

Playing music at your community venue

What is PRS for Music?

Purchasing a PRS for Music licence helps you legally use or play music. So you'll probably need a licence if you play recorded music in public, e.g. a radio, CD or music channel on your premises; the licence also allows you to play live music.

PRS for Music collects and distributes money for the use of the musical composition and lyrics on behalf of authors, songwriters, composers and publishers.

What is PPL?

Like PRS, PPL (Phonographic Performance Ltd) collects and distributes money for the use of recorded music on behalf of record companies and performers (royalties).

In most cases you'll also need a PPL licence to legally play recorded music in public.

Do I need a licence?

From 2012, a new joint music licence was launched for community buildings incorporating charges from both PRS for Music and PPL. PRS for Music manages this application process.

It is always the venue where music is played that is responsible, not the individual groups playing music. So if you (the community centre) have not got a licence then your hirers should not be playing music of any sort.

How much does a licence cost?

PPL charges are calculated as follows:

- For community buildings with an annual income of £10,000 or less: £47.50 per annum (subject to annual adjustment for inflation)
- For community buildings with an annual income of over £10,000: 1% of annual income

PRS for Music charges continue to be calculated as:

- 1% of annual income subject to a minimum charge of £47.50 per annum

For example, the income from the community building is £20,000 per year, so the cost would be: PPL & PRS licences would be £200 each, plus VAT = £480

How do I apply?

Call 0345 140 0090 to speak to the licensing team for a bespoke quote or to find out more. Lines are open 9am – 5pm, Monday to Friday. Or visit [here](#).

Information courtesy of www.ppluk.com & www.prsformusic.com