

Terms of Reference – Working group

Purpose/role

This working group will help the IPO achieve its aim of identifying if and what issues right holders and businesses face protecting their IP when using the current IP enforcement framework. The IPO intends to do this through a call for evidence and gathering real life case studies.

This will form part of the commitment the Government made in its enforcement strategy to comprehensively review the IP enforcement framework.

The working group will be established to:

- Provide knowledge and experience to inform this research project by providing examples of issues right holders face when using the enforcement framework.
- Help in framing the questions for the call for evidence and securing real life case studies through their networks and experiences.
- Aid the collection of real life case studies to evidence the use of IP enforcement framework
- Support the IPO in successfully completing this project.

Membership

Membership of this working group is on a voluntary basis.

Membership selection criteria

We are looking for those with first-hand experience and/or a sound working knowledge of using the IP enforcement framework to protect their intellectual property.

The group will consist of a maximum of 16 members.

Governance/ Accountability

The working group will be led and chaired by an IPO official with a second independent co-chair.

Outputs/ working methods

We expect there to be at least three meetings, the details of which are set out below;

1. The first will help identify the questions for the call for evidence and discuss providing example scenarios as part of the call for evidence. There will also be a discussion about the method for collecting real life case studies through the group and any other organisations suggested.

2. A follow up meeting once the draft call for evidence has been circulated, for members to feed back any comments. The group can also update on the collection of the real life case studies, showing how right holders have used the enforcement framework to fight alleged infringements.
3. A final meeting to discuss the results of the project and discuss next steps and possibility of a discussion paper.

Any ad hoc issues may be dealt with via correspondence.

The secretariat function will be provided by the IPO. This will include meeting logistics and providing minutes of the meetings.

As this working group is voluntary we do not propose to reimburse travel or subsistence costs.