

A Quick Guide to Commercial Music Clearances for C4 Commissions

Please see Page 3 for all web links and contact details.

What do I need to clear?

For every commercial track there are two components to clear – recording and publishing. Both components are separately administered.

The publishing, owned and administered by a publisher, is the lyrics and notes that make up the song.

The recording, owned and administered by a record label, is the lyrics and notes, *recorded* and rendered as CD or MP3. There can be numerous different recordings of the same song. 'Hallelujah' for example, has many recordings (Alexandra Burke, Jeff Buckley and the Leonard Cohen original) owned by many different record labels. The song itself, however - the lyrics and notes - remains the property of just the one publisher.

How do I clear publishing?

'PRS for Music' offers a blanket license agreement called the IPC Scheme which you can use to license tracks for C4 commissions. Under the terms of the scheme, tracks registered with PRS are licensed at fixed rates so you do not need to approach the publisher for approval or to negotiate a fee.

To clear publishing you must first ensure that your production company is registered for the IPC scheme. If you are not sure, call 'PRS for Music' to check. Once you have done this, locate the track with the 'Work Search' function on the PRS database and ensure that all the Final Owners are 100% MCPS and PRS registered:

Final shares					
Role	Name	CAE Number	Performance		Mechanical
				Society	Society
Composer/Author	ALBARN, DAMON	161992353		PRS	Non Society
Composer/Author	HEWLETT, JAMIE CHRISTOPHER	291933639		PRS	Non Society
Composer/Author	BURTON, BRIAN JOSEPH	470979609		ASCAP	Non Society
Original Publisher	CHRYSLIS-MUSIC-LTD	39991729		PRS	Final Owner
Original Publisher	GORILLAZ	154072395		Non Society	Non Society
Sub Publisher	EMI MUSIC PUBLISHING LTD	87019563		PRS	Final Owner

This means that the publisher is allowing PRS to license the track and collect royalties for the publishing on their behalf. Hence, you do not need to approach the publisher directly for approval or to negotiate a fee.

How do I clear recordings?

C4 has a blanket agreement with PPL who represent record labels in the UK. To clear recordings, locate the track using the PPL Audio Repertoire Search and check that the recording you are using is owned by a PPL registered record label.

Search Results

Artist Name	Recording Title	ISRC	Rights Holders	Recording Date	Duration
GORILLAZ	Broken	GBAYE1000011	EMI Records Limited	2010	3:17sec

If your track appears on the PPL search then it should be clear for recording rights (see screenshot example above).

This means that the record label is allowing PPL to license and collect royalties for the recording on their behalf. Hence, you do not need to approach the label directly for approval or to negotiate a fee.

PPL can also send you a spreadsheet of registered labels. Most established labels are registered but foreign labels and smaller indie labels are not. Always check before you use. Once you have the list of PPL registered labels you can also use the Audio Product search on 'PRS for Music' to look up the rights holders.

What if my tracks don't clear under the blanket agreements?

You must clear the recording **and** publishing components of each track prior to transmission. If you cannot find the track on the PRS or PPL databases, do not see the required clearance confirmation or if you want to use a track outside of terms of C4's blankets you will need to clear the track directly.

To clear directly you must contact the label, the publisher or the artist's management. Clearing directly can be problematic, costly and time consuming. It is therefore strongly discouraged. Please refer to the C4 Producers' Music Guide or contact one of the Rights team at C4 for guidance before you attempt it.

How much does all this cost and how do I pay for it?

Under the IPC scheme, publishing costs £185 per every 30 second unit of the track used in a C4 commission. For E4/More4 commissions it's £136 per every 30 second unit. Music durations cannot be aggregated. Meaning, if you use two instances of the same song you must pay the per 30 second rate twice. PRS for Music will invoice your production company for publishing costs once you have submitted a completed cue sheet. Cue sheets should be submitted online via Silvermouse. Email info@silvermouse.com to get one set up for your production.

Under C4's PPL blanket you do not need to pay for recordings, you just need to report them via Silvermouse on your music cue sheet.

Is there anything else I should know?

This document is just a very quick guide to commercial music clearances and there are numerous exceptions and restrictions on how commercial music can be used.

These are covered in greater depth in the C4 Producers' Music Guide which also contains crucial information on performers rights and payments, exempted artists, prohibited usage (e.g. parody, derogation, appropriation or product endorsement), music for titles and credits, specially composed music, live music and performance, library music, music videos, music or list style shows, copyright control, international collecting societies, More4 and E4 rates, clearing for DVD, non-PRS or PPL repertoire and help with completing cue sheets and music license forms.

Useful contacts and links

Now read this:

Read our comprehensive Music Guide here ("C4 Music Guide"):

[MUSICGUIDE](#)

Publishing:

Register for the IPC scheme:

PRS for Music - 020 7306 4101

<http://www.prsformusic.com/users/broadcastandonline/TV/IPC/Pages/IPC.aspx>

Clear your publishing:

PRS for Music 'Work Search' (you will need a username and password from PRS)

<http://apps.prsformusic.com/WACD/WorksSearch.aspx>

Recordings:

Clear your recordings:

PPL Audio Repertoire Search

<https://repsearch.ppluk.com/ars/faces/pages/audioSearch.jspx;jsessionid=d5c88c39bb2830aa34a796639a39>

Payment:

Set up your cue sheets:

Silvermouse – www.silvermouse.com

Further Assistance:

Questions and general assistance:

C4 Rights Team – musicclearance@channel4.co.uk