729. R Thomas & S Sydenham

RE: the repeal of the Statutory Licence.

We are authors who create and publish educational Internet content for school children and their teachers. We also produce educational print textbooks for teachers and non-fiction texts for children.

We use our time, creative skills, and research to create these materials. They are our intellectual property and we own the copyright in them.

Just as published print material incurs costs to produce, Internet material is neither cost free to produce or of lesser intellectual value. To enable us to continue to invest time, money and energy into the creation of materials that support teaching and learning in educational environments we also require compensation to support our endeavours; just as others are paid for their labours.

The statutory licensing scheme has served the education community, and educational authors and publishers, like ourselves well, as it has compensated us, the creators of intellectual property, adequately, so that we have been motivated and supported to continue our work.

For us to maintain a similar volume and quality of output of educational materials it is important that the principles of the scheme be not retained.

Without the funds available from Copyright Agency, we will be unable to continue to make our contribution to educational publishing for primary school educators and their students.

Please retain the current system of Statutory licenses.

Ron Thomas & Shirley Sydenham