

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

Option 2. Audio description is fantastic, and enables me to know much more about the program I am listening to. It is very frustrating when there is just silence and you don't know how a program ends because there is no dialogue. Also, it is excellent to have gestures and body language translated into word, plus actions where there is no dialogue. I still never cease to be amazed by AD, and it enhances my tv experiences tremendously.

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

Some providers use dipping so that the sound of the program goes lower when they are doing the audio description. This can often be frustrating to listen to, and the best AD is where the commentary and the program are put at a similar level. However, if I had to have the sound dipped or nothing at all, I would go for the sound dipping.

Comments:

I heard The Royle Family with AD yesterday. Just a couple of episodes, but I found it even funnier than normal with the AD as well as I had only previously heard it without. I love the AD of the film "8 below" where writing appears on the screen to say how many days the dogs have been on their own. This is a classic case where AD really bridges that gap between having no descriptions at all and then having a full description of what is occurring in the film. There are lots of action scenes in this film where the dogs are interacting and doing various films, and the AD really brings it to life. Having listened to this film with and without AD, I can certainly say how important the AD is to me. I love all the AD on the Harry Potter films and also on regular programs like Coronation Street and Eastenders - Fantastic!!!!