

If you want part of your response kept confidential, which parts?:

All personal details

Ofcom may publish a response summary:

Yes

I confirm that I have read the declaration:

Yes

Ofcom should only publish this response after the consultation has ended:

You may publish my response on receipt

Additional comments:

Question 1: Do you agree that copy management would broaden the range of HD content available on DTT and help secure its long term viability as a platform? :

Possibly - but this would only apply to non-BBC generated content and could therefore lead to increased reliance on bought in programming rather than using the license fee to create original programming.

With regard to sporting events, the BBC has a long history of providing these without DRM, and I see no reason why the lack of DRM should prevent the availability to such events in the future.

Overall, there is no reason why HD requires DRM and non-HD programming does not. The link between the HD and DRM therefore appears to be entirely manufactured as a pretext to impose restrictions on the use of content that we have paid for through the license fee.

Question 2: Do you agree that the BBC's proposed multiplex licence amendment represents the most appropriate means for securing an effective content management system on HD DTT? :

Effective possibly, but inappropriate.

Our rights should not be restricted in order to prevent illegal use of content. Only the illegal use is wrong, whereas the proposals will prevent many forms of legitimate use, e.g. making multiple copies for personal use, transferring between formats, having an open choice of playback device.

Question 3: Do you agree with the proposed change to Condition 6 in the Multiplex B Licence? :

No

Question 4: Do you agree that Multiplexes C and D should be granted a similar amendment to their Licences as Multiplex B?. :

No

Question 5: Do you agree that the BBC's proposed approach for implementing content management would safeguard citizens and consumers legitimate use of HD content, and if not, what additional guarantees would be appropriate? :

No. Personally, I watch TV on a Linux box at home. Whilst I pay my license fee, there should be no restriction on the type or number of devices that I can use to access BBC programming. By requiring DRM this implies the need for a licensed DRM module to be implemented on the device receiving the data and therefore places restrictions on those device, which are inappropriate.

It also prevents many other legitimate use scenarios, some of which are referred to in my response to Q2.

Question 6: Do you agree that the BBC's proposed choice of content management technologies will have only a negligible impact on the cost of HD DTT receivers and their interoperability with other HD consumer equipment? . :

No, it imposes the use of the set of receivers that supports the BBC's proposed DRM methodology. As these receivers will be primarily useful only in the UK it creates an additional expense for manufacturers which will be passed on to consumers.

Furthermore it creates increased barriers to entry to the market for new manufacturers - thereby preventing free competition and increasing costs to consumers.

Once the DRM mechanisms have been cracked, which they inevitably will be within a short time frame - further costs will need to be incurred as the standards are changed and devices need to be upgraded. Without such an upgrade, the DRM system becomes pointless.

Question 7: Do stakeholders agree that the BBC's proposed Huffman Code licensing arrangements would have a negligible effect on the market for HD DTT receivers? :

No. EPG data is paid for through our license fee, and should not be rights restricted. The proposal by the BBC to restrict access to such data demonstrates their inability (indeed the impossibility) to develop a methodology that only restricts illegitimate use of BBC content, whilst enabling all legitimate use.

Question 8: Do the BBC's proposed content management states and their permitted use for different categories of HD content meet the requirements of other HD broadcasters on DTT? . :

No opinion

Question 9: Are there any issues that you consider Ofcom should take into account in assessing the BBC's proposal, that have not been addressed by this consultation?:

Any DRM system can be bypassed by criminals with sufficient time and resources to do so. As a result, all DRM measures essentially only restrict legitimate use of content with little or no impact on illegal use. The proposal is a waste of license-payers money and does not benefit members of the public who wish to have unfettered access to BBC content that they have paid for.