STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2018 No. 339

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS BROADCASTING

The Communications (Television Licensing) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2018

Made - - - -	*8th March 2018*
Laid before Parliament	*9th March 2018*
Coming into force - -	*1st April 2018*

The Secretary of State makes these Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 365(1) and (4) and 402(3) of the Communications Act 2003(**1**).

The Treasury has consented to the making of these Regulations in accordance with section 365(6) of that Act.

Citation, commencement and extent

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Communications (Television Licensing) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2018.

(2) These Regulations come into force on 1st April 2018.

(3) These Regulations extend to the United Kingdom only.

Amendment of the Communications (Television Licensing) Regulations 2004

2. The Communications (Television Licensing) Regulations 2004(**2**) are amended in accordance with regulations 3 and 4.

Amendment of regulation 3

3. In regulation 3 (TV licence fees), in paragraph (1)(b)—

(a) for "or 8" substitute ", 8 or 18";

(b) for "or 3" substitute ", 3 or 4".

(**1**) 2003 c. 21.
(**2**) S.I. 2004/692, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

Amendment of Schedule 2

4. In Schedule 2 (fees for TV licences payable by instalments), after paragraph 17 insert—

"PART 4

Simple payment plan licence (not black and white only)

18.—(1) This Part deals with a TV licence to be known as a "Simple payment plan licence (not black and white only)" (in this Part referred to as a "simple payment licence").

(2) A simple payment licence is a licence of the same description as that given in the second entry of column 2 of the table in Schedule 1 (TV licence (including colour)) but where—

(a) the licence is to be issued only in accordance with paragraphs 19 and 20, and

(b) payment for the licence is to be made in instalments as set out in paragraph 21.

(3) In this Part, "issue date", in relation to a simple payment licence, means the date on which the licence is issued.

19.—(1) In the period beginning with 1st April 2018 and ending with 30th September 2018, a simple payment licence is to be issued only to a person who is in any of circumstances A to C (see paragraph 20).

(2) In the period beginning with 1st October 2018 and ending with 30th September 2019, a simple payment licence is to be issued only to a person who, immediately before the due date, held a simple payment licence issued before or on 30th September 2018.

(3) A simple payment licence is not to be issued after 30th September 2019.

20.—(1) Circumstance A is that the person—

(a) has been questioned under caution on or after 1st April 2018 about a TV licensing offence, and

(b) is not, immediately before the issue date, authorised under a TV licence to install or use a TV receiver.

(2) Circumstance B is that the person has, within the period of 6 months ending with the issue date, received advice from a debt advice charity in relation to any of the person's financial obligations.

(3) Circumstance C is that the person—

(a) held a TV licence (other than a simple payment licence) within the period of 6 months ending with the issue date,

(b) failed to make one or more payments in respect of that licence, and

(c) is not, immediately before the issue date, authorised under a TV licence to install or use a TV receiver.

(4) In this paragraph—

"a debt advice charity" means—

(a) Advice NI(**3**),

(b) Christians against Poverty(**4**),

(**3**) Charity registration number NIC100008.
(**4**) Charity registration number 1097217.