

Title:

N/A

Forename:

N/A

Surname:

N/A

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

A Lane

Representing:

Self

Organisation (if applicable):

Email:

N/A

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:

Yes

Question 1: This executive summary sets out Ofcom's proposals for the release of the digital dividend. Do you agree with these proposals?..:

No. I believe that Ofcom's research is significantly flawed in the area of HDTV. Whilst currently HD is seen as a premium product, this is currently due to the relatively high cost of HD TVs and the limited availability of HD sources. Costs of HD ready TVs available to the general public have significantly reduced in the last few months, so by 2012 the domestic availability of HD ready TVs will have increased whilst their costs will have reduced dramatically. The same could be seen with the introduction of colour TVs in the UK market, whilst initially it was seen as a luxury product by the mid to late 80's it was standard to have colour TVs in homes. More recently the introduction of DTT has resulted in a similar change, it is now common for TVs to be sold with an integrated DTT receiver, where as 2 years ago this was only available on high end sets.

Question 2:Do you have any comments on our analysis of the essential constraints that will apply to the available UHF spectrum?..:

No.

Question 3:Do you agree with the more detailed analysis and proposals regarding these technical constraints as set out in Annex 10?..:

No.

Question 4:Do you have any comments on Ofcom?'s assessment of the potential uses of this spectrum? Are there any potential uses which should be considered that are not mentioned in this document?..:

Whilst the use of some spectrum for rural broadband could be of benefit for expectationally remote areas. The allocation of bandwidth for "local" TV is a ridiculous idea. The question would have to be asked who would pay for this local TV and is it not in the responsibility of both ITV and BBC to air regional and local content.

Question 5:Do you have any comments on our analysis of the choice between a market-led and an interventionist approach to the release of this spectrum? Do you agree with the analysis of different mechanisms for intervening to remedy potential market failures?..:

no

Question 6:Do you agree with our proposals to continue making available channel 69 for use by low power PMSE devices? Do you agree with our proposal to make some or all of the spectrum available for use on a licence-exempt basis?..:

no views

Question 7:Do you agree that there should be transitional protection for professional PMSE users to ensure that they can continue to access

interleaved capacity until at least the end of 2012? Do you have any views on the mechanism for providing future access to this spectrum?..:

no views

Question 8:Do you consider that additional spectrum from the digital dividend should be reserved for low power applications? If so, please provide as much evidence as possible about the nature of the application and its potential value to society.:

No.

Question 9:Do you consider that it would be desirable to hold back some spectrum from award with a view to its potential use for future innovation? If so, please provide comments on how much spectrum should be held back, and for how long.:

Question 10:Do you agree with our proposal that we should package the interleaved spectrum in a way that would be suitable for use by local television services, but not reserve spectrum solely for this use?..:

Yes

Question 11:Do you agree with our proposal to package the spectrum in a way which does not preclude mobile broadband use, but to take no further action in relation to this use?..:

yes

Question 12:Do you agree with our proposal that we should not intervene in the award of this spectrum to reserve spectrum for DTT? Do you agree that we should package the spectrum in a way which is suitable for DTT use?..:

The spectrum should be packaged in a way that is suitable to DTT.

Question 13:Do you consider that we have included in our analysis the most material risks in relation to market failure?..:

Question 14:Do you agree with our proposal to auction licences for the use of the available UHF spectrum?..:

No.

Question 15:Do you agree with Ofcom's proposals as to the timing of any auction? If not, what alternative proposal would you make and

why, and what evidence and analysis can you provide in support of your alternative proposal?..

No.

Question 16:Do you have any views on which of the packaging options identified for the cleared spectrum would be most suitable?..

Question 17:Do you have any views on which of the packaging options identified for the interleaved spectrum would be most suitable?..

Question 18:Do you have any views on which of the auction design options would be most suitable?..

Question 19:Do you agree with Ofcom?s proposals for the non-technical terms of the licences to be awarded for use of the UHF spectrum?..

Question 20:Do you agree with the analysis of the options as set out in this Impact Assessment?..

Additional comments:

Many UK TV production companies will be producing programmes in HD for sale to overseas markets, these will I am sure include the BBC. If the BBC where not to be able to transmit these programmes in HD to viewers in the UK for free, does this not call into question the existance of the BBC.

In removing the possibility that HD services could be transmitted to the majority of the population via "free to air" methods, I feel Ofcom will only encourage a digital divide between the haves and have nots.

It would appear that Ofcom has based most of its proposals on the potential revenue that could be generated for the government due to sale of the available spectrum rather than establishing a solid foundation for the future of terrestrial television within the UK.