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for Culture  
Media & Sport

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[www.gov.uk/dcms](http://www.gov.uk/dcms)

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Dear Colleague,

**PUBLIC LENDING RIGHT (PLR) RATE PER LOAN 2017**

I am writing to seek your views and, if relevant, the views of those you represent on the above matter.

As you are aware, the British Library Board is responsible for making an annual recommendation to the Secretary of State regarding the amount to be paid to registered authors, illustrators and other contributors from the PLR Fund to compensate them for the loan of their books from public libraries. The amount due to each author is based on a rate per loan calculated from both the size of the fund available and an estimate, by way of a sample of public libraries countrywide, of the total number of loans of registered works in the UK.

For the qualifying book loans during the PLR year 2015-2016, the British Library Board has proposed a rate per loan of 7.82 pence for the February 2017 payments, such sum representing an increase of 0.15 pence on the rate per loan for 2016 payments. The reason for the increase given by the British Library Board is that there has been a reduction in the figure for estimated loans of registered books across the UK during the 2015-2016 PLR year from the figure for the previous year.

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport notes the British Library Board's recommendation that the 2017 PLR payments are made at an increased rate per loan of 7.82 pence and propose to amend the PLR Scheme, which is set out in the Public Lending Right Scheme 1982 (Commencement) Order 1982 (SI 1982/719), accordingly. However, before any amendment is made, the Department seeks your views on this proposal, by no later than 25 November.

Please send your response to the Libraries team at the postal address above, or by email to: [rate\\_per\\_loan@culture.gov.uk](mailto:rate_per_loan@culture.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely

Dominic Lake  
Deputy Director  
Arts, Libraries & Cultural Property

