

Title:

Mr

Forename:

John

Surname:

Johnson

Representing:

Self

What do you want Ofcom to keep confidential?:

Keep nothing confidential

Ofcom may publish a response summary:

Yes

I confirm that I have read the declaration:

Yes

Ofcom should only publish this response after the consultation has ended:

You may publish my response on receipt

Question 1: Do you agree with our current view that under the Proposal, Sky would be likely to emerge as the sole or main retailer of pay TV services on DTT, given its market power in the wholesale markets for Core Premium channels and its incentives to withhold its Core Premium channels from other retailers of pay TV services?:

yes

Question 2: Do you agree with our current view that the emergence of Sky as the sole or main retailer of pay TV services on DTT and the consequent adverse effects on competition would be likely to occur in a relatively short timeframe?:

yes

Question 3: Do you agree with our current view that Sky should not be prohibited from retailing pay TV services on DTT provided that its Core Premium channels on DTT are made available to its retail competitors on a suitable wholesale basis?:

yes

Question 4: If we were to consent to the Proposal, subject to a condition that Sky must make its Core Premium channels available to competing retailers on a suitable wholesale basis, do you agree that it would not be necessary to impose additional conditions addressing the provision of TPS by Sky?:

yes

Question 5: Do you agree with our current view that the Proposal is unlikely to have a significant adverse effect on the DSO process or the appeal of Freeview to consumers?:

yes

Question 6: Do you agree with our current view that the extent to which the Proposal may increase complexity in the decision-making process for consumers wishing to buy DTT reception equipment, this issue can be managed effectively without the need for imposing relevant conditions on Sky?:

yes

Question 7: Do you consider that to the extent the Proposal may lead to a (greater) conflict of interests between Sky and the other members of DTVSL (the company which operates Freeview), this is a matter which in the first instance should be resolved by the relevant parties through commercial negotiation?:

provided it is true negotiation, and not "take it or leave it" attitude from Sky.

Question 8: Do you agree with our current view that a wholesale must-offer arrangement, under which Sky must provide wholesale access to its Core Premium channels on DTT, is the most appropriate solution for us to pursue to address the competition concerns we have identified?:

yes

Question 9: Do you agree that simulcrypt is the most appropriate means of allowing multiple retailers to have access to Sky's Core Premium channels on DTT?:

yes

Question 10: Do you consider that Sky or relevant third party retailers on DTT would be provided with an incentive to reduce the effectiveness of a wholesale must-offer arrangement? If so, in what ways might they seek to achieve this?:

only if they put the customer first, not last

Question 11: If we were to consent to the Proposal subject to a suitable wholesale must-offer arrangement being put in place, do you consider that any ancillary conditions would be required to ensure that it was workable from a commercial and technical perspective? If so, please explain: (i) the ancillary conditions that would be required and the specific concern(s) they would seek to address and (ii) why there would be no other practicable and less restrictive means of addressing the concern(s) in question:

Sky's programmes must be made "competitively" available to other retailers on a wholesale basis

Question 12: Do you consider that our indicative analysis, summarised at paragraphs 4.7 to 4.12 and set out more fully in Annex 6, supports our current view of whether we should opt for Option 1, Option 2 or Option 3?:

yes

Comments:

There are members of the public, such as ourselves, who for technical reasons are unable to receive TV via cable or satellite. Option 2 would appear to meet the criteria for customers to have a choice of source of supply, on price, service, and value for money.