



Kelly Tolhurst MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Minister for Small Business
Consumers and Corporate Responsibility
Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy
1 Victoria Street
London
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United Kingdom

May 9 2019

Dear Kelly,

I am writing on behalf of UK Music to ask you to investigate the speculated collapse of PledgeMusic and concerns that it may enter administration and to refer the case to the Competition & Markets Authority (CMA).

UK Music is the umbrella body for the commercial music industry. We campaign and lobby for the collective interests of the music industry on behalf of artists, musicians, songwriters and composers, record labels, music publishers, studio producers, managers and music licensing organisations.

Many musicians across the UK relied on crowdfunding website PledgeMusic to deliver payments from patrons, to pay for album recordings and other costs. These artists were already enduring long delays in receiving payments.

As a consequence, creators who used PledgeMusic's services are likely to lose money if it goes into administration without resolving its outstanding debts. The Musicians' Union is working with its members to advise them.

Emerging musicians often rely on crowdfunding platforms to raise capital to support album recording costs, music video costs and other capital expenditures. This is often a crucial step for them to progress through the music talent pipeline. Musicians should be able to trust crowdfunding platforms to fulfil their obligation of delivering money pledged by fans and supporters.

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I would therefore ask that you refer PledgeMusic to the CMA to ensure this matter is properly investigated.

Kind Regards,

Michael Dugher
CEO, UK Music