

RESPONSE FROM DIGITAL 3AND4 LTD TO:

**OFCOM CONSULTATION ON THE RENEWAL OF
TELEVISION MULTIPLEX LICENCE FOR MULTIPLEX B**

- Digital 3and4 is the holder of the Television Multiplex Licence for Multiplex 3. It is jointly owned by ITV and Channel 4.
- We welcome the opportunity to comment on Ofcom's proposals for the renewal of the Television Multiplex Licence for Multiplex B and support those proposals as noted below in response to the specific questions posed in the Consultation.

Question 1: Do you agree that Ofcom should not seek a supplementary technical plan in respect of Multiplex B prior to considering whether or not to renew the Mux B Licence?

Digital 3and4 agrees with Ofcom's analysis and supports this proposal.

Question 2: Do you agree that in renewing the Mux B Licence, it is appropriate not to require supplementary proposals in relation to the promotion of, or assistance with, the acquisition of DTT receiver equipment?

Digital 3and4 agrees with Ofcom's analysis and supports this proposal.

Question 3: Do you agree with our preference not to apply a charge for PMR in a renewed Mux B Licence, in light of our stated intention to charge AIP for spectrum used for broadcasting?

Digital 3and4 agrees that it is appropriate to adopt the same approach to PMR as was applied to the licences for Multiplexes 2, A, C and D when they were renewed and, therefore, supports this proposal.

Question 4: Do you agree that Ofcom should vary any renewed Mux B Licence in order to remove the provisions set out in paragraph 3.21?

Digital 3and4 agrees with Ofcom's analysis and supports this proposal.

Ofcom will recall that, in its response to the Consultation on the renewal of Multiplex Licences C and D, Digital 3and4 argued that the equivalent conditions about promoting or assisting the acquisition of digital equipment should be removed from the Multiplex A and Multiplex 2 Licences. Paragraph 3.10 of the current Consultation appears to suggest that those conditions have already been removed from the Multiplex 2 Licence but we believe that not to be the case.

We note that in Paragraph 3.25 Ofcom states that it is considering removal of the equivalent conditions from the Multiplex 2 (and Multiplex A) Licences. We would support this.

However, we also believe that it would be appropriate to review all the DSO related provisions in the Licences. DSO will be completed across the UK in October this year at which time there is no longer a requirement for DSO related obligations. We suggest that, at a minimum, Ofcom should consider the removal from the Licence of:

Annex : Part 4	CONDITIONS RELATING TO PROMOTING OR ASSISTING THE ACQUISITION OF EQUIPMENT
Annex : Part 9	REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO DIGITAL SWITCHOVER
Annex : Part 10	DIGITAL SWITCHOVER DATE AND SEQUENCE FOR REGIONAL DIGITAL SWITCHOVER