

FOI Release
Information released under the Freedom of Information Act

Title: Orphan works licenses in the UK

Date of release: 24 August 2020

Information request:

The number of right-holders that were compensated by the IPO for use of their works that have been licensed as an orphan work by the IPO (since October 2014, if possible, and if not, since January 2019).

Additional questions:

- 1) Could you please confirm the number of applications for a licence to use orphan works since October 2014? (The register indicates that there were 1074, of which 101 were withdrawn).
- 2) Were any licence applications refused? (I could not locate any refused applications in the register).

Information released:

From 29 October 2014 (when the orphan works licensing scheme was launched) until 18 August 2020 (date of your request), 20 right holder claims were made using the contact form on the public register. None of these have been compensated. The answer to your request is therefore 0 (zero).

The information requested in your follow up email is contained within the publicly available register. But to summarise and confirm:

1) Could you please confirm the number of applications for a licence to use orphan works since October 2014? (the register indicates that there were 1074, of which 101 were withdrawn).

There have been 222 applications to use orphan works, comprising 1074 works. For statistical purposes, we count in number of applications rather than number of works.

2) Were any licence applications refused? (I could not locate any refused applications in the register).

No licence applications have been refused. 49 applications were withdrawn.

[Correct at date of release]