

Additional comments:

I find it interesting that nowhere in the consultation is there any mention of the costs that will likely be incurred by TV viewers, who may find themselves having to spend a lot of money on new receiving aerials. In many parts of the country reception was originally carried out in Bands b and C/D, and even though the current multiplexes have moved down slightly in frequency, still use their existing receiving antennas.

With mobile phone services now operating at 700 MHz, the chances of interference to TV viewers still using their existing TV aerials, especially wideband aerials and, in weak signal areas, masthead amplifiers, will be even greater. After having had to spend many hundreds of pounds on replacing perfectly good analogue TV sets, it looks like yet again viewers may find themselves having to pay for new receiving aerials, and this could be bad news for the many pensioners and poor people (who are increasing in number by the day, and will likely be a sizable percentage of the population by 2020).

It does appear that this whole business is being done to increase the profits of the phone companies at the expense of TV viewers, and I'm somewhat concerned that they appear to be under no obligation to do anything about the extra costs and disruption that may be forced upon many of the more vulnerable ones.

Question: Do you have any comments on Ofcom's proposed revisions to the Code of Practice on Changes to Existing Transmission and Reception Arrangements?:

Why are there no provisions to ensure that the new users of this band adequately compensate any TV viewers that will find themselves inconvenienced and out of pocket when this goes ahead?

Will they and OFCOM ensure that the most vulnerable members of our society, in particular poorer elderly people, and people with low incomes, don't end up paying for this change out of their own pockets? This change is not being carried out for their benefit, only for that of the mobile phone companies, and from your own words in the consultation document, some viewers will find their reception negatively affected by this move, so it would only be fair that any viewer that finds themselves incurring unwanted costs should be properly compensated.