

To Andrew Gowers,

Regarding the extension to 95 years of mechanical copyright in the UK. This would only make sense if the owners of the copyright were to make those recordings available. This seems unlikely as they even don't have the material in their archives, sometimes wilfully destroying it. Now they wish to deny others the opportunity to reissue this material.

Can we have a guarantee from the archive owners that, if this law is passed, it will place some sort of responsibility on them to reissue historical material, even if this means going to private collectors to obtain it?

I would like to know the argument being put for extending copyright for material which the record companies have no intention of reissuing.

Julian Vein