

Title:

Mr

Forename:

Paul

Surname:

Connelly

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

Mr P Connelly

Representing:

Self

What do you want Ofcom to keep confidential?:

Keep nothing 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 think at present only DSAT and Cable are in competition. DTT is mainly a free to air subscriber base and IPTV is mainly on demand content.

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

I don't think this proposal benefits consumers. After the ITV Digital fiasco, Freeview was set up to restore consumer confidence, and I feel that if Sky are allowed to go ahead with this it will have a impact on a successful digital switchover, and would be confusing to many people as to what the DTT platform is.

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?:

I do think there is scope for competition but due to the limited capacity on DTT, I don't think should be used for pay services.

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 don't think there should be competition on DTT, it should remain a FTA service.

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?:

Yes I do think it will be detrimental on competition as it is giving Sky a greater dominance on pay services in the UK, whether it be by dish or broadband or DTT.

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?:

None

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

I think it would lead to confusion as there would be 3 services on DTT, Freeview, Top Up TV and then Sky Picnic. Consumers may end up buying the wrong boxes for the wrong services or even get tied into contracts they don't want.

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 think this is the most important part. If this is to happen then it should be available on existing boxes if the government and ofcom want digital switchover to be a success.

If consumers have to purchase new boxes then this will be extremely unfair.

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

Yes, I think it will lead to concern that Sky will be gaining a very slow and unfair dominance in UK media.

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 don't think it should be allowed.

Additional comments:

Freeview when it was set up restored faith in the DTT service, and I feel if this confidence is to remain, all channels that were given free capacity should remain free. If Sky don't broadcast free on DTT then they should be asked to give up their slots so another broadcaster can use them for a free service.