

NOTICE OF MOTION**Extension of TV Licence Concessions for the elderly**

This Council calls on the Government to extend TV License Concessions to retired elderly or disabled people living in or sheltered accommodation.

This Council believes that the current system is deeply unjust because it sees some benefit while others get nothing.

At present elderly and disabled people, who live in sheltered housing, can only receive TV license concessions if their accommodation meets the strict eligibility criteria set out by the Government.

One of the most stringent elements of the criteria is that TV license concessions are only granted if sheltered homes have a person (e.g. warden) whose function is to care for the needs of the residents. The individual or warden must either live on site or work in the sheltered accommodation for at least 30 hours a week for the concession to be granted.

This Council thinks that it is wholly unfair that many residents of Brighton and Hove sheltered accommodation (such as those in Hazelholt and Evelyn Court) are excluded from the scheme because they do not have a warden who works more than 30 hours a week.

This Council believes that there is no justifiable reason why not having a warden on-site for more than 30 hours should disbar disabled or retired elderly people from receiving a TV license concession. Furthermore this policy seems contrary to greater personalised care being introduced by local authorities across the country as fewer people will benefit for TV license concessions.

Consequently, this Council requests the Chief Executive to write to the Government to ask them to correct this injustice and make TV licence concessions available to disabled and retired elderly residents in sheltered accommodation regardless of whether they have a full-time warden or not.

Proposed: Councillor Maria Caulfield
Dawn Barnett

Seconded: Councillor

COUNCIL MEETING	Agenda Item 25(h)
9 October 2008	Brighton & Hove City Council