

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

I favour Option 2. It is essential that blind and partially sighted people have full access to as much TV as possible through audio description, as deaf people do through the use of subtitles. As a registered blind person, audio description has really changed my life and made watching TV much more a part of my everyday life. The explanation of what is going on in silent parts of a drama, plus the reading out of any writing that comes up on the screen at the end explaining what happened to the people portrayed in the drama at a later date, means I do not waste my time watching a drama, only to be frustrated by the fact that I cannot follow it and turning it off after 20 minutes in utter frustration, feeling sad that something that I had looked forward to was totally inaccessible to me.

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

I personally think audio description is wasted on documentaries and that you should concentrate on dramas and films of all description. In a documentary it only tells you that the presenter is now driving along a street - you can follow a documentary without this information. Please concentrate on drama and films, where there are often silences during action and we need to know what is happening in order to follow the story.

Comments:

I think it is amazing that we have audio description, but there isn't enough of it! More, more, more! Blind and partially sighted people need this service as much as deaf people need subtitles, yet they get much more of a service than we do, which is grossly unfair.