



Information Policy & Compliance  
[bbc.co.uk/foi](http://bbc.co.uk/foi)

24 April 2008

Dear :

**Freedom of information request – RFI20080384**

Thank you for your request received on 01 April 2008 seeking further information about TV Licensing. Your request is being dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“the Act”).

Please note that “TV Licensing” is a trading name used by companies contracted by the BBC to administer the collection of television licence fees and enforcement of the television licensing system. The majority of the administration of TV Licensing is contracted to Capita Business Services Ltd (which undertakes the majority of the administration of the TV Licensing system), with the administration of our cash related payment schemes contracted to Revenues Management Services Ltd (RMS). PayPoint Network Ltd and PayPoint Collections Ltd are contracted to provide over-the-counter services. The marketing and public relations activities are contracted to the AMV Consortium. The consortium is made up of the following four companies: Abbott Mead Vickers BBDO Ltd, Fishburn Hedges Boys Williams Limited, PHD Media Limited and Proximity London Ltd. The BBC is a public authority in respect of its television licensing functions and retains overall responsibility.

In your request you asked the following:

*I would like to know if TVL/BBC get a credit from the government to cover the cost of letting households that include a person over the age of 75 be exempted from the Licence Fee – or – if the loss of revenue to TVL/BBC is born by TVL/BBC?*

*If TVL gets a credit from government, I would like to know which government department pays, how much for each household is paid, and the total amount paid by government.*

*If TVL/BBC bear the cost of Over 75 exemption, I would like to know how many households are exempted and the total cost to TVL/BBC of allowing the exemption.*



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

I can confirm that the Department for Work and Pensions reimburses the BBC the cost of free over 75 licences. The amount paid for each household is the full cost of the relevant licence (colour or black and white). The total amount paid by the government in respect of over 75 licences in 2007-08 was £488.9m.

### **Appeal rights**

If you are not satisfied with this response you have the right to an internal review by a BBC senior manager or legal adviser. Please contact us at the address provided, explaining what you would like us to review and including your reference number. If you are not satisfied with the internal review, you can appeal to the Information Commissioner. The contact details are: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF, telephone 01625 545 700 or see

I hope this response is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

**Natalie Saunderson**  
**Policy Adviser**  
**BBC TV Licensing Management Team**