
Ofcom Tariff Tables 2019/20

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1. Ofcom Funding for the year 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020

2019/20 Budget and 2018/19 Forecast

- 1.1 Ofcom's budget for the financial year 2019/20 is £124.2m. This has remained unchanged from the 2018/19 budget and is in line with the HM Treasury's 2019/20 spending cap of £124.2m.
- 1.2 Ofcom's work programme for 2019/20 is set out in its Annual Plan. The proposal for consultation was published on 3 December 2018 and the final version of the Annual Plan has been published alongside these Tariff Tables, on 25 March 2019.
- 1.3 The budget is based on an adjusted cash basis, which includes capital expenditure and actual payments in respect of the pension schemes but excludes depreciation.
- 1.4 Ofcom expects to complete its work for 2018/19 at £124.2m; this is in line with our 2018/19 budget. However, there will be sectorial variances and in line with our duties under the Communications Act 2003 and the Postal Services Act 2011, any sectorial variances to budget have been taken into account in setting the regulatory fees and charges for 2019/20.

2019/20 fees by Sector

- 1.5 Although the overall Ofcom 2019/20 budget has not increased from last year, the fees and charges reflect the planned work for 2019/20, the expected outturn to the 2018/19 budget and the audited 2017/18 actuals. Hence, fees and charges will vary year on year.
- 1.6 The analysis in Annex 1 sets out in tabular form the planned expenditure, fees and charges for 2019/20 by sector. This includes our costs incurred from spectrum management and the performance of other statutory duties where we cannot charge fees, which are now funded by the retention of receipts received under the Wireless Telegraphy Act 2006¹.
- 1.7 These 2019/20 Tariff Tables set out the payments due by sector, but do not include details broken down by individual stakeholder.
- 1.8 The use of relevant turnover in determining variable fees and charges means that actual costs for some individual stakeholders will vary from the sector average.
- 1.9 The allocation of costs to the broadcasting and networks and services sectors is determined in accordance with the methodology described in the Statement of Charging Principles (as amended) (SoCP) published on 8 February 2005².

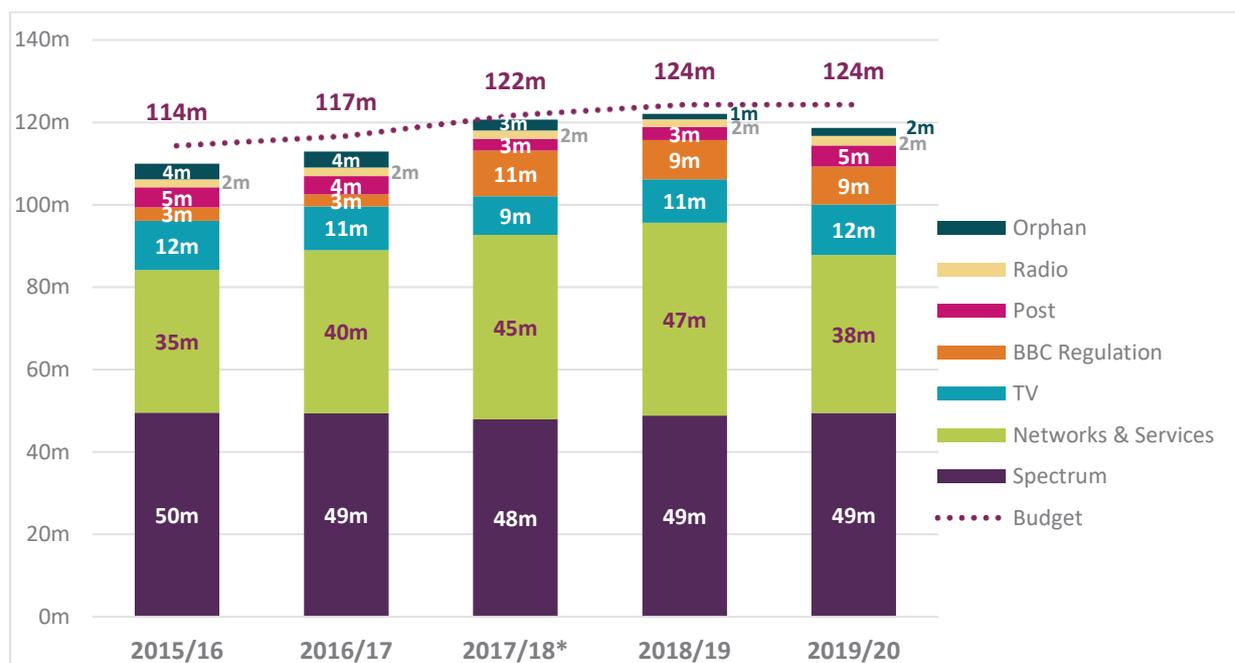
¹ https://www.ofcom.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0017/107702/statement-principles-wta.pdf

² https://www.ofcom.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/51058/charging_principles.pdf. The SoCP was amended on 20 December 2011 with respect to the definition of "relevant activity" - https://www.ofcom.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0022/76612/statement-final.pdf

1.10 The allocation of costs for the postal sector is determined in accordance with the methodology described in the Statement of Charging Principles: Postal Services, published on 29 March 2018³.

1.11 As shown in Chart 1 below, except for costs associated with our new responsibilities to regulate the BBC from 3 April 2017, Ofcom’s 2019/20 tariffs for the various sectors are equivalent to those in 2015/16.

Chart 1: Five-year tariff fees and charges summary by sector (£’m)



Other Ofcom work not covered by these Tariff Tables

1.12 On 14 March 2019, Ofcom published its Statement⁴ entitled ‘Satellite Filings Cost Recovery’ setting out, and giving its notice of, the approach and charges we have introduced for carrying out its satellite filing work.

1.13 In addition, Ofcom has separate powers to charge fees that are payable by any operator of an essential service (OES) to Ofcom in order to recover our reasonable costs incurred in carrying out a so-called NIS function under regulation 21 of the Network and Information Systems Regulations 2018 (SI 2018/506 as amended by SI 2018/629).

1.14 Therefore, our work in these areas are not covered by these Tariff Tables as they are dealt with separately in those specific contexts⁵.

³ See Annex 5 to Ofcom’s statement entitled ‘Recovering postal regulation and consumer advocacy costs’, as published on 29 March 2018: <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/consultations-and-statements/category-2/recovering-postal-regulation-costs>

* Under the new Royal Charter and accompanying Agreement, regulation of the BBC was passed from the BBC Trust to Ofcom on 3 April 2017.

⁴ <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/consultations-and-statements/category-1/satellite-filings-cost-recovery>

⁵ We are also currently consulting ODPS stakeholders on the 2019/20 planned costs but please note that the broadcasting licence fees do not include any costs associated with ODPS.

2. Ofcom Licence Fees and Administrative Charges

Tariff Tables - 2019/20

2.1 The following sections of this document set out Ofcom's Tariff Tables 2019/20 to fix, and give notice of, our fees and charges for the year from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020. We deal with the following sectors in four sections as follows:

- Section 3: Networks and Services Charges (including charges for the Electronic Communications Code);
- Section 4: Television Licence Fees;
- Section 5: Radio Licence Fees; and
- Section 6: Postal Charges.

3. Networks and Services Charges

Administrative Charges for the Networks and Services Sector

- 3.1 Under Ofcom’s Notice of Designation⁶ under section 38 of the Communications Act 2003, each person providing any electronic communications network, electronic communications service, or making available any associated facility is liable to pay to Ofcom the administrative charge that is fixed by Ofcom for the case that is applicable to him in respect of ‘Relevant Turnover’⁷ from ‘Relevant Activities’ of £5 million or more in the last but one calendar year prior to the charging year in question
- 3.2 The administrative charges that Ofcom has fixed for this Networks and Services sector for each person’s ‘Relevant Turnover’ of £5 million or more in respect of the calendar year which ended on 31 December 2017 are shown in Table 1 below.
- 3.3 The administrative charge is based on 0.0959% of the total amount of Relevant Turnover figures reported by stakeholders to Ofcom for the calendar year ended 31 December 2017.

Table 1: Networks and Services Administrative Charges

Bands		Relevant Turnover (£)	Fee Payable (£)
Bottom (£)	Top (£)		
0	5,000,000	0	-
5,000,000	10,000,000	5,000,000	4,795
10,000,000	25,000,000	10,000,000	9,590
25,000,000	50,000,000	25,000,000	23,975
50,000,000	75,000,000	50,000,000	47,950
75,000,000	100,000,000	75,000,000	71,925
100,000,000	150,000,000	100,000,000	95,900
150,000,000	200,000,000	150,000,000	143,850
200,000,000	300,000,000	200,000,000	191,800
300,000,000	400,000,000	300,000,000	287,700
400,000,000	500,000,000	400,000,000	383,600
500,000,000	600,000,000	500,000,000	479,500
600,000,000	750,000,000	600,000,000	575,400
750,000,000	1,000,000,000	750,000,000	719,250
Above £1,000,000,000		Actual Relevant Turnover	0.0959%

⁶ <http://stakeholders.ofcom.org.uk/binaries/consultations/designation/statement/designation.pdf>

⁷ Ofcom’s Notice of Designation defines ‘Relevant Turnover’ as “turnover made from carrying on any Relevant Activity after the deduction of sales rebates, value added tax and other taxes directly related to turnover”. It also defines ‘Relevant Activity’ as “any of the following: a. the provision of Electronic Communications Services to third parties; b. the provision of Electronic Communications Networks, Electronic Communications Services and Network Access to Communications Providers; or c. the making available of Associated Facilities to Communications Providers”.

Monthly Payment

- 3.4 If the annual administrative charge as calculated above is more than £75,000, Ofcom will allow payment of the amount due in equal monthly instalments.

Administrative Charges for the Electronic Communications Code

Annual Administrative Charge

- 3.5 Persons to whom the Electronic Communications Code (the 'Code') has been applied and who have therefore been granted 'Code powers' must pay an annual administrative fee. The fee is shown in Table 2 below for 2019/20.

Table 2: Electronic Communications Code Annual Administrative charges

	Tariff for 2019/20 (£)
Annual Administrative Charge	1,000

- 3.6 The beneficiary of Code powers is charged once for administration of the Code, regardless of how many Code powers that beneficiary maintains.

Application Fee

- 3.7 Persons who have been granted Code powers in a Charging Year must pay a one-off charge in respect of the estimated costs of dealing with their application for the Code, as shown in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Electronic Communications Code Application Charge

	Tariff for 2019/20 (£)
Application Charge	10,000

4. Television Licence Fees

4.1 The categories of television licences are:

- i) **Category A** – Channel 3, Channel 4, Channel 5, Local Digital Television Programme Service and the Public Teletext Service Licence. (Note that this category includes associated Television Licensable Content Service ('TLCS' licences where content is simulcast);
- ii) **Category B** – TLCS Licences, Digital Television Programme Service Licences, Commercial Additional Television Services Licences and Digital Television Additional Service Licences. (Note that this category does not include those TLCS licences which are included in Category A);
- iii) **Category C** – Restricted Television Service Licences (long-term and short-term);
- iv) **Category D** – Television Multiplex Licences;
- v) **Category E** – Teleshopping Channels.

Category A and B licence fees

4.2 The tariffs for Categories A and B relate to the licensee's Relevant Turnover⁸ for the year which ended 31 December 2017. The tariffs are progressive in that licensees pay proportionately more in fees as their Relevant Turnover increases, based on a cumulative sliding scale (see Table 4 below). There is a maximum Relevant Turnover cap of £300m, beyond which no fee is payable.

Table 4: Category A and B Licence Fees

Relevant Turnover Bands	Category A PSB / Local TV Revenues	Category A PSB Simulcast Revenues	Category B Revenues
£0m - £10m	0.14302%	0.14302%	0.01830%
£10m - £35m	0.21543%	0.21543%	0.03665%
£35m - £75m	0.32180%	0.32180%	0.07329%
£75m - £300m	0.48269%	0.48269%	0.14658%
Above £300m	0.00000%	0.00000%	0.00000%

4.3 Notes:

- i) Minimum Fee = £1,000
- ii) Rates are expressed cumulatively,

⁸ The concept of 'Relevant Turnover' for the purposes of calculating Television Licence fees is detailed in Ofcom's SoCP – see footnote 2 for the link to this document on our website.

e.g. for Category A licensees, 0.14302% is charged on the first £10m of Relevant Turnover; 0.21543% on the next £25m; 0.32180% on the next £40m and 0.48269% on the next £225m.

Monthly Payment

4.4 If the annual licence fee calculated is more than £75,000, Ofcom will allow payment of the amount due in equal monthly instalments.

Category C, D and E licence fees

4.5 Licence fees for Categories C, D and E are shown in Tables 5 to 7 respectively below.

Table 5: Category C – Restricted Television Service Licences (long-term and short-term) and Restricted Events Licence Fees

	Tariff for 2019/20 (£)
Restricted Event Licence	
Up to 1,000 seats	100
1,001 – 5,000	150
5,001 – 20,000	250
Over 20,000 seats	500
Restricted Services Licence	500

Table 6: Category D – Multiplex Licence Fees

	Tariff for 2019/20 (£)
Digital Multiplex	
Fee per annum	10,000
Application / Renewal fee	25,000
Local Multiplex	
Fee per annum	5,000
Application / Renewal fee	10,000

Table 7: Category E – Teleshopping channels Licence Fees

	Tariff for 2019/20 (£)
Shopping Channels	
Fee per annum	2,000

Application fees

4.6 Application fees for television licences are shown in Table 8 below.

Table 8: Application Fees

	Tariff for 2019/20 (£)	Transfers/ Variations (£)
Television Licensable Content Service Licence	2,500	1,000
Restricted Events Licence	250	-
Digital Television Programme Service Licence	2,500	1,000
Digital Television Additional Service Licence	2,500	1,000
Digital Channel 3, Channel 5 and Public Teletext Licence	30,000	30,000
Public Service-Digital Television Programme Service (PS-DTPS)	15,000	1,000
Local Digital Television Programme Service	2,500	1,000

- 4.7 When the request to vary a PS-DTPS is made by a person who is a relevant public service broadcaster by virtue of holding a Channel 3 licence, and that variation is made on behalf of all the holders of regional Channel 3 licences who also hold PS-DTPS licences, this will typically be deemed as one variation request to which one variation fee is applicable.

5. Radio Licence Fees

National and Local Licence - Application and Licence Fees

Application Fees

- 5.1 All new applications for national and local radio licences must be accompanied by a non-refundable application fee. The fees for each relevant licence category are shown in Table 9 below.

Table 9: National and Local Radio Licence Applications

		Tariff for 2019/20 (£)	
		FM	AM
Population (Aged 15+)			
National Licences			
All Licences		100,000	100,000
Local Licences			
Category A	4,500,000 +	50,000	14,500
Category B	1,000,000-4,500,000	25,000	8,000
Category C	400,000-1,000,000	10,000	3,500
Category D	0-400,000	5,000	1,000

Annual Licence Fees

- 5.2 Annual licence fees are calculated as a percentage of the annual Relevant Turnover⁹ obtained from the licence for the calendar year which ended on 31 December 2017, as shown in Table 10 below.

Table 10: National and Local Radio Licence Fees

Bands		Tariff for 2019/20 % of Relevant Turnover
£0m -	£1m	0.167%
£1m -	£5m	0.251%
Over	£5m	0.376%

Monthly Payment

- 5.3 If the annual licence fee calculated is more than £75,000, Ofcom will allow payment of the amount due in equal monthly instalments.

⁹ The concept of 'Relevant Turnover' for the purposes of calculating Radio Licence fees is detailed in Ofcom's SoCP – see footnote 2 for the link to this document on our website.

De Minimis Threshold

- 5.4 The fee for holding national and local radio licences is set at zero where the fee due would otherwise be less than £100. This is in the interests of efficient administration for both Ofcom and licensees. Therefore, the de minimis threshold is £100 for existing national and local radio licence fees.

Fees for Renewal of National and Local Licences

- 5.5 All applications for renewal of national and local radio licences must be accompanied by a non-refundable application fee. The fees for renewing each relevant licence category are shown in Table 11 below.

Table 11: National and Local Radio Licence Renewal Fees

	Population (Aged 15+)	Tariff for 2019/20 (£)	
		FM	AM
National Licences			
All Licences		100,000	100,000
Local Licences			
Category A	4,500,000 +	21,200	14,500
Category B	1,000,000-4,500,000	11,800	8,000
Category C	400,000-1,000,000	5,000	3,500
Category D	0-400,000	1,500	1,000

National and Local Radio Multiplex Licences - Application and Licence Fees

Application Fees

- 5.6 All applications for national and local radio multiplex licences must be accompanied by a non-refundable application fee. The application fee for each relevant licence category is shown in Table 12 below.

Table 12: Radio Multiplex Licence Applications – National and Local

	Population (Aged 15+)	Tariff for 2019/20 (£)
National Licences		
All Licences		50,000
Local Licences		
Category A	4,500,000 +	25,000
Category B	1,000,000-4,500,000	15,000
Category C	400,000-1,000,000	5,000
Category D	0-400,000	1,000

Annual Licence Fees

5.7 Annual fees for national and local radio multiplex licences have been set at a fixed rate as shown in Table 13 below.

Table 13: National and Local Radio Multiplex Licence Fees

	Tariff for 2019/20 (£)
National radio multiplex licences	10,000
Local radio multiplex licences	500

Community radio – Application and Licence Fees

5.8 Application and annual licence fees for community radio licences are shown in Table 14 below.

Table 14: Community Radio Application and Licence Fees

	Tariff for 2019/20 (£)
Application fee	600
Annual licence fee	600

5.9 Any relevant turnover obtained from a community radio licence will be subject to the same tariff as that applied to national and local licences, which for the financial year 2019/20 is shown in Table 10 (which is reproduced below for ease of reference). Any amount due will be offset against the £600 already paid.

Bands	Tariff for 2019/20 % of Relevant Turnover
£0m - £1m	0.167%
£1m - £5m	0.251%
Over £5m	0.376%

Restricted Service Licences (short-term) – Application and Licence Fees

Application Fees

5.10 A non-refundable fee is required for a short-term restricted service licence (RSLs) application, as shown in Table 15 below.

Table 15: Short term RSLs Application fee

	Tariff for 2019/20 (£)
Restricted Service Licence (Short-term) Application Fees	
Application Fee	400

Licence Fees

5.11 For short-term RSLs operating over a period of consecutive days (which will not normally exceed a maximum of 28 days, but exceptionally may do so) licence fees will be charged on a daily rate as shown in Table 16 below.

Table 16: Short term RSLs

		Daily Rate (£)
a) AM (medium wave)		
All power levels		10
b) FM (VHF) e.r.p.		
i) Up to and including 1W		10
ii) Above 1W, up to and incl. 25W		30

5.12 For short term RSLs operating over a period of non-consecutive dates where the period between the first date of the licence period and the last date of the licence period falls within a period exceeding 28 days the licence fee will be as shown in Table 17 below.

Table 17: Short term RSLs (non-consecutive)

		Fixed Rate (£)
a) AM (medium wave)		
i) 29 to 140 days		675
ii) Over 140 days		1,250
b) FM (VHF)		
i) 29 to 140 days		1,000
ii) Over 140 days		1,550

5.13 All other short-term RSLs will be subject to a licence fee of £100 for each 28 day period or part thereof.

Amendment Fees

5.14 An amendment fee as shown in Table 18 below is charged when an applicant wishes to amend details of its application after it has been approved by Ofcom.

Table 18: Short-Term RSLs Amendment Fee

		Tariff for 2019/20 (£)
Restricted Service Licence (Short-term) Amendment Fee		
Amendment Fee		200

Restricted Service Licences (long term) – Application and Licence Fees

Application Fees

5.15 A non-refundable fee is required for a long-term RSLs application, as shown in Table 19 below.

Table 19: Long-Term RSLs Application Fee

Tariff for 2019/20 (£)	
Restricted Service Licence (Long-term) Application Fees	
Application Fee	200

Annual Licence Fees

5.16 The annual licence fee for a long-term restricted service licence varies according to the method of transmission as shown in Table 20 below.

Table 20: Long Term RSLs

	Annual Licence Fee (£)
a) Induction Loop (AM)	140
b) Low-powered (FM) Up to and including 50 mW e.r.p.	140
c) Low-powered (AM) Up to and including 1 watt.	275

Amendment Fees

5.17 An amendment fee as shown in Table 21 below is charged when an applicant wishes to amend details of its application after it has been approved by Ofcom.

Table 21: Long-Term RSLs Amendment Fee

Tariff for 2019/20 (£)	
Restricted Service Licence (Long-term) Amendment Fee	
Amendment Fee	200

Audio Distribution Systems (ADS) Restricted Service Licences – Application and Licence Fees

Application Fees

5.18 A non-refundable fee is required for an ADS restricted service licence application, as shown in Table 22 below.

Table 22: ADS Restricted Service Licences Application Fee

Tariff for 2019/20 (£)	
ADS Restricted Service Licence Application Fees	
Application Fee	200

Annual Licence Fees

5.19 The annual licence fee for an ADS restricted service licence is as shown in Table 23 below

Table 23: ADS Restricted Service Licences Licence Fee

Tariff for 2019/20 (£)	
Licence fee per annum	275

Amendment Fees

5.20 An amendment fee as shown in Table 24 below is charged when an applicant wishes to amend details of its application after it has been approved by Ofcom.

Table 24: ADS Restricted Service Licence Amendment Fee

Tariff for 2019/20 (£)	
ADS Restricted Service Licence Amendment Fees	
Amendment Fee	200

Radio Licensable Content Service Licences – Application and Licence Fees

5.21 Application and annual licence fees for Radio Licensable Content Service Licences are as shown Table 25 below.

Table 25: Radio Licensable Content Service Licences Application and Licence Fees

Tariff for 2019/20 (£)	
Application fee	250
Annual licence fee	575

Digital Sound Programme Licences – Application and Licence Fees

5.22 Application and annual licence fees for Digital Sound Programme Licences are as shown in Table 26 below.

Table 26: Digital Sound Programme Licences Application and Licence Fees

	Tariff for 2019/20 (£)
Application fee	250
Annual licence fee	100

Digital Additional Services Licences – Application and Licence Fees

5.23 Application and annual licence fees for Digital Additional Services Licences are as shown in Table 27 below.

Table 27: Digital Additional Services Licences Application and Licence Fees

	Tariff for 2019/20 (£)
Application fee	250
Annual licence fee	100

Additional Services Licences – Application and Licence Fees

Application Fees

5.24 Application fees for Additional Services Licences are as shown in Table 28 below.

Table 28: Additional Services Licences Application Fees

	Tariff for 2019/20 (£)
Additional Services Licences (on National FM Services only)	
Application Fee	20,000

Annual Licence Fees

5.25 Annual licence fees for Additional Services Licences are as shown in Table 29 below.

Table 29: Additional Services Licences Licence Fees

Additional Services (on National FM Services only)	Tariff for 2019/20 (£)
Percentage fee of relevant turnover	10%
Minimum (per annum)	£25,000
Maximum (per annum)	£100,000

6. Postal Charges

Administrative Charges for the Postal Sector

- 6.1 The allocation of costs for the postal sector is determined in accordance with the methodology described in Ofcom's separate Statement of Charging Principles for carrying out its postal services functions.¹⁰
- 6.2 As explained in those Principles, the administrative charge payable by a liable relevant postal operator is calculated by multiplying the total estimated cost of Ofcom carrying out its postal services functions referred to in paragraph 2 of Schedule 4 to the Postal Services Act 2011 by that operator's share of relevant turnover expressed as a percentage of the total relevant turnover generated by all liable relevant postal operators for the charging year in question.
- 6.3 Those Principles also state that the tariff applicable to the postal services sector will be set out in these Tariff Tables, which is £5.13m for 2019/20. Ofcom will use that figure to make the calculation of each relevant postal operator's payable administrative charge.

Monthly Payment

- 6.4 If the annual administrative charge as calculated above is more than £75,000, Ofcom will allow payment of the amount due in equal monthly instalments.

¹⁰ See Annex 5 to Ofcom's statement entitled 'Recovering postal regulation and consumer advocacy costs', as published on 29 March 2018: <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/consultations-and-statements/category-2/recovering-postal-regulation-costs>.

A1. Analysis of Planned Expenditure, Fees and Charges for 2019/20

Sector	Planned Expenditure 2019/20 £	Variance c/f from 2017/18 £	2018/19 Outturn compared to Income £	Total Adjustment to 2019/20 Fees & Charges £	Fees & Charges for 2019/20 £	Fees & Charges for 2018/19 £	Fees Variance £	Fees Variance %
Spectrum Management [1]	£49.43m	-	£0.0m	£0.0m	£49.43m	£48.83m	£0.60m	1.2%
Networks and Services	£45.31m	£0.78m	(£7.71m)	(£6.93m)	£38.38m	£46.81m	(£8.43m)	(18.0%)
<i>TV Regulation Fees [2]</i>	£20.57m	(£0.68m)	£0.86m	£0.46m	£21.03m	£19.43m	£1.60m	8.2%
<i>TV Application Fees [3]</i>	£0.43m	£0.10m	£0.18m		£0.43m	£0.60m	(£0.17m)	(28.4%)
TV Broadcasting	£21.0m	(£0.59m)	£1.04m	£0.46m	£21.46m	£20.03m	£1.43m	7.2%
<i>Radio Regulation Fees [2]</i>	£1.99m	(£0.17m)	£0.18m	£0.10m	£2.09m	£1.59m	£0.50m	31.8%
<i>Radio Application Fees [3]</i>	£0.24m	£0.06m	£0.03m		£0.24m	£0.24m	(£0.01m)	(2.3%)
Radio Broadcasting	£2.23m	(£0.12m)	£0.21m	£0.10m	£2.33m	£1.83m	£0.50m	27.3%
NIS	£0.0m	£0.0m	£0.04m	£0.04m	£0.04m		£0.04m	0.0%
Post Regulation	£4.28m	(£0.16m)	£1.0m	£0.85m	£5.13m	£3.21m	£1.92m	59.6%
Other	£1.95m	£0.0m	(£0.0m)	(£0.0m)	£1.95m	£1.34m	£0.61m	45.7%
TOTAL	£124.20m	(£0.08m)	(£5.40m)	(£5.49m)	£118.71m	£122.04m	(£3.33m)	(2.7%)
UHF 700MHz Spectrum Clearance	£96.12m	-	£0.0m	£0.0m	£96.12m	£79.70m	£16.42m	20.6%

[1] Satellite Fillings is included within Spectrum Management

[2] Includes fixed licence fees and Video On Demand fees

[3] Variance to budget on TV & Radio application fees are included in the total adjustments to the relevant sectors regulation fees