



# Broadcasting Act 1996

## 1996 CHAPTER 55

### PART I

#### DIGITAL TERRESTRIAL TELEVISION BROADCASTING

##### *General provisions about licences*

#### **4 General licence conditions.**

(1) A licence may include—

- (a) such conditions as appear to [F<sup>1</sup>OFCOM] to be appropriate having regard to any duties which are or may be imposed on them, or on the licence holder, by or under [F<sup>2</sup>this Act, the 1990 Act or the Communications Act 2003] ;
- (b) conditions requiring the payment by the licence holder to [F<sup>1</sup>OFCOM] (whether on the grant of the licence or at such times thereafter as may be determined by or under the licence, or both) of a fee or fees of an amount or amounts so determined;
- (c) conditions requiring the licence holder to provide [F<sup>1</sup>OFCOM] , in such manner and at such times as they may reasonably require, with such information as they may require for the purpose of exercising the functions assigned to them by or under [F<sup>3</sup>this Act, the 1990 Act or the Communications Act 2003] ;
- (d) conditions providing for such incidental and supplemental matters as appear to [F<sup>1</sup>OFCOM] to be appropriate.

(2) A licence may in particular include conditions requiring the licence holder—

- (a) to comply with any direction given by [F<sup>1</sup>OFCOM] as to such matters as are specified in the licence or are of a description so specified, or
- (b) (except to the extent that [F<sup>1</sup>OFCOM] consent to his doing or not doing them) not to do or to do such things as are specified in the licence or are of a description so specified.

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**Changes to legislation:** Broadcasting Act 1996, Section 4 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 June 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

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- (3) The fees required to be paid to [F<sup>1</sup>OFCOM] by virtue of subsection (1)(b) shall be in accordance with such tariff as may from time to time be fixed by [F<sup>1</sup>OFCOM]<sup>F4</sup>....
- (4) A tariff fixed under subsection (3) may specify different fees in relation to different cases or circumstances; and [F<sup>1</sup>OFCOM] shall publish every such tariff in such manner as they consider appropriate.
- (5) Where the holder of any licence—
- (a) is required by virtue of any condition imposed under this Part to provide [F<sup>1</sup>OFCOM] with any information, and
  - (b) in purported compliance with that condition provides them with information which is false in a material particular,
- he shall be taken for the purposes of sections 17, 23 and 27 of this Act and section 42 of the 1990 Act to have failed to comply with that condition.
- (6) Nothing in this Part which authorises or requires the inclusion in a licence of conditions relating to any particular matter or having effect for any particular purpose shall be taken as derogating from the generality of subsection (1).

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** Words in s. 4 substituted (29.12.2003) by [Communications Act 2003 \(c. 21\)](#), s. 411(2), [Sch. 15 para. 77\(2\)](#) (with [Sch. 18](#)); [S.I. 2003/3142](#), art. 3(1), [Sch. 1](#) (with art. 11)
- F2** Words in s. 4(1)(a) substituted (29.12.2003) by [Communications Act 2003 \(c. 21\)](#), s. 411(2), [Sch. 15 para. 77\(3\)](#) (with [Sch. 18](#)); [S.I. 2003/3142](#), art. 3(1), [Sch. 1](#) (with art. 11)
- F3** Words in s. 4(1)(c) substituted (29.12.2003) by [Communications Act 2003 \(c. 21\)](#), s. 411(2), [Sch. 15 para. 77\(3\)](#) (with [Sch. 18](#)); [S.I. 2003/3142](#), art. 3(1), [Sch. 1](#) (with art. 11)
- F4** Words in s. 4(3) repealed (29.12.2003) by [Communications Act 2003 \(c. 21\)](#), s. 411(2), [Sch. 15 para. 77\(4\)](#), [Sch. 19\(1\)](#) (with [Sch. 18](#)); [S.I. 2003/3142](#), art. 3(1), [Sch. 1](#) (with art. 11)

#### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 4(1)(c) modified (20.7.2004) by [The Contracting Out \(Functions relating to Broadcast Advertising\) and Specification of Relevant Functions Order 2004 \(S.I. 2004/1975\)](#), arts. 1, [10\(1\)\(a\)\(2\)\(b\)](#) (with art. 5)

**Changes to legislation:**

Broadcasting Act 1996, Section 4 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 23 June 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to :**

- specified provision(s) amendment to earlier commencing SI 2003/3142 art. 4 Sch. 2 by [S.I. 2004/545 art. 2](#)

**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:**

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 54(1)(i)(j) inserted by [2024 c. 15 s. 47\(6\)\(a\)\(iii\)](#)
- s. 97(1)-(2A) substituted for s. 97(1)(2) by [2003 c. 21 s. 299\(1\)](#) (Ss. 299(1)(3)(4), 300 were due to be commenced on 30.6.2004 by S.I. 2003/3142, art. 4(3), but that commencing provision was omitted (8.6.2004) by virtue of S.I. 2004/1492, art. 2)
- s. 97(3)(c) and word inserted by [2024 c. 15 Sch. 2 para. 12\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 97(5A)(5B) inserted by [2003 c. 21 s. 299\(4\)](#) (Ss. 299(1)(3)(4), 300 were due to be commenced on 30.6.2004 by S.I. 2003/3142, art. 4(3), but that commencing provision was omitted (8.6.2004) by virtue of S.I. 2004/1492, art. 2)
- s. 98(1)-(2D) substituted for s. 98(1)(2) by [2024 c. 15 s. 20\(2\)](#)
- s. 98(7)-(9) inserted by [2024 c. 15 s. 20\(4\)](#)
- s. 101(1)-(1D) substituted for s. 101(1) by [2003 c. 21 s. 300\(2\)](#) (Ss. 299(1)(3)(4), 300 were due to be commenced on 30.6.2004 by S.I. 2003/3142, art. 4(3), but that commencing provision was omitted (8.6.2004) by virtue of S.I. 2004/1492, art. 2)
- s. 101(5) inserted by [2003 c. 21 s. 300\(4\)](#) (Ss. 299(1)(3)(4), 300 were due to be commenced on 30.6.2004 by S.I. 2003/3142, art. 4(3), but that commencing provision was omitted (8.6.2004) by virtue of S.I. 2004/1492, art. 2)
- s. 102(A1)(B1) inserted by [2024 c. 15 Sch. 2 para. 16\(2\)](#)
- s. 104A(2)-(11) inserted by [2024 c. 15 s. 24\(3\)](#)
- s. 104A(12) s. 104A(2) renumbered as s. 104A(12) by [2024 c. 15 s. 24\(2\)](#)
- s. 104A(13) inserted by [2024 c. 15 s. 24\(4\)](#)
- s. 104B inserted by [2024 c. 15 s. 24\(5\)](#)
- s. 104ZA(1)(aa) inserted by [2024 c. 15 s. 23\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 104ZA(2A)(2B) inserted by [2024 c. 15 s. 23\(4\)](#)
- s. 105(1A)-(1D) inserted by [2024 c. 15 Sch. 2 para. 19\(7\)](#)
- s. 107(1A)(1B) inserted by [2024 c. 15 Sch. 7 para. 2\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 111(4A)-(4C) inserted by [2024 c. 15 Sch. 7 para. 2\(4\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 115(9)(c) and word inserted by [2024 c. 15 Sch. 7 para. 2\(5\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 119(7D) inserted by [2024 c. 15 Sch. 7 para. 2\(6\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 119(11A)(c) and word inserted by [2024 c. 15 Sch. 7 para. 2\(6\)\(d\)](#)
- s. 120(3A) inserted by [2024 c. 15 Sch. 7 para. 2\(7\)\(a\)](#)