

**Dame Cheryl Gillan MP** - email response

I have received strong representations that there should be no change to the concession for the over 75s. At a time when we are recognising that loneliness and isolation is often a feature of life as people get older it seems hard to now ask these people to pay for a service which provides comfort and consolation in many cases to frail and infirm people.

A means tested licence fee will cost a great deal to administer and even a 50% reduction will mean hardship for many elderly people.

I suggest that the BBC revisits its budgeting and also opens talks again with the Government rather than imposing a charge on our elderly population for something which is often their only company and entertainment.

**Rt Hon Dame Cheryl Gillan MP**  
**Chesham and Amersham**