



Minister for IP

Sam Gyimah MP was appointed as a Minister for State for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation on 9 January 2018. His ministerial portfolio includes intellectual property, industrial strategy, science and research, innovation, agri-tech, space and technology. He also has responsibilities in the Department for Education for universities and high education reform, student finance, education exports and widening participation and social mobility.

He is the Member of Parliament for East Surrey. Most recently, Sam was the Minister for Prisons and Probation at the Ministry of Justice. Prior to that, he held posts as the Minister for Childcare, the Minister for the Constitution, a Government Whip, and Parliamentary Private Secretary to former Prime Minister David Cameron.

Before entering Parliament, Sam worked in banking and as an entrepreneur developing businesses in the training, recruitment and internet sectors, winning CBI entrepreneur of the future in 2005.

Industrial Strategy

Industrial Strategy & IP

The Government's [Industrial Strategy White Paper](#) sets out a long term plan to boost productivity and the earning power of people across the UK.

The work of the IPO supports the strategy across all five [Foundations of Productivity](#) set out in the White Paper:

Ideas: A strong IP regime helps incentivise investment in research and development. It provides a clear route to commercialisation and return on investment.

Business environment: Confidence in our world-class IP regime encourages business investment in the UK.

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People: Our work across all stages of education, from Key Stage 1 through to post-graduate and business level, looks to enhance employability and entrepreneurship amongst students. Our business support professionals are equipped with the right tools to help their clients.

Infrastructure: As the government lead on IP, we support the delivery of national infrastructure programmes. We are working to ensure the right IP expertise is available to those who need it.

Places: We are piloting the placement of IP policy advisors in two key locations (Greater Manchester and Greater Birmingham) to reflect a change in the way business support is offered. Their work with businesses in these regions will encourage effective IP commercialisation.

What's next for us?

We are committed to these programmes and are considering the responses to our [Call for Views](#). The IPO is also feeding in to the early stages of the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund areas, the Sector Deals and the Grand Challenges.

IP and Education

IP Tutor Plus relaunched



[IP Tutor Plus](#) has been updated and was relaunched on 8 January 2018. This resource for university lecturers was developed by the IPO, CIPA, CITMA, lecturers and industry professionals and examines how IP impacts on students' future careers.

There are four modules; creative, humanities, STEM and law, business and accounting subject areas. The offering includes PowerPoint slides, lecture notes, case studies and wider discussion points. [IP Tutor Plus](#) compliments the existing online IP Tutor which covers the same modules.

The updated resources form part of a suite of tools aimed at students and lecturers which the IPO has published since September 2017. They aim to develop a greater understanding on IP with students, lecturers and researchers.

Before students reach university, the [Future Innovators Toolkit](#) provides level 3 Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) teachers with the resources they need to introduce IP at any point in the curriculum.

We will continue to work with BEIS and the newly formed UKRI (UK Research and Innovation), as well as partner organisations, including the British Standards Institute and the National Physical Laboratory, on the next steps of The Strategy.

IP Service launched in West Midlands Growth Hub

The Industrial Strategy aims to drive business investment in research and development by improving the business environment. Part of this includes building local capability to commercialise IP.

As part of this commitment, an intellectual property advice service was launched by the West Midlands Growth Hub in December. Businesses in the area seeking advice on IP and innovation can now contact the [Greater Birmingham and Solihull Growth Hub](#) for a consultation. They can also direct them to appropriate sources of IP support and advice. An online toolkit with resources and information will also be made available shortly.



[IP for Research](#) was created for PhD students and researchers to develop a greater understanding of how IP fits into and can maximise the impact of their research. [The IP for Research](#) resource includes an IP workshop and guides on commercialising IP. An IP Skills Lens will be coming soon.

You can find the IPO's complete set of further and higher education tools at [IP for Education](#) tools or on the [Cracking Ideas](#) page.

New campaign helps kids/children understand IP

[Nancy and the Meerkats](#), with the help of Big Joe, aim to engage pupils with the concept of intellectual property (IP). The resource guides pupils through the process of setting up a band and recording and releasing a song, which is promoted and performed live on tour.

Building on the success of the previous two series, Nancy and the Meerkats consists of a radio series, short videos, comic book, lesson plans and competition. The supporting teaching resource also includes themed activities and engaging lesson plans. Together, these support and

develop pupils' understanding of copyright, trade marks and the importance of respecting IP.

Developed in partnership with Fun Kids Radio, the resource is one of a series that the IPO are launching this year for schools and universities around understanding and respecting intellectual property. Find out how you can get involved on the [Cracking Ideas website](#).

IPO achievements and awards



Sean Dennehey Awarded CBE in New Year Honour List

Sean Dennehey, Deputy Chief Executive of the IPO, was awarded a CBE (Commander of the Order of the British Empire) for services to intellectual property in the [2018 New Year's honours list](#).

Sean joined the IPO as a patent examiner in 1978 and made Director of patents in 2004. He has been Deputy Chief Executive since 2007 and served as Acting Chief Executive on several occasions.

Sean said, "I feel very privileged to be awarded a CBE for my services to intellectual property. This a great honour for me, but I genuinely believe it is also a recognition of the fantastic work done by everyone here at the IPO.

Patents

Scottish UPC Privileges and Immunities approved by Privy Council

[The International Organisations \(Immunities and Privileges\) Amendment Order \(Scotland\) 2017](#) was approved by [Privy Council](#) on 13 December 2017. In the same month Parliament considered a separate Order covering the rest of the UK has and this will be considered by Privy Council in due course.

The Orders confer the necessary privileges and immunities on the Unified Patent Court and give it a legal personality in the UK.

Changes to UK Patent Fees on 6 April

The following changes to patent fees will be coming into force on 6 April 2018:

- Increase to the application fee, and introduction of a 25% surcharge if it is not paid at the time of filing.
- Increase to the fees for search and substantive examination.

Whatever I may have achieved has only been possible because of the great people it's my pleasure and privilege to work with."

IPO winners at Global Equality and Diversity Awards



Chris Harrison Head of IP Analytics and Data Science

The IPO was represented at the Global Equality and Diversity (GED) Awards in December. The awards recognise individual professionals, organisations and academics who are adopting new approaches to equality and diversity understanding and are leading the way to embrace transparency and demonstrate impact.

The IPO Informatics team, represented by Chris Harrison (see photo), won the GED Research Award for its '[Gender profiles in worldwide patenting: An analysis of female inventorship](#)' research. The GED Research Award celebrates outstanding examples of research methods and insights into diversity and equality in organisations, companies or services.

- Increased discount for each of the above fees when they are filed electronically.
- Introduction of an excess claims fee.
- Introduction of an excess pages fee.
- A £10 increase to renewal fees for each of years 12 to 20.

We have published [guidance for business](#) to help users to familiarise themselves with the fee changes.

Our previous [news article](#) gives further information on the government's policy development leading up to these changes and on the [legislation](#) making the changes.

Copyright

Consultation on the implementation of the EU Portability Regulation

The IPO launched a consultation to its [proposed approach to enforcement of the EU Portability Regulation](#), which will take effect on 1 April 2018. The consultation will run until 31 January.

From 1 April 2018, online streaming services will be required to allow EU based subscribers access to paid-for content when temporarily in another EU Member State, for example when on holiday. Free services and those tied to the payment of licence fees (i.e. BBC iPlayer) can offer this service but are not obliged to. Service providers are not allowed to impose an additional charge to provide portable services or to take steps to decrease the quality of the service in other Member States.

The [Regulation](#) contains a number of safeguards to ensure copyright is protected. For example, providers must verify the member state of residence of subscribers to ensure they are entitled to receive content. A failure to verify subscribers may result in copyright infringement.

Appropriate enforcement mechanisms need to be in place in UK law when the Portability Regulation comes into effect. We have considered how to provide this and our proposed approach is outlined in the technical consultation.

Questions on the consultation process should be directed to portability@ipo.gov.uk.

Consultation on application to operate an ECL scheme

The government has published a [consultation on an application by the Copyright Licensing Agency \(CLA\) to operate an Extended Collective Licensing \(ECL\) scheme](#).

ECL allows collective management organisations (CMOs) to offer copyright licences which cover the works of all relevant rights holders in the sector. This includes those who have not directly mandated the CMO to represent them.

The CLA has applied for authorisation as required by The Copyright and Rights in Performances (Extended Collective Licensing) Regulations 2014.

The consultation closes on 2 February 2018.

International

UK – Taiwan Agree on IP in Trade Talks

The IPO took part in the UK-Taiwan Trade Talks, which were led by International Trade Minister Greg Hands and Taiwanese Vice-Minister of Economic Affairs Mei-Hua Wang held trade talks in London on 1 December. These formed the 20th round of talks since 1991. During the talks, an agreement was signed which will make it easier for UK and Taiwanese businesses in biotechnology and pharmaceutical fields to protect their IP. This will support UK companies working in these sectors to export products like cutting-edge genetic medicines to Taiwan knowing their rights will be protected. Full details can be read in this [press release](#) from the Department for International Trade.

CBEC – React – ICC BASCAP Workshop

India's Central Board of Customs and Excise, the International Chamber of Commerce's Business Action to Stop Counterfeiting and Piracy (BASCAP) initiative and anti-counterfeiting network REACT joined forces to organise a one day conference in New Delhi on 15 January. Representatives from enforcement agencies, IP professions and leading brands attended the event aimed at highlighting the important of Customs in combatting counterfeit goods.

The event 'The Role of Customs in Protecting India's Consumers and Economy from Counterfeits' provided a platform for participants to discuss the challenges and threats posted by the trade in counterfeit goods, and an opportunity to share best practices.

Discussions covered:

- The role of customs in stopping the counterfeit trade in India, and online and market enforcement.
- Storage and disposal of counterfeit goods
- Promoting inter – agency cooperation
- Introduction to the new Indian Customs recordal system

UK IPO's attaché, Shilpi Mehta Nanda, spoke about the storage and disposal of counterfeit goods from a UK perspective. She highlighted that the focus should be on reducing production and demand of infringing goods, and on the importance of consumer education. A list of speakers and is available at the [IcC event website](#).

Shilpi said, "The conference was a great success. The suggestions and best practice shared at the event was welcomed by representatives from CBEC."

Further information can be found in this [BASCAP press release](#).



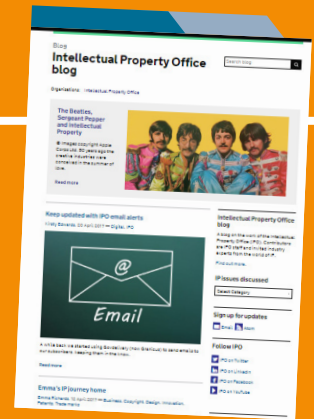
The Central Board of Customs and Excise and React

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