Dear (MP)

**Re: TV Licences for over 75s**

I/We are writing to you seeking your support to bring the issue of free TV licences for over 75s into parliament in an effort to reach a solution.

The value of the free TV licence to someone over 75 is recognised by the Prime Minister and others in the government, and yet it is still being passed between the government and the BBC with no resolution, leaving older people caught in the middle.

Isolation and loneliness has increased due to the pandemic with older people still in their homes and access to their TV or radio has been a lifeline for them.

There are now 1.9 million pensioners living in poverty in the UK (Age UK). It is expected that a further 50,000 (possibly more) pensioners who are not on pension credit will be pushed into poverty by having to buy a TV licence.

The Prime Minister has stated that it was ‘crucial to retain the free TV licence for over 75s.’ He also said he would meet the BBC to ‘thrash out a solution.’ Sadly, this does not appear to have happened.

It is to be hoped that even at this late stage, negotiations can take place which allow both the government and the BBC to show its support for vulnerable older people and put bold words into positive action.

I/We ask that you raise this matter with the Prime Minister and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport as a matter of urgency and let them know that you are supporting those over 75s – many of whom have only their TV for company.

Yours sincerely,