



Oifig an Aire Post, Fiontar agus Nuálaíochta
Office of the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation

Our Ref: 130141/MIN

18 February, 2013

Mr. Paul M Durrant
CEO
Internet Service Providers Association of Ireland
25 Sandyford Office Park
Blackthorn Avenue
Dublin 18

Dear Mr. Durrant,

I refer further to your letter of 25th January 2013 to the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, Mr. Richard Bruton T.D regarding statements made by the National Newspapers of Ireland about linking on the internet.

The Minister wishes to thank you for your correspondence and has noted your view that the Copyright and Related Rights Act (CRRA) should not be amended so as to afford copyright protection to links.

As you have stated in your letter, the independent Copyright Review Committee, which was established by the Minister to identify areas of the present national copyright legislation that might be deemed to create barriers to innovation, has pointed out the fundamental role that links play in the internet ecosystem. In the Consultation Paper which the Committee published on 29th February 2012, submissions were invited as to whether CRRA should be amended to provide that a link to copyright material, of itself, should not constitute an infringement of copyright. The Minister understands that the ISPAI addressed this issue in its submission to the Copyright Review Committee and expects therefore that the Committee will take this into consideration in the context of their deliberations.

It is expected that the work of the Committee will be completed by the end of March and the Minister is confident that this work, together with the interaction and input of all of the interested parties will result in establishing Irish copyright law on a firm footing to encourage innovation, foster creativity and meet the challenges of the future with confidence.

Yours sincerely,

John Maher
Private Secretary