

## Broadcast and On Demand Bulletin

Issue 502, 15 July 2024



# Broadcast licensee's late payment of licence fees

Type of case	Broadcast Licence Conditions
Outcome	In Breach
Service	ZAROK TV
Category	Late payment of licence fees
Summary	Zarok TV Limited failed to pay its annual licence fees by the required payment date. Breach of Condition 4(2) of its licence (fees)

### Introduction

Ofcom is partly funded by the broadcast licence fees it charges television and radio licensees. Ofcom has a statutory obligation to ensure that the fees paid by licensees meet the cost of Ofcom's regulation of broadcasting. The approach Ofcom takes to determining licensees' fees is set out in the <u>Statement of Charging Principles</u>. Detail on the fees and charges payable by licensees is set out in <u>Ofcom's Tariff Tables</u>.

The payment of a licence fee and payment made on time is a requirement of a broadcasting licence. This is set out in Conditions 4(1) and 4(2) of Zarok TV Limited's licence, which state:

- 4(1): "The Licensee shall pay to Ofcom such fees as Ofcom may determine in accordance with the tariff fixed by it and for the time being in force under Section 87 (3) of the 1990 Act as Ofcom shall from time to time publish in such manner as it considers appropriate."
- 4(2): "Payment of the fees referred to...above shall be made in such manner and at such times as Ofcom shall specify".

Failure by a licensee to pay its licence fee when required represents a significant and fundamental breach of a broadcast licence, as it means that Ofcom may be unable properly to carry out its regulatory duties.

#### Decision

#### In Breach – late payment

Zarok TV Limited failed to pay its annual licence fees due on 2 August 2023 in accordance with the deadline, but subsequently made payment late. This Licensee has therefore been found in breach of Condition 4(2) of its licence.

Licensee	Service Name	Licence Number
Zarok TV Limited	ZAROK TV	TLCS102386BA

**Breach of Licence Condition 4(2)**