PPL Annual Performer Review 2025-2026

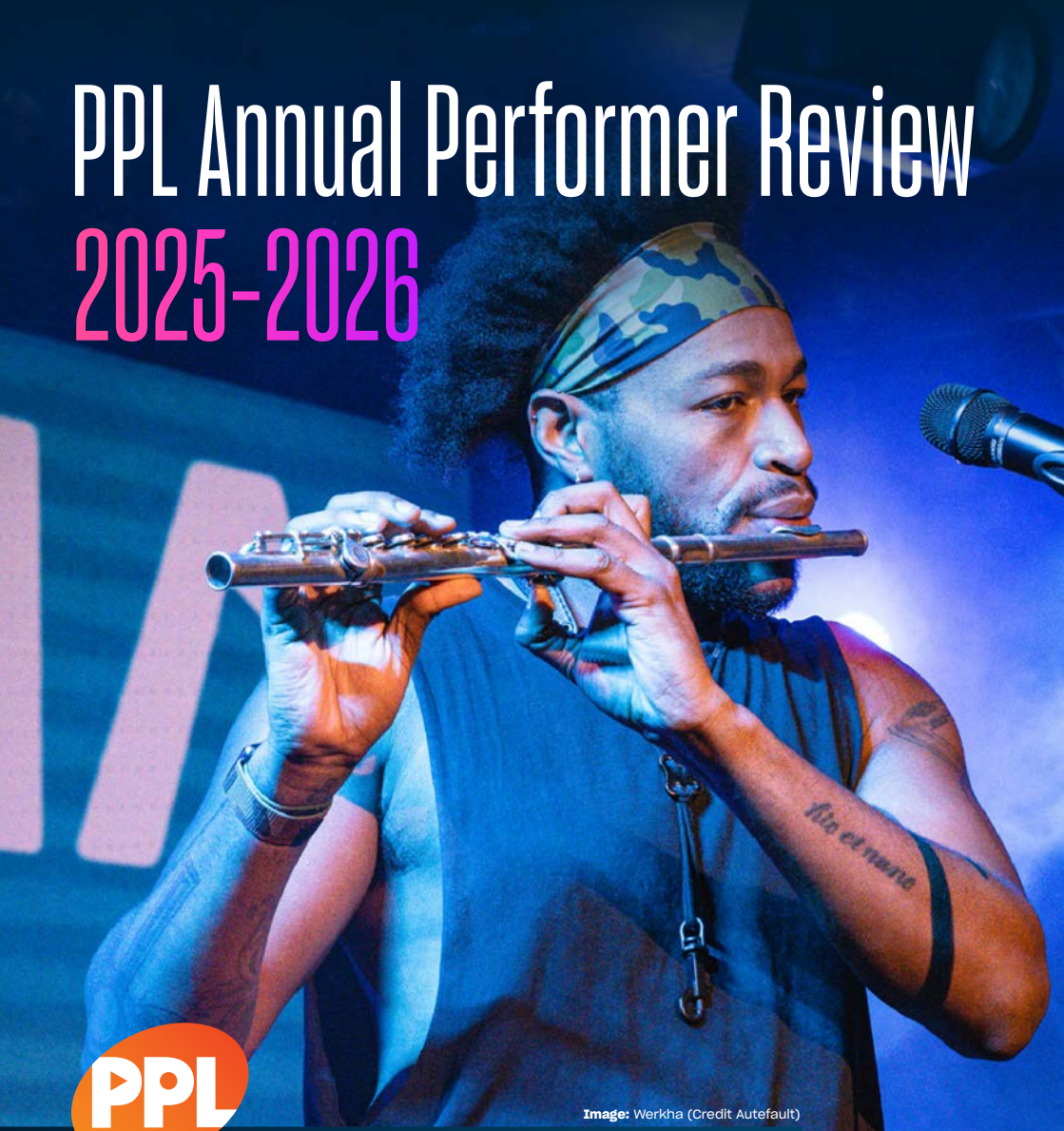


Image: Werkha (Credit Autefault)

Championing music rights, ensuring our members' talent and investment is fairly rewarded

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"After more than 30 years working as a session musician, I still find it extraordinary to think about the sheer amount of music I've been fortunate enough to be part of. From film soundtracks to pop records, every recording represents a moment in time, a collaboration between musicians, and something that can continue to reach people long after we've left the studio.

As performers, we don't always know where our music will end up or who it might touch. And as the music industry continues to evolve, it's increasingly important that the contributions of those working behind the scenes aren't overlooked. That's what I've always valued about PPL. Whether you're a featured artist or one of the many musicians helping to bring a recording to life, PPL recognises the importance of your contribution. Knowing there's an organisation looking after our interests, protecting our rights and ensuring our work continues to be recognised and rewarded is something I genuinely appreciate."

Bruce White, viola player

"PPL gave us tailored guidance to ensure we're collecting royalties from the UK and around the world. We feel like we're in secure hands."

ALT BLK ERA



ALT BLK ERA (Credit TyneSight Media)

PPL - 2025 at a glance

£315.3 million
Total revenue generated

£273.0 million
Net distributable revenue*

13.1%
Cost-to-income ratio

We pay hundreds of thousands of performers and recording rightsholders for the use of their recorded music through licensing in the UK and the collection of royalties from collective management organisations (CMOs) worldwide.

£122.9 million
Public performance and dubbing revenue

£98.5 million
Broadcast and online revenue

£94.0 million
International revenue

165,000+
performers paid

15,500+
performers paid for the first time

117
international agreements across 55 countries

Read our full financial statements and Annual Transparency Report for 2025 here.

*Net distributable revenue is the total amount payable, after costs and other deductions, to PPL members and to international CMOs for their members.

Our focus for the future



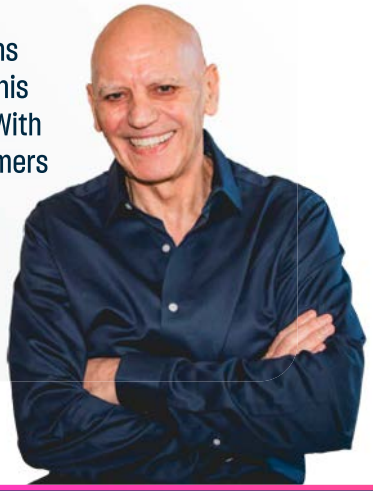
"As the music industry continues to evolve, our focus remains on delivering value for performers and recording rightsholders. In 2025, we continued to grow UK collections, expand international revenues and invest in the technology, data and services that support our members. Looking ahead, our ambitions remain clear: to be the world's first choice for neighbouring rights royalty collections, ensuring performers are properly rewarded and supported wherever their music is enjoyed around the world."

Peter Leathem OBE CEO, PPL

£127.5m paid to performers in 2025

"In my first year as Chair, I have gained an even deeper appreciation of both the strength of PPL's purpose and the challenges facing those who create and perform music. Technological change is creating new opportunities, but also raising important questions around attribution, rights and remuneration. Against this backdrop, PPL's role has never been more important. With strong foundations and a clear commitment to performers and recording rightsholders, it is well placed to help navigate the opportunities and challenges ahead."

Dr. Richard James Burgess MBE Chair, PPL

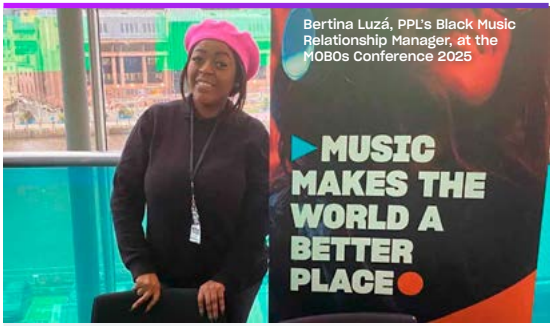


Delivering for our members

As performers navigated a changing music landscape, PPL continued to focus on delivering value on their behalf. During 2025, we strengthened the services, technology and data that underpin royalty collections and distributions, helping to ensure members are paid efficiently and on time.

Continued investment in the infrastructure that supports collections and distributions remained a priority. Major programmes included the migration of PPL's Repertoire Database to Oracle Cloud, continued development of the usage and matching system, and the rollout of the first phase of new member payment statements. PPL also introduced initiatives to streamline registration processes and reduce administrative burden for members.

Alongside these improvements, enhancements to customer service and automation helped members access support more efficiently. PPL also expanded its Business Services offering internationally and continued to work with industry partners to strengthen music metadata, data sharing and the reliability of royalty flows worldwide.



Bertina Luzá, PPL's Black Music Relationship Manager, at the MOBOs Conference 2025

"Every creator has a right to make a living from their art," says Bertina Luzá, our Black Music Relationship Manager. "My role is to champion their rights, ensure they are maximising their PPL revenue, and build lasting relationships across the industry."

PPL Relationship Managers work across genres to connect with artists, grow awareness and support the wider music industry.

The team of PPL Relationship Managers are focused on growing connections within key music communities. These experts work across Black music, Dance and Classical, engaging directly with artists, labels and managers to raise awareness of PPL and encourage registrations.

Since their introduction, the Relationship Managers have worked with many artists, representatives and labels that had previously not had much, if any, interaction with PPL – and all of them are seeing the benefits of this in both relationships and growing royalties. Knowing that they have someone at PPL who is laser-focused on their genre of music is key; someone who understands the nuances within each genre to ensure that they're represented in all we do here at PPL.

A trusted choice

PPL continued to attract new performer members in 2025 while maintaining its strong commitment to existing ones. From emerging talent to internationally recognised artists, performers rely on PPL to safeguard their rights and help them benefit from the success of their recorded music.

During the year, £127.5 million was paid to 165,000+ performers, including 15,500+ receiving royalties for the first time. We also continued to deliver the reliable, global service valued by performers at every stage of their careers.



"Charli xcx is a British superstar. She has carved out a hugely successful and uncompromising career, making a unique impact on popular culture and paving the way for many more electronic musicians. We're honoured that she has chosen PPL to collect her neighbouring rights revenues around the world, and we look forward to working with her team to ensure her royalties reflect her global impact."

Kate Reilly, Chief Membership and People Officer, PPL

"As a freelance orchestral musician, it's good to know that PPL is there to support performers and ensure our contributions to recorded music are recognised and fairly rewarded. The work it does allows musicians to continue to benefit from the recordings they've been part of, long after the performance itself."

Andrew Budden, French horn player, producer and engineer



Improvements for performers

Accurate performer data is essential to ensuring royalties reach the right people.

In 2025 and into 2026, PPL continued to strengthen how it identifies and manages complex repertoire and performer information, helping to unlock additional income for members.

Cross-departmental teams worked together to improve the quality of performer line-ups and strengthen links between recordings and usage data, including through trials with external data providers. These improvements are particularly important in areas where recordings can feature large numbers of contributors, multiple versions or incomplete metadata.

Alongside this work, PPL continued to refine the data and processes that support distributions, improving the accuracy of royalty calculations and helping ensure performers receive the payments they are entitled to. By investing in better data quality and more effective matching processes, PPL is helping more performers benefit from the use of their recorded music, both now and in the future.

"In the streaming era, PPL income is becoming an increasingly important revenue stream for music producers. Over the years, I have worked very closely with my manager and her account team at PPL to ensure that my performances are all registered correctly and I am paid for my work. The team at PPL are super-efficient and have always been available to discuss any queries and rectify any problems that arise."

Tim Bran, record producer, mixer and writer



Supporting the music industry

Beyond delivering royalties, PPL continued to support the long-term health of the music industry in 2025 through charitable investment and advocacy on issues affecting performers and recording rightsholders.

Through PPL Giving, PPL provided funding to a range of organisations supporting music creators and performers.

BAPAM

Provides vital health support for performers, helping them manage physical and mental health challenges so they can sustain long and successful careers.

bapam.org.uk

Drake Music Scotland

Works to remove barriers to music-making, enabling disabled musicians to develop their talent, access opportunities and participate fully in the sector.

drakemusicscotland.org

International Showcase Fund (ISF)

Administered by the PRS Foundation, ISF helps UK artists take their music to international audiences by supporting showcase performances that can open doors to new markets and opportunities.

prsfoundation.com

PPL

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