



# *Law Society of Ireland*

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## **CONSULTATION ON REVIEW OF THE COPYRIGHT AND RELATED RIGHTS ACT 2000**

### **SUBMISSION OF THE BUSINESS LAW COMMITTEE OF THE LAW SOCIETY OF IRELAND (“the Committee”) DATED 14<sup>th</sup> JULY 2011**

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#### **Introduction**

The Committee notes that the Department of Jobs, Enterprise & Innovation is conducting a review of the Copyright and Related Rights Act 2000 (as amended) (“the Act”).

The Committee notes that the Copyright Review Committee has requested interested parties to make submissions to it, following which a Consultation Paper will be issued calling for further comment/input.

The Committee wishes to make the following comments at this stage of the review process:

#### **1. Approach to Review**

The Committee is of the opinion that the review should include consideration of the opportunity to re-write and/or re-organise the existing copyright legislation in as simple and clear a manner as possible, as opposed to adopting a piecemeal “*by amendment*” approach.

#### **2. Scope of Review**

The Committee recommends that the review should be as wide ranging as possible in scope (similar to the approach taken in the copyright section by the Hargreaves Review Committee in the UK) and focus on copyright in the digital and online environments, as well as looking pragmatically at a re-balancing of interests and change of approach to copyright law, within the context of Ireland’s European and international legal obligations.

#### **3. Available Remedies**

The Committee believes the review ought to consider how the various remedies available for copyright infringement can be obtained by rights holders more cost effectively and efficiently irrespective of the nature of the infringement (whether occurring through an online or digital medium or otherwise).

#### **4. Conclusion**

The Committee and its members would be happy to assist the Department and the Copyright Review Committee further as part of this review and intend to input their views on the Consultation Paper once issued.

**For further information please contact:-**

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