

What are your comments on these proposals?

Re proposal 3

Ever since the enforced TV switchover was proposed, one consistent thing has been the statement that radio would NOT be subject to such a switchover.

The most recent occasion I remember was on Feedback, 23rd September - probably 2004 - when Helen Boaden stated again that no such plans existed. (I can explain how I know the day and month but not the year, if you really, really need to know)

As radios are so cheap that I have, on occasion been given them as freebies, it would be even more iniquitous to force people to buy new digital radios for a totally unnecessary switchover. Most people have several radios - I can think of 9 in the house right now - and even more than TV it is a form of entertainment and source of information open to the very poorest in society. We must NOT allow it to be made expensive.

In addition, analogue radios would undoubtedly be chucked out wholesale in the event of a switchover, as it is hardly likely an equivalent of the set-top box could be produced. More waste for landfill!

Don't get me wrong, I like DAB radio. I now have 3 - one in the kitchen, a "Bug" in the bedroom and a small almost-ipod-sized portable one. I regularly listen to BBC 7 and 6 Music, as well as R4 (and there is not only a delay between FM and DAB if you have both on, but also between upstairs DAB and downstairs DAB....).

Unlike digital TV, which I do not have, I think there are actually good things on DAB radio.

But I don't think an enforced switchover can ever be justified.