



Nottinghamshire
County Council

TV licences

advice for long stay residents in care homes and
for people having periods of short term care

January 2007

Long stay residents

If you are a long stay resident in a care home and,

- You are over 75, you are entitled to a free TV licence but the relevant paperwork must be completed on admission.
- You are under 75, you are entitled to inclusion on the "Accommodation for Residential Care" (ARC) concessionary TV licence. This has to be done on admission and there is a small annual fee, currently £5, which you will have to pay to the establishment before they can process the paperwork.

People having periods of short term care of any sort

If you are away from home having short term care you **MUST** hold a licence in your own name if using your TV in your bedroom, no matter what age you are.

- If you usually live alone and hold your own TV licence, you must apply for a temporary change of address from the TV Licensing Authority in order to bring a TV into short term care to watch in your bedroom. You become personally liable for a fine of up to £1000 if you do not do this.
- Some staff at the Licensing Authority have refused to do a temporary change of address as the licence is granted for a main residence only, so you need to have proof that your change of address has been achieved.
- If someone remains at your own home and has a TV then you must have a separate licence to watch a TV in your bedroom whilst in short term care. The separate licence will be at full cost even if you are over 75 years of age. You are asked to bring a copy of the licence with you.

The TV Licensing Authority has targeted several of our establishments and is keeping a check on the validity of the licences.

We apologise for this difficulty but the only alternative is that we pay for a full licence for each short term care bedroom – which we can not currently afford to do (cost of licence plus providing the TV).

There is however lots of campaigning going on – more MP's are taking up the issue. For the latest information visit www.tvlicensing.co.uk or ring the Concessionary Licence Centre on **0870 240 1291**.