

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

Option 2 - My response is on behalf of my son age 9, there has been a welcome increase in audio-described programs, but childrens' channels are not as well served and my son either misses what is enjoyed by his peers or relies heavily on family members to assist his enjoyment. It is very hit or miss whether we will find a suitable described program.

Television can provide learning, relaxation or just basic enjoyment - lack of sight should not be a barrier to this enjoyment.

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

There should be an immediate target to improve audio-descriptive services at peak viewing times by all channels to extend the choice of programming and make the service more accessible and relevant. Ultimately audio-description should match subtitling where lack of description would be the exception rather than the rule, failure to do this imposes a viewing regime rather than offering a viewing choice.

Comments:

A common response heard is that radio is for 'blind' people. There is precious little content for children there so please enhance what my child does enjoy. Spongebob may not be watched by the majority of VI individuals, but it is by my son and it makes such a difference when an audio-described version is shown. Accessibility for all please.