



## **PPL 2026 LINEAR WEBCAST LICENCE** **LICENCE FEE AND REPORTING SUMMARY**

This document should be read alongside the licence terms and conditions for online linear webcast services (for example, an internet radio station or a simulcast of your over-the-air radio station). This document provides information on the licence fees and reporting due under PPL's 2026 Linear Webcast Licence.

### **What is the 2026 Linear Webcast Licence?**

The 2026 Linear Webcast Licence provides a simple way to ensure that the recorded music included within your online linear webcast service is correctly licensed.

### **What does the licence cover?**

The licence covers you to provide a non-interactive online linear webcast service to private or domestic listeners. This could include an internet radio station or webcast channel, a simulcast of an over-the-air radio station or another live audio-only webcast stream of recorded music.

All licences are subject to an eligibility and application process where applicants will be asked to provide details of their service and its business model, and are subject to the licence terms and conditions. If in doubt, contact us at [linearwebcast@ppluk.com](mailto:linearwebcast@ppluk.com).

### **What is not covered by the licence?**

The licence does not cover any service that:

- Is funded (whether entirely or in part) by subscription revenue
- Is funded by a sole sponsor, sole donor or sole advertiser
- Offers any functionality that allows a listener to pause, skip, rewind, fast forward or otherwise personalise the service they receive
- Offers any on-demand content (such as programmes or single tracks)
- Allows the temporary or permanent downloading of any content (such as caching or podcasting) or any offline playback functionality
- Consists of programmes of less than three hours duration that are webcast on a loop or pre-determined order.
- Is provided via a closed or encrypted network (such as through a password-protected website).

The licence does not cover the use of the service for the provision of featured or background music in a public or commercial setting (such as shops or offices).

In addition, your service must be audio-only. For audio-visual services, you will need to contact PPL to discuss your licensing requirements.

If your service is provided, funded or offered in any of the ways detailed above, or if you are not sure, you will need to contact PPL's Broadcast Licensing team to discuss your licensing requirements.

### **What are the fees payable under the 2026 Linear Webcast Licence?**

The licence is split into three bands. The band applied to your service is dependent on:

- The number of streams (i.e. *Performances*, where one track is streamed to one listener) generated by your service
- The annual revenues generated by your service
- The territories targeted by your service. A list of territories that your licence could cover is available from PPL's website.



The table below shows the fees payable in 2026 for each of the three bands:

Band	Lower stream limit (per calendar year)	Upper stream limit (per calendar year)	2026 licence fee (per channel, per calendar year ex. VAT)
1	0	150,000	£207 non-returnable fee
2	150,001	270,000	£345 non-returnable fee
3	270,001 (or n/a for any multi- territory service*)	n/a	£691 non-returnable advance, recouped against £0.001380 (0.1380p) per stream

\*For multi-territory services taking a Band 3 Linear Webcast Licence, an administrative fee for the accounting of international royalties is also payable.

If your service launches after 1 January, your 2026 licence fee will be pro-rated to the nearest full calendar quarter (e.g. if your service launches on 15 April 2026, you will pay three quarters of the annual licence fee).

#### How are the fees calculated under Band 3 of the licence?

In order to estimate the likely licence fee payable under Band 3, you can use the following calculation method. In the example below, the online linear webcast service is a single-channel music service with some speech that plays an average of 12 music tracks per hour, and that generates around 350 listener hours per day:

<b>A</b>	UK rate per stream (or rate per <i>Performance</i> )	£0.001380	
<b>B</b>	Average number of recorded music tracks played per hour	12	
<b>C</b>	Average rate per listener hour	£0.01656	$A \times B$
<b>D</b>	Estimated listener hours per day	350	
<b>E</b>	Estimated streaming royalties per day	£5.80	$C \times D$
<b>F</b>	Estimated streaming royalties per quarter	£527.44	$E \times 91$
<b>G</b>	Estimated streaming royalties per year	£2,117	$E \times 365$

#### What reporting do I need to provide to PPL under the 2026 Linear Webcast Licence?

The table below shows the reporting required under each band of the licence:

Band	Webcasting Report	Territory Report	Music Usage Report	Revenue Report
1	Required twice per year	Not required	On request	On request
2	Required twice per year	Not required	On request	On request
3	Required quarterly	Required quarterly	Licensees that recoup their advance, or use a digital playout system: <b>Quarterly</b> Others: On request	On request



### **What do I need to provide in a Webcasting Report or Territory Report?**

The Webcasting Report consists of two figures:

1. The average number of tracks webcast per hour
2. The total listener hours for your service in that period.

The two figures are standard statistics that are typically captured by your streaming provider. Listener hours may be referred to something slightly different such as 'Aggregate Tuning Hours' or 'ATH', or simply 'TLH'. To calculate the number of streams (i.e. *Performances*) generated by your service in any given period, you simply multiply the two figures together.

The Territory Report is simply a percentage breakdown of the total number of streams generated by your service into the territories covered by your Linear Webcast Licence (e.g. 90% UK, 7% Germany, 3% Spain). Again, this information is typically captured by your streaming provider and is readily available. Reporting templates will be provided by PPL for you to submit this.

### **Do I need any other licences for my online linear webcast service if I have a PPL licence?**

You will also require a licence from [PRS for Music](#). While PPL and *PRS for Music* are both music licensing bodies, PPL collects and distributes money for the use of recorded music on behalf of recording rightsholders (e.g. record companies) and performers. *PRS for Music* collects and distributes money for the use of music and lyrics on behalf of songwriters, composers and music publishers.

### **What do I do if I still have a question on the fees and reports due under the 2026 Linear Webcast Licence?**

Please email PPL's Licensing team at [linearwebcast@ppluk.com](mailto:linearwebcast@ppluk.com) for guidance and one of our team will be in touch to discuss your query further.