

Alison Thewliss MP – email response

Dear Sir / Madam,

Thank you for your recent email regarding the BBC's public consultation on the TV licence fee concession for older people.

As the MP for Glasgow Central, I'd be grateful if the below points can be taken into account:

- There are approximately 4,170 people in my constituency who would be detrimentally affected by any plan to scrap the over 75s concessionary license.
- I am similarly concerned that these plans, were they to go ahead, would take an average of more than £22,000 a week out of the pockets of over 75s in every constituency in the UK.
- Age UK have also warned that scrapping the concession would push 50,000 over 75s into relative poverty, which is a huge cause for concern.
- In a more general sense, I would be concerned about the potential impact of BBC funding cuts on its employees. As you will be aware, the BBC Scotland headquarters at Pacific Quay is located in my constituency, and employs hundreds of talented people from a range of different backgrounds. I would be keen that, whatever decision is ultimately taken, a commitment is made to the workforce in Glasgow, to preserve the strength of operation that has been built up over time, and ensure that Pacific Quay can continue as a strategic hub going forward.

I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute to this consultation.

Kind regards,

Alison

Alison Thewliss
MP for Glasgow Central