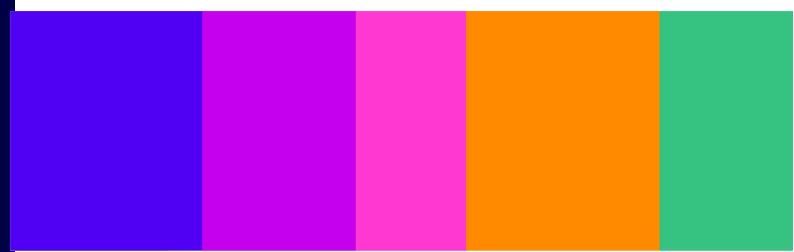


# Ofcom Tariff Tables 2025/26

Published: 28 March 2025



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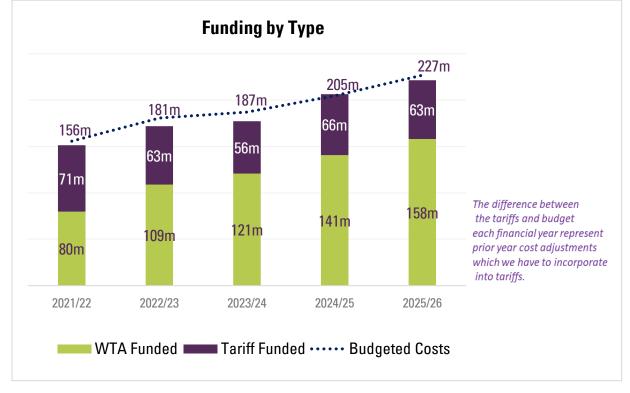
# 1. Overview

This document sets out the annual fees for our regulatory sectors. It does not detail the fees of individual stakeholders.

# 2. Ofcom Funding for the year 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026

## 2025/26 Budget and 2024/25 expected outturn

- 2.1 The 2025/26 financial year will see an increase in Ofcom's budget from £204.5m to £226.8m, an increase of £22.3m year on year. This is driven by uplifts to our spending cap during the 2024/25 financial year and further uplifts in 2025/26 for new duties.
- 2.2 These increases will mainly be funded by the retention of Wireless Telegraphy Act (WTA) receipts and not stakeholder tariffs as they relate to relevant expenditure funded by this source of income. The chart below shows our funding split in recent years:



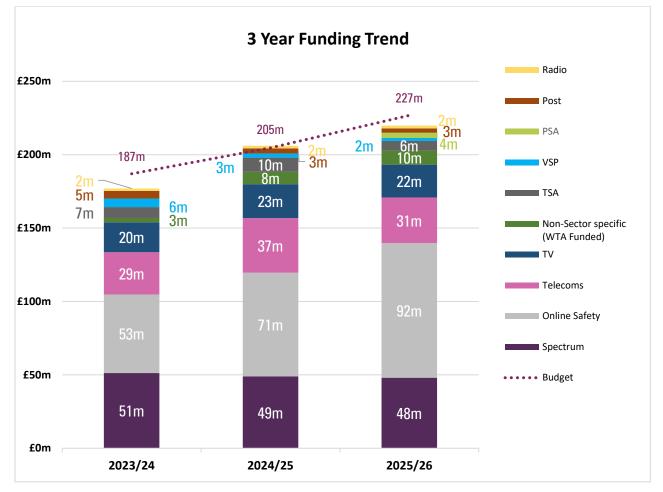
#### Chart 1: Funding by Type

- 2.3 In line with statute, we must also ensure that any over/under recovery of costs from prior years are included in our budgeted costs. Thus, the 2025/26 annual fees and WTA receipts retention are underpinned by:
  - the 2025/26 budgeted costs of £226.8m; (of which £66m is tariff funded);

- over recovery of (£5.0m) which is the difference between the 2024/25 expected outturn and the 2024/25 budget;
- over recovery of (£0.3m) from the finalisation of the 2023/24 year-end accounts.
- 2.4 It should be noted that stakeholders' individual administrative charges or Licence fees are underpinned by their sectors proportion of the above cost elements.

# 2025/26 fees by Sector

- 2.5 These 2025/26 Tariff Tables set out the fees due by sector, but do not disclose individual stakeholder charges.
- 2.6 The 2025/26 plan of work dictates the funding split amongst the different regulatory sectors.
- 2.7 Additionally, 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.
- 2.8 As shown in Chart 2 below, except for costs associated with our new responsibilities, the Networks & Service sector, the overall tariffs for each regulatory sector are broadly in line with the 3-year average.



#### Chart 2: Three-year tariff fees and charges summary by sector (£'m)

2.9 The difference between the budget and funding requirement in each financial year in the chart above, represent prior year cost adjustments which are incorporated in our fees.

# Other Ofcom work not covered by these Tariff Tables

- 2.10 On 14 March 2019, Ofcom published its Statement<sup>1</sup> 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.
- 2.11 In addition, Ofcom has separate powers to charge fees that are payable by any operator of an essential service (OES) to Ofcom to recover our reasonable costs incurred in carrying out a NIS function under regulation 21 of the Network and Information Systems Regulations 2018 (SI 2018/506 as amended by SI 2018/629).
- 2.12 Therefore, our work in these areas is not covered by these Tariff Tables as they are dealt with separately in those specific contexts<sup>2.</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>https://www.ofcom.org.uk/consultations-and-statements/category-1/satellite-filings-cost-recovery</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> On-Demand Programme Services (ODPS) stakeholders will be contacted separately in due course regarding their 2025/26 fees; but please note that the broadcasting Licence fees do not include any costs associated with ODPS.

# **3. Ofcom Licence Fees and Administrative Charges**

- 3.1 The following sections of this document set out Ofcom's Tariff Tables to fix, and give notice of, our fees and charges for the year from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026. We deal with the following sectors in four sections as follows:
  - Section 4: Networks and Services Charges (including charges for the Electronic Communications Code);
  - Section 5: Television Licence Fees;
  - Section 6: Radio Licence Fees;
  - Section 7: Postal Charges; and
  - Section 8: Premium Rate Services Charges.

# 4. Networks and Services Charges

# Administrative Charges for the Networks and Services Sector

- 4.1 Under Ofcom's Notice of Designation<sup>3</sup> 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'<sup>4</sup> from 'Relevant Activities' of £5 million or more in the last but one calendar year prior to the charging year in question.
- 4.2 The administrative charges that Ofcom has fixed for the 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 2023 are shown in Table 1 below.
- 4.3 The administrative charge is based on 0.0788% of the total amount of Relevant Turnover figures reported by each person providing that network, service or associated facility to Ofcom for the calendar year ended 31 December 2023.

Bottom Band (£)	Top Band (£)	Relevant Turnover (£)	Fee Payable (£)
0	5,000,000	0	-
5,000,000	10,000,000	5,000,000	3,940
10,000,000	25,000,000	10,000,000	7,880
25,000,000	50,000,000	25,000,000	19,700
50,000,000	75,000,000	50,000,000	39,400
75,000,000	100,000,000	75,000,000	59,100
100,000,000	150,000,000	100,000,000	78,800
150,000,000	200,000,000	150,000,000	118,200
200,000,000	300,000,000	200,000,000	157,600
300,000,000	400,000,000	300,000,000	236,400
400,000,000	500,000,000	400,000,000	315,200
500,000,000	600,000,000	500,000,000	394,000
600,000,000	750,000,000	600,000,000	472,800
750,000,000	1,000,000,000	750,000,000	591,000

#### Table 1: Networks and Services Administrative Charges

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://www.ofcom.org.uk/ data/assets/pdf file/0017/46052/designation.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 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".

Bottom Band (£)	Top Band (£)	Relevant Turnover (£)	Fee Payable (£)
Above £1,000,000,000		Actual Relevant	0.0788%
		Turnover	0.070870

## **Monthly Payment**

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

# Administrative Charges for the Electronic Communications Code

4.5 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 2025/26.

#### Table 2: Electronic Communications Code Annual Administrative charges

	Tariff for 2025/26 (£)
Annual Administrative Charge	1,000

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

# Application Fee for the Electronic Communications Code

4.7 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 2025/26 (£)
Application Charge	10,000

# **5. Television Licence Fees**

- 5.1 The categories of Television Licences are:
  - a) 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);
  - b) 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);
  - c) Category C Restricted Television Service Licences (long-term and short-term);
  - d) Category D Television Multiplex Licences;
  - e) Category E Teleshopping Channels.

## **Category A and B Licence Fees**

5.2 The tariffs for Categories A and B relate to the licensee's Relevant Turnover<sup>5</sup> for the year which ended 31 December 2023. 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 additional 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	0.22951%	0.22951%	0.02973%
£10m – £35m	0.34427%	0.34427%	0.05953%
£35m – £75m	0.51640%	0.51640%	0.11906%
£75m – £300m	0.77459%	0.77459%	0.23812%
Above £300m	0.00000%	0.00000%	0.00000%

Notes:

Minimum Fee = £1,000

Rates are expressed cumulatively, e.g., for Category A licensees, 0.22951% is charged on the first £10m of Relevant Turnover; 0.34427% on the next £25m; 0.51640% on the next £40m and 0.77459% on the next £225m.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The concept of 'Relevant Turnover' for the purposes of calculating Television Licence fees is detailed in Ofcom's Statement of Charging Principles (SoCP)

## **Monthly Payment**

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

# Category C, D and E Licence Fees

5.4 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 2025/26 (£)	
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 2025/26 (£)	
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 2025/26 (£)	
Shopping Channels		
Fee per annum	2,000	

# **Application fees**

5.5 Application fees for television Licences are shown in Table 8 below.

#### Table 8: Application Fees

	Tariff for 2025/26 (£)	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

5.6 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.

# 6. Radio Licence Fees

6.1 This section 6 "Radio Licence Fees" sets out the annual fees payable in respect of the radio Licence issued pursuant to the Broadcasting Act 1990 and the Broadcasting Act 1996. For the avoidance of doubt, the holders of radio Licences may also be subject to fees payable in respect of Licences issued by Ofcom pursuant to the Wireless and Telegraphy Act 2006.

## National and Local Licence – Application and Licence Fees

#### **Application Fees**

6.2 All new applications for national and local radio Licences must be accompanied by a nonrefundable 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 2025/26 (£)	
	Population (Aged 15+)	FM	AM
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

6.3 Annual Licence fees are calculated as a percentage of the annual Relevant Turnover<sup>6</sup> obtained from the Licence for the calendar year which ended on 31 December 2023, as shown in Table 10 below.

#### Table 10: National and Local Radio Licence Fees

Bands	Tariff for 2025/26 % of Relevant Turnover
£0m – £1m	0.142%
£1m – £5m	0.214%
Over £5m	0.320%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The concept of 'Relevant Turnover' for the purposes of calculating Radio Licence fees is detailed in Ofcom's SoCP – see footnote 5 for the link to this document on our website.

### Monthly Payment

6.4 If the annual Licence fee calculated is more than £5,000, Ofcom will automatically allow payment of the amount due in monthly instalments.

### De Minimis Threshold

6.5 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

6.6 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.

		Tariff for 2	2025/26 (£)
	Population (Aged 15+)	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

#### Table 11: National and Local Radio Licence Renewal Fees

# National and Local Radio Multiplex Licences – Application and Licence Fees

### Application Fees

6.7 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.

	Population (Aged 15+)	Tariff for 2025/26 (£)
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

#### Table 12: Radio Multiplex Licence Applications – National and Local

#### Annual Licence Fees

6.8 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 2025/26 (£)
National radio multiplex Licences	10,000
Local radio multiplex Licences	500

## Community radio – Application and Licence Fees

6.9 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 2025/26 (£)
Application fee	600
Annual Licence fee	600

# Restricted Service Licences (RSLs) Fees – Application and Licence Fees

#### Application Fees

6.10 A non-refundable fee is required for an RSL application, as shown in Table 15 below.

#### Table 15: RSL Application Fee

	Tariff for 2025/26 (£)	
Restricted Service Licence Application	on Fee	
RSL to cover an event	400	
RSL to serve an establishment or other defined location	200	

#### Licence Fees

- 6.11 For restricted services transmitting at up to and including 2 Watts, there is a daily rate charge of £30 for the Broadcasting Act ("BA") Licence up to an annual limit of £150, as shown in Table 16 below.
- 6.12 For restricted services transmitting at above 2 Watts, there is a daily rate charge of £30 for the Broadcasting Act Licence fee up to an annual limit of £900, as shown in Table 16 below.

#### Table 16: RSLs Licence Fees

		Daily Rate (£)	Annual Rate (£)
i)	Up to and including 2W	30	150
ii)	Above 2W	30	900

#### **Amendment Fees**

6.13 An amendment fee as shown in Table 17 below is charged when an applicant wishes to amend details of its application after it has been approved by Ofcom.

#### Table 17: RSLs Amendment Fee

	Tariff for 2025/26 (£)
Restricted Service Licence Amendment Fee	
Amendment Fee	200

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

#### **Application Fees**

6.14 A non-refundable fee is required for an ADS restricted service Licence application, as shown in Table 18 below.

#### Table 18: ADS Restricted Service Licences Application Fee

	Tariff for 2025/26 (£)
ADS Restricted Service Licence Application Fees	
Application Fee 200	

#### Annual Licence Fees

6.15 The annual Licence fee for an ADS restricted service Licence is as shown in Table 19 below

#### Table 19: ADS Restricted Service Licences Licence Fee

	Tariff for 2025/26 (£)
Licence fee per annum	275

#### **Amendment Fees**

6.16 An amendment fee as shown in Table 20 below is charged when an applicant wishes to amend details of its application after it has been approved by Ofcom.

#### Table 20: ADS Restricted Service Licence Amendment Fee

	Tariff for 2025/26 (£)
ADS Restricted Service Licence Amendment Fees	
Amendment Fee 200	

# Radio Licensable Content Service Licences – Application and Licence Fees

6.17 Application and annual Licence fees for Radio Licensable Content Service Licences are as shown Table 21 below.

#### Table 21: Radio Licensable Content Service Licences Application and Licence Fees

	Tariff for 2025/26 (£)
Application fee	250
Annual Licence fee	575

# Digital Sound Programme Licences – Application and Licence Fees

6.18 Application and annual Licence fees for Digital Sound Programme Licences are as shown in Table 22 below.

#### Table 22: Digital Sound Programme Licences Application and Licence Fees

	Tariff for 2025/26 (£)			
Application fee	250			
Annual Licence fee	100			

# Digital Additional Services Licences – Application and Licence Fees

6.19 Application and annual Licence fees for Digital Additional Services Licences are as shown in Table 23 below.

#### Table 23: Digital Additional Services Licences Application and Licence Fees

	Tariff for 2025/26 (£)				
Application fee	250				
Annual Licence fee	100				

# Additional Services Licences – Application and Licence Fees

#### **Application Fees**

6.20 Application fees for Additional Services Licences are as shown in Table 24 below.

#### **Table 24: Additional Services Licences Application Fees**

Tariff for 2025/26 (£					
Additional Services Licences (on National FM Services only)					
Application Fee	20,000				

## **Annual Licence Fees**

6.21 Annual Licence fees for Additional Services Licences are as shown in Table 25 below.

#### **Table 25: Additional Services Licences Licence Fees**

Additional Services (on National FM Services only)	Tariff for 2025/26 (£)			
Percentage of relevant turnover	10%			
Minimum (per annum)	£25,000			
Maximum (per annum)	£100,000			

# Small Scale Radio Multiplex Licences – Application and Licence Fees

6.22 Application and annual Licence fees for the Small-Scale Radio Multiplex Licences are as shown in Table 26 below.

#### Table 26: Small Scale Radio Multiplex Licence Application and Licence Fees

	Tariff for 2025/26 (£)			
Application fee	500			
Annual Licence fee	500			

# Community Digital Sound Programme Licences – Application and Licence Fees

6.23 Application and annual Licence fees for Community Digital Sound Programme Licences are as shown in Table 27 below.

#### Table 27: C-DSP Licences Application and Licence Fees

	Tariff for 2025/26 (£)			
Application fee	250			
Annual Licence fee	100			

# 7. Postal Charges

# Administrative Charges for the Postal Sector

- 7.1 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.<sup>7</sup>
- 7.2 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.
- 7.3 Those Principles also state that the tariff applicable to the postal services sector will be set out in these Tariff Tables, which is £2.9m for 2025/26. Ofcom will use this figure to calculate each relevant postal operator's administrative charge.

# **Monthly Payment**

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See Annex 5 to Ofcom's statement entitled 'Recovering postal regulation and consumer advocacy costs', as published on 29 March 2018: <u>https://www.ofcom.org.uk/consultations-and-statements/category-</u>2/recovering-postal-regulation-costs.

# 8. Premium Rate Services Charges

# Administrative Charges for Premium Rate Services

- 8.1 The allocation of costs for the Premium rate services sector is determined in accordance with the methodology described in Part 3, Article 14 of the Regulation of Premium Rate Services Order 2024 ("the **PRS order**")<sup>8</sup>.
- 8.2 As explained in the PRS order, the administrative charge is payable to all persons described as 'liable network operators', this is calculated by multiplying the total estimated cost of Ofcom carrying out PRS functions by that operator's share of total outpayment expressed as a percentage of the total outpayments generated by all liable network operators for the charging year in question.
- 8.3 The order also states that the tariff applicable to the premium rate services sector will be set out in these Tariff Tables, which is £3.5m for 2025/26. Ofcom will use this figure to calculate each relevant network operator administrative charge.

## **Monthly Payment**

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Annex 5: The Regulation of Premium Rate Services Order 2024

# A1. Analysis of Planned Expenditure, Fees and Charges for 2025/26

Sector	Planned Expenditure 2025/26 £	Variance c/f from 2023/24 £	2024/25 expected Outturn compared to Budget £	Total Adjustment to 2025/26 Fees & Charges £	Fees & Charges for 2025/26 £	Fees & Charges for 2024/25 £	Fees Variance £	Fees Variance %	Fees Varianc Real Terms %
Spectrum Management [1]	£48.03m	£0.m	£0.03m	£0.03m	£48.05m	£48.91m	(£0.86m)	(1.8%)	(7.44%
Networks and Services	£38.34m	(£0.97m)	(£6.29m)	(£7.26m)	£31.08m	£37.24m	(£6.16m)	(16.5%)	(21.37%
TV Broadcasting (inc BBC)	£21.84m	£0.46m	£0.07m	£0.53m	£22.37m	£23.03m	(£0.67m)	(2.9%)	(8.51%
Radio Broadcasting	£1.22m	£0.17m	£0.52m	£0.69m	£1.91m	£1.81m	£0.1m	5.3%	(0.78%
NIS	£0.85m	£0.m	£0.75m	£0.75m	£1.6m	£0.21m	£1.39m	647.8%	604.569
Post Regulation	£3.24m	£0.m	(£0.32m)	(£0.32m)	£2.92m	£3.37m	(£0.45m)	(13.3%)	(18.28%
PRS Stakeholder	£3.55m	£0.m	(£0.04m)	(£0.04m)	£3.5m	£0.m	£3.5m	0.0%	0.009
Other	£11.63m	£0.m	£0.26m	£0.26m	£11.89m	£11.31m	£0.58m	5.1%	(0.95%
TOTAL	£128.7m	(£0.34m)	(£5.04m)	(£5.38m)	£123.32m	£125.89m	(£2.57m)	(2.0%)	(7.71%
Online Safety	£91.69m	£0m	£0m	£0m	£91.69m	£70.69m	£21.m	29.7%	22.21
Telecoms Security Review	£6.4m	£0m	£0m	£0m	£6.4m	£9.71m	(£3.31m)	(34.1%)	(37.889
TOTAL	£226.8m	(£0.34m)	(£5.04m)	(£5.38m)	£221.42m	£206.3m	£15.12m	7.3%	1.139

[1] Satellite Fillings is included within Spectrum Management