

Question 1: Which of the three options do consultees favour, and why?:

Personally, I prefer option 2. This is because as someone with a sight problem, and a great fan of audio description, I would definitely welcome an increase in audio described programs. I find that it helps me keep up with what's happening on screen as I often miss action sequences because they move too quickly for me to follow. Strange as it may sound I find that AD gives me a sense of independence when watching TV in the sense that I can enjoy a program alone, without the need to ask others "what's going on?"

I think there is a real need to increase the amount of AD on TV as it is becoming more widely known about. I try to spread the word at every opportunity but feel people may be put off using it, or purchasing equipment so that they can use it if so few programs are AD. An increase to 20% AD programming shows more of a commitment to a service which I find I am becoming increasingly reliant on.

For example, Channel 5's new program, Flash Forward, is being shown at the moment, as well as repeats throughout the week. Because the repeat of episode 2 was AD I watched it but episode 3 wasn't, so I didn't. I've now found myself in the position of waiting for the repeat of episode 3 (shown at the end of the week) because that's the only time it's being shown with AD.

Question 2: Do consultees have any further suggestions for future access service provision? If so please provide the rationale for these suggestions:

The only suggestion I have is that maybe when TV stations have their 'watch again' services online, they should have the facility to watch all programs which were AD on TV available online with AD. This would mean fare access for all when it comes to being able to re-watch programs.

Comments: