



HOUSE OF LORDS,
SW1A 0PW

27 November 1989

Ref: DL167/196/01

MSPM
BAC
28/11

CCPV

Dear Colin,

BBC T V LICENCE FEE EVASION

dap

Thank you for your letter of 14 November.

The Lord Chancellor has noted the Home Secretary's view that BBC TV licence fee evasion should remain a criminal offence for the time being, but that decriminalisation should be considered again in a few year's time in the context of the renewal of the BBC charter.

The Lord Chancellor has no objections to this course of action and is also content with the proposal to close the present legal loophole associated with the "availability of use" of television receivers, by creating a new summary criminal offence of having an unlicensed television receiver available for use.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to the Members of MISC 128, Dominic Morris and Trevor Woolley.

PAUL STOCKTON
PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE LORD
CHANCELLOR

C J Walters Esq
Home Office
50 Queen Anne's Gate
London SW1H 9AT

BROADCASTING: Pd pr 10,

