

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

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? :

No. The long term viability of the platform will have to be addressed without the use of any DRM software as any DRM software can be cracked and so content will be able to be extracted from any copy management system and released from the copy protection relatively easily no matter the technical solution. It won't matter that most people cannot accomplish the task, only 1 person needs to and with the power of the internet the content will be released anyway. Therefore any DRM software is an added expense and unjustifiable given the impact to device shifting from the source recorder to other devices and the ease of use of consumers to use these devices.

Another issue is open source software as this does not allow for a closed source DRM software in the licensing conditions and so my Mythtv solution as a PVR would be unable to play HD content.

As it would also appear my HD ready TV will also not pick up the freeview HD signal, I would be left with no option but to buy a separate HD box which I could no longer time shift recordings by up to 28 days as allowed in UK law.

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? :

No. Any change in the license should not be done in response to commercial license restrictions. Content producers such as Hollywood have been happy to take the BBC's money to show films in the UK for free, damaging the resale value of those films compared to selling them on DVD, the situation with HD content is no different from SD content, so the license should not change.

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, there is no system that exists that cannot be cracked by the right expertise and no system that effectively broadcasts to the whole country will be completely secure.

Given this fact, any system will be inadequate to secure content and hence will just prevent consumers from being able to do everything they will want to do with HD content, such as watch it at a different time and on a different device legitimately.

It should be up to the law to write what we are allowed to do with content and up to law enforcement to prosecute those that illegally act. It should not be up to the BBC to restrict what all consumers can do to try and prevent illegal copying when the system will fail to do so and it will just result in restrictions for consumers on what devices they can use.

For example, I can currently watch BBC programmes on my Android mobile phone, which is based on Linux which is open source, same as Mythtv. So, I would find both these methods no longer available for HD content into the future.

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, all HD equipment must include MythTV and my Android mobile phone and my linux based PCs. These proposals will prevent these devices from operating with HD content restricting the market considerably.

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? :

Same answer as above. No, open source software must be able to implement the HD content and these proposals are incompatible with the open source licenses which I use on all my home equipment.

Mythtv is the main concern, but any open source software implementation would be effected, including my mobile phone and PCs.

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? . :

Not sure.

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?:

We need open standards and open systems to prevent monopolies on content and content delivery to protect the future of commercial and non-commercial concerns.

One of the best ways to achieve that is to run commercial operations alongside free and open operations.

In computer software this includes using commercial closed software alongside open source software. On the internet, this includes the open standards allowing networks to communicate that allows commercial companies to do business online. In broadcast content in the UK, that includes free and open access to the BBC's own content alongside commercial channels selling content via various business models.

If the BBC pursue this license change they will become more like the closed commercial providers and not free and open to all. Free and open to all must include me, and I use open source systems for TV viewing and PCs and mobile phones, which covers all ways I can view BBC content, so the BBC should supply me with open ways to view that content or my needs are not met.

I would rather not see the HD content from commercial providers on the BBC at all than agree to this change in the license.