

Comments on the Digital Dividend Review.

Given the success of digital terrestrial television (Freeview), the large numbers of HD-ready televisions being sold and the superior picture quality of high definition (HD) television will lead many customers of these sets to expect an HD service over Freeview as part of their dividend of converting to digital reception.

Trials by the BBC and others have proved the technical viability of such a service. I therefore consider it essential that the Digital Dividend Review recommends that a portion of the old analogue spectrum be reserved for several terrestrial free-to-air HD channels. If this is not done, then the only way for viewers to receive HD TV will be through a subscription service which is unacceptable.

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