

Title:

Mr

Forename:

David

Surname:

Munro

Representing:

Self

Organisation (if applicable):

Email:

What additional details do you want to keep confidential? :

No

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

Additional comments:

I believe that the Border TV franchise should be altered so that English viewers get something akin to the current service but Scottish viewers see Bordet TV replaced in its entirety by STV. The current situation is, frankly, unacceptable and the suggestions contained in your report, whilst welcome, fail to provide a satisfactory outcome.

Question 1: Do you agree that the existing obligations on Channel 3 and Channel 5 licensees in respect of national and international news and current affairs, original productions, and Out of London productions should be maintained at their current levels? If not, what levels do you consider appropriate, and why? :

Yes

Question 2: Do you agree with ITV's proposals for changes to its regional news arrangements in England, including an increase in the number of news regions in order to provide a more localised service, coupled with a reduction in overall news minutage? :

In part but they should not be permitted to reduce their news minutage.

Question 3: Do you agree with UTV's proposal for non-news obligations should be reduced to 90 minutes a week? If not, what alternative would you propose and why? :

Yes

Question 4: Do you agree with the proposals by STV to maintain overall minutage for regional content in the northern and central licence areas of Scotland at 5 hours 30 minutes a week, as detailed in Annex 3? If not, what alternative would you propose, and why? :

Yes

Question 5: Do you agree with the proposals by ITV to maintain the overall minutage for regional content in Wales at 5 hours 30 minutes a week, as detailed in Annex 3? If not, what alternative would you propose, and why? :

Yes

Question 6: Do you agree with the proposals by ITV to reduce the overall minutage for regional content in the Channel Islands from 4 hours a week to 3 hours 20 minutes as detailed in Annex 3, while maintaining the present provision of a 30 minute early evening regional news programme? If not, what alternative would you propose, and why? :

No. It should remain at the current levels.

Question 7: Do you have any views on any other aspects of the nations and regions programming and production obligations of the Channel 3 licensees? :

See my comment above re Border TV/STV. Scotland deserves to have one Independent TV Company and I believe that should be STV.

Question 8: Which option would you prefer in respect of the news and current affairs in the Border region, and why? :

At a minimum, replacing all Tyne Tees/Border news output with that of STV East. The franchise requires changed as it is unacceptable that STV is not available in the Border TV franchise area.

Question 9: If option 2 were to be adopted, should ITV be required to provide separate transmission for the Scottish and English parts of the region on DTT? :

Absolutely.

Question 10: If you would prefer a different option to those set out in Questions 8 and 9 above, please explain what, and why:

English viewers to get a new "north of England" franchise with Scottish viewers receiving an expanded STV.

Question 11: Do you agree that the Border licence should be amended to reduce the proportion of regional production required to a sustainable level? If not, what proposals would you like to make? :

No, their regional production is, currently, almost non-existent.

Question 12: What views do you have on the proposal by STV and UTV to extend peak time to 11pm, which would extend the window in which they could schedule regional content that must be shown in peak time? :

No problem with it.