

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

I strongly urge Ofcom to take forward option 2 which is to increase Audio Description to 20% across all channels.

Audio Description is vital for blind and partially sighted people in order that they can enjoy television programmes as anyone would. As someone who is registered blind, I really appreciate Audio Description, particularly when watching soap operas on all channels; it makes it much easier for me to enjoy the programmes. However for other programmes, eg other dramas, I find it far more difficult to follow the story as there is no Audio Description. I would therefore like to see Audio Description increased.

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

I would like to see Audio Description continue to increase across more programmes on television and over time to increase beyond the 20% suggested.

I would also like to see more Audio Description in cinemas. For example in Northampton where I live they only have Audio Description on one or two screens in a ten screen cinema which significantly limits my choice of films to watch.

I feel the same about theatres who often only provide Audio Description for one special performance, rather than more often which would make it easier for more blind and partially sighted people to attend and enjoy live theatre.

Comments: