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Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your enquiry about TV Licensing requirements where people have more than one home.

A TV Licence covers the installation or use of television equipment at a single address. This means, that if someone installs or uses television equipment at more than one place, a licence is needed at each.

In the past, some owners or residents of second homes have used television equipment without a separate TV Licence in the belief this was covered by the licence at their main address. This practice of regarding more than one property as covered by a single licence was called into question and the Licensing Authority sought legal advice. It is clear that under the regulations, a TV Licence only covers the installation and use of television equipment at a single place.

The Government reviewed this and decided that non-permanent structures, such as caravans and mobile homes, should be considered separately. However, the regulations relating to permanent structures, such as houses, cottages or flats, remain unchanged.

Where landlords let holiday homes and provide television equipment for holidaymakers, the landlord has a duty to make sure that the property is correctly licensed. However, although it is the landlord's responsibility to make sure that televisions supplied in rental accommodation (including holiday accommodation) are licensed, it is also an offence to watch television without the correct TV Licence.

People staying in rented accommodation using a landlord's television, should check with the landlord that a TV Licence has been purchased. If there is no licence, the user will need to purchase a licence themselves.

If someone owns more than one unit of holiday accommodation on the same site and provides television equipment, they may be able to apply for a special TV Licence which is cheaper than buying one licence for each unit. To obtain more details phone 0300 790 6016.

Yours sincerely

TV Licensing  
Customer Services