Name and title under which you would like this response to appear:

Anonymous 172

Representing:

Self

What do you want Ofcom to keep confidential?:

Keep name/contact details/job title confidential

If you want part of your response kept confidential, which parts?:

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:To what extent do you consider that DTT, DSat, cable and IPTV are in competition with one another for subscribers of pay TV services ? either at present or in the future?:

I don't consider that Freeview SHOULD be in competition for subscribers of pay TV services, the Cable and Satellite providers already provides that service for those that want it.I see Freeviews role as that as a replacement for the existing Free to Air channels once the digital changeover happens, for those people who are excluded from affording premium payTV

Question 2:To what extent do you consider the Proposal is likely to deliver benefits to the consumer?:

I do not see benefits for the consumer as the idea may be copied by the other broadcasters if SKY are allowed to encode their channels, further reducing the viewing choices of those who can least afford the alternatives

Question 3:To what extent do you consider that there is scope for sustainable competition in pay TV on the DTT platform and, more broadly, across all pay TV platforms?:

there is already competition between Sky and Virgin for pay TV and BTVision have now joined this field.BtVisions model is likely to provide a growing challenge as the pay TV over broadband becomes more widely available

Question 4:What are likely to be the key aspects of competition between providers of retail pay TV services on the DTT platform? E.g. what is the role of premium sports and movies content?:

I feel that Freeviews place is NOT to be the platform for premium sport and movie content due to the limited number of available slots. Satellite and Cable provide that platform , the cost of installing SKY is comparable to the price of a freeview box and aerial upgrade. I feel SKY's move onto this platform is aimed at reducing competition , not encouraging it, we have seen this with their blocking stake in ITV , who have multiple Freeview channels themselves , to stop Virgin gaining control.

Question 5:Do you consider that if Sky were to become the only provider of pay TV on the DTT platform it would be likely to have a significant detrimental effect on competition in the long term? How might this affect the development of other platforms for the delivery of pay TV services?:

Sky are planinng to limiting their access ONLY to those who buy a bespoke SKY freeview viewing box.If true competition is to exist then this should be an "open" system that is available to all , not just SKY's premium content

Question 6:To what extent, if at all, do you consider that the Proposal would be likely to lead to any of the public policy concerns outlined at Section 4?:

unless this is strictly monitored/controlled this could be the thin end of the wedge with more or most of the channels moving to a paid for model.SKY's use of a bespoke box to access the pay channels bars competition, surely if Pay TV has a place on DTT then this should be open to ALL on an equal basis and cost and NOT limited to SKY

Question 7:Specifically, to what extent do you consider that the Proposal would be likely to lead to consumer confusion?:

if several providers move to Pay TV on DTT then each is likely to have their own bespoke box leading to confusion of the part of consumer as to which platform is available on which box

I'm sure most consumers , if asked, would be of the impression that Freeview was only meant to be Free ??

Question 8:To what extent do you consider that it is beneficial for consumers to be able to obtain Sky and existing DTT pay TV content without having to purchase separate STBs?:

I don't see there is any benefit to be gained , i believe that 99% of those who wish to view pay TV already have acces via the cable or satellite mediums

Question 9:Do you consider that the Proposal might lead to any additional public policy concerns:

I think the policy is hitting the parts of society that can least afford the alternatives and whose only options for viewing are the FREE channels.

Question 10:If Sky becoming the only provider of pay TV services on the DTT platform were likely to have a significant detrimental effect on competition, do you consider that it is possible to address this through a set of additional conditions and/or directions? If so, what form should those conditions/directions take?:

I would like t see a limit on the amount of slots that can be used on DTT for pay TV, if that is allowed, and those to be open to ALL broadcasters on an equal basis.

I also think the use of bespoke freeview boxes should not be allowed, a standard adopted for every supplier of pay TV content

I think only allowing SKY this access severely limits the options for competition.

Additional comments: