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 Prodger  
Chief Executive, British Equity Collecting Society  

Gilane Tawadros  
Chief Executive, Design and Artists Copyright Society  

Andrew Chowns  
Chief Executive, Directors UK  

Christine Payne  
General Secretary, Equity  

Horace Trubridge  
General Secretary, Musicians Union  

Molly Rosenberg  
Director, Royal Society for Literature  

Nicola Solomon  
Chief Executive, Society of Authors  

Ellie Peers  
General Secretary, Writers’ Guild of Great Britain