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

Option 2. It's essential that blind people have as much access as possible to television services that sighted people take for granted, particularly as subscription companies such as Sky do not offer any reduction in price to blind people. The AD that's currently provided is of excellent quality and it needs to be extended to more programmes, and by more channels (some still not offer any AD).

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

Accessible set top boxes (e.g. SkyPlus box), i.e. talking menus, talking EPG and talking Planner. This would enable blind people to independently set programmes up for recording, check what's on TV and review associated information using their set top box in a similar way to sighted people. Currently recording is totally inaccessible, as are the settings and interactive services. Sky has hinted for the past few years that they are to produce a talking set top box (even offering me the opportunity to get involved in their testing of it) but it has come to nothing. There was also a prototype that won a Royal Television Society Award some years back, but that came to nothing either. Presumably the research simply sought to either win the award or prove the technology, with no intention of taking it into commercial delivery, which is totally pointless, however it's proven to work, so OFCOM should progress it. Commercial organisations will never take these forward for as long as there's a cost to them, so it's down to the regulator to ensure it happens.

**Comments:**