

Question 1: which services are most likely to drive take up of DTT consumer reception equipment using new technologies? In particular, are HD services the most likely to do so?:

PVR/DVR capabilities or Freeview playback are the biggest incentive to use a DTT service, however, I believe watching HD content on a HD TV will be the 2nd biggest driving force.

Question 2: do you agree with Ofcom's assessment that it would be beneficial for the DTT platform to begin to upgrade to new technologies ? DVB-T2 and MPEG-4 - to make more efficient use of spectrum and to allow for the introduction of new services?:

Yes and I believe these must be introduced at the same time.

Question 3: Ofcom is particularly interested in hearing from multiplex operators and programme providers as to whether they are interested in using DVB-T2 and / or MPEG-4, and whether Ofcom should consider permitting their use on DTT?:

They should. Ofcom's new proposals to clear a multiplex and upgrade that to DVB-T2 and MPEG-4 (or VC-1) is the most sensible option.

Question 4: do you agree that the earliest possible availability and adoption of the technologies is in the interests of consumers and citizens?:

No. The new technologies should only be adopted when they are fully working and all technical problems have been solved. Once they have, then it needs to be implemented before DSO so that consumers aren't forced to "double dip" for a Freeview STB.

Question 5: do you agree with Ofcom's view that DVB-T2 MPEG-4 reception equipment could be commercially available in time for DSO in Granada region in late 2009?:

Yes.

Question 6: do you agree that some form of intervention is required in order for the DTT platform to commence an upgrade to new technologies without delay?:

Yes.

Question 8: do you agree with Ofcom's proposed approach for adding SD and HD versions of MPEG-4 and DVB-T2 profiles to the list of

permitted standards for DTT in the spring, and that Ofcom's consent must be sought prior to adoption of these standards?:

Yes.

Question 9: do you agree with Ofcom's proposal that Multiplex B should be cleared and upgraded to new technologies?:

Yes.

Question 10: do you agree with Ofcom's proposal that all multiplexes should be required to upgrade to 64QAM at DSO in order to make the most efficient use of spectrum (ie that the mode change should not merely be optional)?:

Yes, but ONLY at DSO as some many places have difficulty with reception of 64QAM multiplexes and the signal breaks up far more frequently than from 16QAM multiplexes. Aslong as DSO brings an increase in signal strength this should be fine.

Question 12: do you agree with our assessment that nine SD services can operate on Multiplex 2? If not, do you have an alternative proposal?:

No.

Question 13: do you agree with our proposals for the reorganisation process for the existing multiplex services set out in the central case scenario?:

Yes.

Question 17: do you agree with the proposal that HD broadcasting on the DTT platform should use the more efficient progressive format, rather than the interlaced format?:

Yes, if this is what the broadcasters also agree with.

Question 18: do you agree with the proposal that Ofcom should not mandate the use of the capacity for any particular service type (SD or HD) but allow the broadcasters to make proposals?:

No, Multiplex B should be HD only and this should be forced.

Question 20: do you agree with the proposed criteria for the comparative selection process?:

Question 21: do you have any comments on Ofcom's proposals for the upgraded multiplex?:

Question 22: Do you agree with Ofcom's impact assessment?:

Question 23: Do you agree with Ofcom's assessment of the potential benefits, risks and mitigations strategies relating to the impact of these proposals on the DSO programme?:

Additional comments:

Without a free to air HD service in the UK we will look like technological monkeys on the world stage, but seeing as we have waited this long already we might as well wait until DVB-T2 and MPEG4/VC-1 are ready and use that solution for HD broadcasting.