

What do you want Ofcom to keep confidential?:

Keep name confidential

If you want part of your response kept confidential, which parts?:

Ofcom may publish a response summary:

Yes

I confirm that I have read the declaration:

Yes

Ofcom should only publish this response after the consultation has ended:

You may publish my response on receipt

Additional comments:

Question 1: Do you agree that copy management would broaden the range of HD content available on DTT and help secure its long term viability as a platform? :

No I do not. Terrestrial TV has never had copy protection and this has not affected its long term viability, therefore the argument that it does is a non-starter. TV broadcasting has done very well over the last 30 years since video recording at home became available. If the public are paying a fee to watch TV then they should have the right to watch what they want when they want. With dozens of channels (or 100's if you have Sky as well) it's common to find two programmes you want to watch that are airing at the same time. The flexibility of recording one of the programmes is paramount to the consumer's freedom of choice. A recorded programme should remain on the consumers' recording device for as long as they wish.

Question 2: Do you agree that the BBC's proposed multiplex licence amendment represents the most appropriate means for securing an effective content management system on HD DTT? :

No. It is not for the BBC to control who should be allowed to receive their programmes. The only qualification someone needs to view BBC content is a fully paid up license fee.

Surely the BBC realise that any digital security can and will be broken. Take a look at Blue Ray copy protection for example. It was cracked a couple of years ago proving that any effort put into securiting digital content is a waste of time. If the BBC are paying to impliment such technology then they are wasting license fee payers' money which should be spent on quality programming instead. It's a foolish belief that securing HD content will prevent it from being made available on the Internet for any more than a year or two. History always repeats itself and the BBC should realise that.

Question 3: Do you agree with the proposed change to Condition 6 in the Multiplex B Licence? :

No. EPG data should be available to everyone in the UK. There is nothing secretive about current and upcoming programmes. Some freeview devices may have trouble showing EPG if it's restricted or a firmware/software upgrade would be required. It's just so unnecessary.

Question 4: Do you agree that Multiplexes C and D should be granted a similar amendment to their Licences as Multiplex B?. :

No.

Question 5: Do you agree that the BBC's proposed approach for implementing content management would safeguard citizens and consumers legitimate use of HD content, and if not, what additional guarantees would be appropriate? :

No. Virtually every home has a TV license so there is no point in spending so much time and money on trying to stop content being viewed by the tiny minority who don't have a TV license. As I said earlier, every attempt in the past to prevent unauthorised viewing of TV or music has failed. Hackers see DRM as a challenge and will have it cracked within a year or two as they did with Blu-Ray which was supposed to be unbreakable. If the BBC was a minority service I could understand them wanting to protect content, but millions pay up for their license fee so the argument of protecting their interests is a non-starter.

Question 6: Do you agree that the BBC's proposed choice of content management technologies will have only a negligible impact on the cost of HD DTT receivers and their interoperability with other HD consumer equipment? .:

Yes, but what about receivers already out there, including computer-based PCI cards and USB devices that wouldn't be able to handle content management. Users would have to buy new kit or upgrade it in some way.

Question 7: Do stakeholders agree that the BBC's proposed Huffman Code licensing arrangements would have a negligible effect on the market for HD DTT receivers? :

It would give too much control to the BBC. The license cost is unknown but it must be affordable to developers of receivers. The BBC should not try to profit from this as it will hamper consumer choice and innovative development of receivers.

Question 8: Do the BBC's proposed content management states and their permitted use for different categories of HD content meet the requirements of other HD broadcasters on DTT? . :

This is something that only the other broadcasters could answer but I hope they reject it.

Question 9: Are there any issues that you consider Ofcom should take into account in assessing the BBC's proposal, that have not been addressed by this consultation?:

Please take into account the points I made in my previous answers.