

Title:

Mr

Forename:

Felix

Surname:

Brann

Representing:

Self

Organisation (if applicable):

Email:

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

Additional comments:

Question 1: Do you agree that copy management would broaden the range of HD content available on DTT and help secure its long term viability as a platform? :

No, I believe that the threat that content would not be broadcast in the UK were these restrictions not put in place is empty. This has been demonstrated in the US, where the DTLA have had simliar demands turned down but are still broadcasting their HD content.

This change has nothing to do with securing the viability of HD DTT as a platform, just as it had nothing to do with platform viability in the US.

Question 2: Do you agree that the BBC's proposed multiplex licence amendment represents the most appropriate means for securing an effective content management system on HD DTT? :

I believe that this is an inappropriate action by the BBC. They are not fulfilling their remit as a public service broadcaster by pushing the agenda of the DTLA over the public.

The security the BBC is proposing has already been defeated by those in the security community. It would not even fulfill the task they set for it.

Question 3: Do you agree with the proposed change to Condition 6 in the Multiplex B Licence? :

No.

Question 4: Do you agree that Multiplexes C and D should be granted a similar amendment to their Licences as Multiplex B?. :

No. As per above.

Question 5: Do you agree that the BBC's proposed approach for implementing content management would safeguard citizens and consumers legitimate use of HD content, and if not, what additional guarantees would be appropriate? :

I believe that this approach would in no way safeguard the rights or interests of consumers. As I have stated above, I believe that failing to implement the demands of the DTLA would not result in any negative action on their part. The UK is too big of a market for them to ignore. This has been their proven response in the US.

The proposed changes would dramatically restrict the devices capable of receiving and viewing BBC content. This is clearly only to the detriment of UK consumers. In no way is this action in line with the remit of the BBC to provide a wide variety of programming to as many people as possible.

I believe that issues such as this should be dealt with through UK copyright law, not through secret, commercial agreements with the state broadcaster.

Question 6: Do you agree that the BBC's proposed choice of content management technologies will have only a negligible impact on the cost of HD DTT receivers and their interoperability with other HD consumer equipment? . :

No, I believe that the changes will create a captive market for DTLA compatible hardware. This will amount to a forced upgrade, create artificial demand and - as simple economics

could predict - drive up prices.

By making the equipment more complex, clearly the changes will force prices to rise. A good example of this would be the price difference between SD and HD equipment.

By dramatically lowering the diversity of devices which can implement this content management technology, clearly there will be a lowering of interoperability as a result.

I cannot see any beneficial result for the UK consumer as a result of these changes.

Question 7: Do stakeholders agree that the BBC's proposed Huffman Code licensing arrangements would have a negligible effect on the market for HD DTT receivers? :

No. The changes will create a forced market of people who must dump their useless defunct equipment and buy new equipment. By driving up prices in this way, they will price other people out of the HD market.

Question 8: Do the BBC's proposed content management states and their permitted use for different categories of HD content meet the requirements of other HD broadcasters on DTT? . :

By capitulating to the demands of this powerful conglomerate, and forcing people to upgrade to compatible technology, the BBC will put pressure on other broadcasters to follow suit.

Question 9: Are there any issues that you consider Ofcom should take into account in assessing the BBC's proposal, that have not been addressed by this consultation?:

I feel I have demonstrated not only that these actions would be detrimental to the UK consumer, but that these actions would be of no benefit. As Ofcom's remit is to protect consumers, it would seem a mistake to allow these changes to go through.

It also seems that this action would be in violation of the spirit of the BBC charter for the same reasons.

The only reason to make these changes would be to cowtow to the DLTA who are demanding them. This would clearly not be in the interests of the UK consumer. As such, neither Ofcom nor the BBC should be supporting the changes.