

AGE-RELATED LICENCE FEE CONCESSION

**VARIATION OF A DETERMINATION DATED 28 JUNE 2019 MADE BY THE BBC UNDER
SECTION 365A OF THE COMMUNICATIONS ACT 2003**

**Variation made pursuant to section 365A(7)(a) of the Communications Act 2003 on
29 July 2021**

DETERMINATION

1. The BBC's Determination dated 28 June 2019 is varied as set out in paragraphs 2 to 4.
2. For paragraph 14, substitute—

13A. In any of paragraphs 14 to 17 below, references to a person being “covered” by a licence are references to that person being authorised by that licence to install and use a television receiver for the purposes of section 363(1) of the 2003 Act, whether that licence was held by them or by another person.

14. The circumstances referred to in paragraph 13 are—

(a) that the licence holder—

- (i) was aged 75 years or more on 31 July 2020,
- (ii) is not eligible for a licence for which no fee is payable under paragraph 2 above; and
- (iii) on 31 July 2020 was covered by a licence for which no fee was payable when it was issued, by virtue of regulation 6 of the 2004 Regulations (as those Regulations had effect on 31 May 2020) or paragraph 1A of this Determination; and

(b) one of the following applies—

- (i) the new licence is issued on or before 31 July 2021; or
- (ii) on 30 June 2021, the licence holder was covered by any type of TV licence for which a fee was paid, and the new licence is issued on or before 31 January 2022; or
- (iii) immediately before the due date in relation to the new licence, the licence holder was aged 75 years or more and was covered by an Over 75s' Pay As You Go TV licence.”

3. After paragraph 16, insert—

“17. Where a colour TV licence (“the new licence”) is issued on or after 1 August 2021 but on or before 31 January 2022 to a licence holder who—

- (a) on 31 July 2020, was aged 75 years or more and was covered by a licence for which no fee was payable when it was issued, by

virtue of regulation 6 of the 2004 Regulations (as those Regulations had effect on 31 May 2020) or paragraph 1A of this Determination,

(b) was not covered by a TV licence (of any type) on the day immediately before the issue date in relation to the new licence, and

(c) on the issue date in relation to new licence is not eligible for a licence for which no fee is payable under paragraph 2 of this Determination,

the licence may be issued as a “Simple payment plan licence (not black and white only)” as provided for in Part 4 of Schedule 2 to the 2004 Regulations (whether or not the licence holder is in any of the circumstances A to D in paragraph 20 of that Schedule).”

4. In the Explanatory Note, insert the following new paragraph immediately after the second paragraph under the heading “Purpose and Effect”.

“This determination was varied in July 2021 to extend that transitional provision to provide additional opportunities for those previously entitled to a free licence to pay in small instalments, as follows—

(a) the closing date for when a person can buy their first licence in small instalments is extended from 31 July 2021 to 31 January 2022 in the case of anyone who is renewing a paid-for licence; and

(b) up to 31 January 2022 any person who has not previously set up a paid-for licence can pay in small instalments under the existing Simple Payment Plan scheme (see Part 4 of Schedule 2 to the 2004 Regulations) – this is in addition to any entitlement they have under the Regulations.”

Signed on behalf of the BBC Board by Richard Sharp, Chairman



July 2021

Explanatory Note

On 28 June 2019, the BBC made a determination to give effect to the BBC Board's decision dated 10 June 2019 to introduce, with effect from 1 June 2020 (later postponed until 1 August 2021 on account of the Covid-19 pandemic), a TV licence concession so that, in respect of any TV household which is the sole or main residence of someone aged 75 or over and in receipt of Pension Credit, that person will be entitled to a free TV licence to cover the household. That determination was varied by the Board on 25 March and 20 July 2020.

This determination further varies the June 2019 determination to provide additional opportunities for those previously entitled to a free licence to pay in small instalments, as follows—

- (a) the closing date for when a person can buy their first licence in small instalments is extended from 31 July 2021 to 31 January 2022 in the case of anyone who is renewing a paid-for licence; and
- (b) up to 31 January 2022 any person who has not previously set up a paid-for licence can pay in small instalments under the existing Simple Payment Plan scheme (see Part 4 of Schedule 2 to the 2004 Regulations) – in addition to any entitlement under the Regulations.