

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

Option 2 - because it allows blind and partially sighted people to receive audio descriptions for 20% of the time from all of the major broadcasters and hopefully will also ensure that all broadcasts made with audio description will be as well advertised as those with sub-titles.

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

For blind and visually impaired people to make the most use of audio description it is important that prior to the programme starting an announcement is made indicating the programme being shown carries audio description in order that the television can be set up eg; the right button pressed, to provide audio description as at the moment the electronics in all televisions are based upon a positive request for both audio and sub-titles to operate. This is rather than a default that the service is on until it is switched off. Not enough indication is given to enable blind users to identify and maximise the use of audio description. It would also be helpful if the 20% being sought was seen as a minimum rather than a maximum.

Comments:

This sort of service should carry over to better radio provision and better sporting information.