

Question 11: do you agree with our proposals for accommodating Five, S4C, TG4 and GDS on Multiplex 2?:

Yes. It is crucial to the Irish speaking community in the north that the access to TG4 promised in the Good Friday Agreement is assured. This is especially the case given the failure of the British government to include provision for the Irish language in the Communications Act 2003 and the BBC Royal Charter 2005 and its failure to enact the promised Irish language legislation after the St Andrews' Agreement. Tg4 cannot meet all the needs of the north's Irish speakers, nor should it since it is funded by the Irish, not the British, government. The threatened end to the Irish Language broadcasting Fund in March 2009 will further disadvantage the north's Irish speaking community. The switch to digital must therefore be proactive in protecting the interests of our community.