



Copyright Licence for Local Government

In the Local Government sector – where exchanging and retaining information about current and historical events is critical – it's easy to breach copyright laws by inadvertently copying and sharing content without permission.

Most literary works are covered by copyright. If your employees copy and share text and/or images that were created by others, they'll usually need permission from the copyright owner to do so. This includes content from **newspapers and magazines, websites, industry publications, and reports.**

Research conducted by independent market research agency FiftyFive5¹ shows that:

- 45% of employees don't think about complying with copyright laws when doing their role,
- 49% of employees access published content to keep up to date with the latest developments, and
- 58% of employees believe it's their organisation's responsibility to be copyright compliant when they are downloading, copying, or saving content for work purpose.

COPYRIGHTAGENCY

We're an Australian not-for-profit organisation that represents over 40,000 members across the publishing, media, visual arts, education and surveying sectors. We license copyright material, so organisations can legally reuse content created by others, and be confident that creators are being compensated fairly for their work. Licensing revenue is distributed to our members, ensuring the Australian creative economy remains strong.

Copyright and Local Government

Councils are not defined or referred to as being under the Crown within the Copyright Act 1968 (Cth). As a result, they are not covered by the existing statutory licence arrangements in place under s183(5) between Copyright Agency and the Commonwealth, and the States/Territories. Councils are thus required to obtain a licence or permission to copy and share information.

Our **Copyright Licence for Local Government protects** Australian Councils from the risk of copyright infringement.* It gives your staff the freedom to copy and share third party literary content.

As we pay royalties to the creators whose works you reuse, you'll foster the creation of new content which will benefit your Council in the future.

Key benefits to your Council



Speed and efficiency

Removes the need to obtain individual permissions



Ease of use

One licence covers copyright material from millions of sources



Peace of mind

Staff can reuse our members' content*



Better collaboration

Share Australian newspaper content with third parties



Risk management

Reduces your Council's risk of copyright infringement

Copy and share key content

Specifically tailored to the sector, our Copyright Licence for Local Government gives you the right to copy, share and digitally store hard copy and digital content*, including:

- **Local, regional, national, and international newspapers and magazines**
- **Key sources** such as local government sector-specific journals and magazines
- **Plus** graphs, tables, research papers, market research data, and more.*

Establish a world-best business practice

Your licence:

- **Covers your entire organisation for internal use** and the sharing of selected content externally.
- **Saves you from having to negotiate licence fees with individual copyright owners.** One annual licence fee allows your staff to copy and share content from millions of sources.
- **Legitimises material in records management systems and internal servers and hard drives.** Reproductions of print material arrive at Council through different channels and in many instances permissions would have to be obtained to retain a copy.
- **Reduces your risk of being brought into a copyright dispute.** Protect your reputation and avoid potential litigation expenses.
- **Offers a fair fee structure.** Our fee is tailored to the Local Government sector and is based on the number of indoor employees in your organisation.

"The City of Adelaide aims to always provide open and accountable services for our ratepayers, customers and many visitors. Our copyright licence is a good example of our commitment to being both highly ethical and a good corporate citizen. We are proud to be supporting Australian creators, as the fees we pay are returned to community newspapers, to grassroots journalism and to authors, artists and surveyors."



The Australian Government provides information on copyright:

- Attorney General's Department
- Australian Business Licence and Information Service (ABLIS)

*Terms, conditions, limits and exclusions apply.

This fact sheet is a guide only. Refer to the licence agreement for full terms and conditions. For independent information on copyright please visit the Australian Copyright Council website www.copyright.org.au

¹ <https://www.copyright.com.au/2023/07/risky-business-do-you-know-how-content-is-used-in-your-business/>

Getting your licence is easy

To discuss your licensing options and obtain a customised quote, contact your industry representative below.

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