received from the schools, universities and government sectors respectively;
- allocations unpaid after four years from the education sector and government sector respectively, the reasons the allocations were unpaid, and the proportion of unpaid allocations attributable to each reason.

Information request from CAG

In November 2021, the Copyright Advisory Group to Australian Education Senior Officials Committee (CAG) made a written request for certain information, by March 2022. We provided a written response in June 2022, after acknowledging to CAG that we had received the request, determining that a response was not urgent, and advising that we would respond.

COMPLAINTS AND DISPUTES (CLAUSE 3)

- (a) Each Collecting Society will develop and publicise procedures for:
 - (i) dealing with Complaints from Members and Licensees; and
 - (ii) resolving Disputes between the Collecting Society and:
 - A. its Members; and/or

B. its Licensees.

- (b) The procedures developed under paragraph (a) will apply to any Complaint about a matter covered by the Code which adequately identifies the nature of the Complaint and the identity of the person complaining.
- (c) The procedures developed under paragraph (a) will comply with the requirements of Australian Standard ISO 10002 *Customer Satisfaction*. In developing its procedures, a Collecting Society will have particular regard to the following principles:
 - (i) The procedures should define the categories of Complaints and Disputes they cover and explain the way in which each will be dealt with.
 - (ii) Information on how to make Complaints should be readily accessible to Members and Licensees.
 - (iii) Each Collecting Society should provide reasonable assistance to a Member or Licensee in the formulation and lodgement of a Complaint.
 - (iv) The procedures should recognise the need to be fair to both the person complaining and the Collecting Society to which the Complaint relates.
 - (v) The procedures should specify by position who in the first instance will handle Complaints on behalf of the Collecting Society.
 - (vi) The procedures should indicate time frames for the handling of Complaints and Disputes.
 - (vii) Each Collecting Society should provide a written response to a Complaint that is made in writing.
 - (viii) Each Collecting Society should establish appropriate alternative dispute resolution procedures.
 - (ix) Each Collecting Society will ensure that adequate resources are made available for the purpose of responding to Complaints and resolving Disputes.
- (d) Each Collecting Society will regularly review its Complaint handling and Dispute resolution procedures to ensure that they continue to comply with the requirements of this Code.

Paragraph (a): procedures for complaints and disputes

We have developed procedures for management of complaints and disputes that meet the requirements of Clause 3 of the Code. There is information about those procedures on our website.³⁵

We also have a client service charter, which is published on our website.³⁶

Paragraph (b): application of procedure to complaints

We apply the procedures to complaints.

Paragraph (c): procedures comply with ISO 10002

Our procedures comply with the requirements of Australian Standard ISO 10002 *Customer Satisfaction*.

³⁵ copyright.com.au/client-service-standards

³⁶ copyright.com.au/service-charter

Paragraph (d): review of procedures

We periodically review our procedures.

PUBLICITY AND REPORTING (CLAUSE 4)

(a) Each Collecting Society will:

- (i) take appropriate steps to publicise this Code and the fact that it has agreed to be bound by it; and
 - (ii) make copies of the Code available to Members, Licensees and the general public on request.
- (b) Each Collecting Society will include in its Annual Report a statement about its compliance with this Code.
- (c) If the Code Compliance Reviewer reports a finding, in a report prepared under clause 5.1(d), that a Collecting Society has contravened the Code, that Collecting Society will notify its Members and Licensees of the contravention by means such as:
- (i) Notification of the contravention published on the Collecting Society's website;
 - (ii) Report of the contravention itemised in the Collecting Society's annual report; and
 - (iii) Report on the online portal referred to in Clause 2.8(e).

Paragraph (a): publicising the Code

The Code is available on the [Code of Conduct website](#), as is information about the annual review of compliance with the Code, the Code Reviewer's reports, and the triennial review of the Code.³⁷ Our website has a [webpage about the Code](#), with a link to the Code of Conduct website.

We alert members, licensees and other stakeholders to the Code, the annual reviews of compliance and the triennial reviews of the Code text, in a number of ways including on our website,³⁸ monthly eNewsletter 'Creative Licence', and specific email alerts.³⁹

In 2020–21, our notifications included an item in Creative Licence newsletter (23 June 2022).

Paragraph (b): statement about Code compliance in annual reports

We refer to our compliance with the Code in our Annual Reports.

Paragraph (c): notification of contraventions

There have not yet been any findings of contravention.

³⁷ www.copyright.com.au/code-of-conduct

³⁸ www.copyright.com.au/code-review-2013

³⁹ www.copyright.com.au/enews-june-2013

COMPLAINTS SUMMARY

Below is an anonymised summary of matters that may be regarded as complaints for the purposes of the Code:

an allegation that a collecting society's conduct has fallen short of a standard of conduct required of it by the Code

We have provided documentation regarding each matter in the annexure to this report, provided on a confidential basis to the Code Reviewer to assist him to make an assessment about our compliance with the Code.

Matter	Date	Issue	Status
#1	17/6/2022	Publisher member expecting to receive higher payments from Copyright Agency on the basis that its sales had increased.	Written response on 24 June 2022.
#2	23/6/2022	Publisher member expecting to receive Copyright Agency payment for each book published.	Member advised that its concerns would be reported to the Annual Code Reviewer.
#3	2/5/2022	Concern about the use of a grant from the Cultural Fund.	Copyright Agency reviewed the use of the grant, and the complainant accepted the outcome of the review and treatment of his complaint.
#4	16/3/2022	Potential licensee raised concerns about statements made by one of Copyright Agency's licensing staff.	Formal response with apology, and invitation to continue licence discussions with more senior staff member.

FOLLOW UP ON CODE REVIEWER COMMENTS IN LAST REPORT

There were no matters to follow up from the Annual Code Reviewer's report for 2020–21.