

Tessa Jowell M.P.
Dep for Culture, Media & Sport,
2-4 Cockspur Street,
LONDON,
SW1Y 5DH

/03/06

Dear Minister,

I am writing to ask if your department has put forward recommendations in the BBC white paper or otherwise regarding the operation and enforcement of TV Licensing.

In the green paper it says that your department would be reviewing operation and enforcement of the License Fee. The paper highlighted the high cost of collection and enforcement and that an independent panel had found the latter draconian.

On behalf of various people I have had contact with, I am calling for:

*TVLA warning and reminder letters to always and consistently offer to arrange an inspection visit for those who do not own a television set so that such people respond and avoid many rude letters each year.

*TVLA to advise tenants to talk to their landlords, especially in shared flats and houses. This avoids confusion when one tenant tells TVLA there is no TV set and another tenant moves in with one.

*TVLA to advise landlords of shared flats and houses to buy a TV licence on behalf of all tenants who may come and go in a year, out of the rents they give. This avoids confusion and conflicts between tenants when warning letters arrive as in the above scenario.

*TVLA be allowed to use the electoral role and other databases to write to unlicensed addresses without having to put "Dear owner/occupier". Otherwise real evaders don't see the need to respond and uncaring landlords of shared accommodation will conveniently leave their tenants to argue with each other or put such mail in the nearest Royal Mail pillar-box to return it and hope the TVLA goes away.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Yours Sincerely,

Paul O'Callaghan

The Campaign For Fairer TV Licensing

Department for Culture, Media and Sport	
29 MAR 2006	
DATE	
TIME	25/04/06
DESCRIPTION	
ACTION	
FOR IDENTIFICATION	
PCU REF	39811