

Ofcom may publish a response summary:

Yes

I confirm that I have read the declaration:

Yes

Additional comments:

1. I'd like to see publicity given to how one can get erroneous subtitles corrected for subsequent transmissions. It is clear, for example, that some staff supplying subtitles for scientific programmes such as "Horizon" have limited scientific backgrounds. The result is that otherwise perfectly-acceptable subtitles are marred because the subtitle composer does not understand the technical words being spoken and provides inappropriate homonyms. I can see no mechanism for having such errors corrected.

2. It seems regrettable that plays and other presentations where the precise wording is key can sometimes have non-verbatim subtitles. I appreciate there must be a compromise between readability of subtitles and the volume of such subtitles, but a playwright will have worked long and hard on each phrase, and it damages the work to read subtitles that are ill-chosen paraphrases.

Question 1: Do consultees agree with the proposal to require broadcasters to measure and report every six months on the average speed of live subtitling in a variety of programmes, based on a sample of segments selected by Ofcom? :

Question 2: Do consultees consider that broadcasters should be asked to report separately on different types of live programming? If so, do they agree with the suggestions in paragraph 6.19, or would they suggest different categorisations, and if so, why?:

Question 3: Do consultees consider that the guidance on subtitling speeds should be reviewed? Do consultees agree that, for the time being, it would not be appropriate to set a maximum target for the speed of live subtitling? If not, please explain why.:

Question 4: Do consultees agree that it would not be appropriate at this stage to set a maximum target for latency? If not, please explain why.:

Question 5: Do consultees agree with the proposal to require broadcasters to measure and report every six months on error rates, on the basis of excerpts selected by Ofcom from a range of programmes?:

Question 6: Do consultees have any views on the advantages and disadvantages of scrolling versus block subtitles for live-subtitled

programmes? Taking account of both the advantages and disadvantages, which approach would consultees prefer, and why?:

Question 7: What are the factors that might facilitate or hinder the insertion of a delay in live transmissions sufficient to improve the quality of subtitling? Ofcom would particularly welcome the views of broadcasters on this question.: