



Roles and responsibilities across Whitehall and other governmental bodies

Department / enforcement agency	Role
Department for Business, Innovation and Skills	Home to the Intellectual Property Office which has responsibility for IP policy formation. In addition, IP crime significantly impacts UK businesses and as such the department needs to take a broader interest in IP policy. This department is also leading on measures relating to Digital Britain and online IP infringement. BIS also has responsibility for regulation of markets, a major source of counterfeit goods.
Department for Communities and Local Government	Trading standards have lead responsibility for upholding IP law. Their budgets are set locally.
Home Office	Theft of IP is a crime and there are proven links with associated criminality and serious organised crime. Has responsibility for setting police priorities.
Ministry of Justice	Responsibility for setting criminal and civil sanctions and for issuing sentencing guidelines
Department of Culture, Media and Sport	Lead department for the creative industries, many of which are severely affected by IP infringement
Trading standards	Lead agency with responsibility for IP infringement
Police	TS have no power of arrest and therefore rely on close co-operation with police forces
HM Revenue and Customs	Many infringing products still arrive in the UK from overseas shores. Co-operation from HMRC is crucial
SOCA	Has responsibility for addressing harm to UK from serious and organised crime. Also hosts an IP tactical group dealing with all levels of infringement