

From:
Representing (self or organisation/s): Self

The following part(s) of this response are confidential:
Name/contact details/job title

Can Ofcom still publish a reference to the contents of your response (including, for any confidential parts, a general summary that does not disclose the specific information or enable you to be identified)?

I confirm that the correspondence supplied with this cover sheet is a formal consultation response that Ofcom can publish. However, in supplying this response, I understand that Ofcom may need to publish all responses, including those which are marked as confidential, in order to meet legal obligations. If I have sent my response by email, Ofcom can disregard any standard e-mail text about not disclosing email contents and attachments.

My response is non-confidential (in whole or in part), and I would prefer you to publish my response only once the consultation has ended.

Do you consider that the requirement to ensure equivalent services for disabled end-users would require a mandated VR service in some form for BSL users?

Yes. I think an unrestricted Video Relay Service is the only way to ensure a telecoms service for BSL users which is equivalent to that used by hearing people. If you choose to restrict verbal mobile to half an hour per citizen, there's would be outcry.

Do you agree that a restricted service would be more proportionate in providing equivalence for BSL users than an unrestricted service?

No. I do not agree with the proposal to impose restrictions on access to VRS. An unrestricted Video Relay Service is the only way to ensure a telecoms service for BSL users which is equivalent to that used by hearing people. By allowing solid service, Deaf participants can have full access to customer service, shopping items, ordering items, contacting public services, contacting colleagues and families.

Please provide your views on Methods 1 - 5 for a restricted VR service discussed above. Are there any other methods that are not mentioned that we should consider?

I do not agree with any of the proposed methods of restricting access to VRS. An unrestricted Video Relay Service is the only way to ensure a telecoms service for BSL users which is equivalent to that used by hearing people. Restriction model is a bad compromise, full access is logical move as whole community can be fully included in digital movement.

Do you agree that a monthly allocation of minutes combined with a weekday/business hours service would be the most appropriate means to restricting the service?

No. I do not agree with the proposal to impose these restrictions on access to VRS. An unrestricted Video Relay Service is the only way to ensure a telecoms service for BSL users which is equivalent to that used by hearing people.

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<http://www.vrstoday.com>