Mr

Forename:

Lee

Surname:

Sykes

Representing:

Self

Organisation (if applicable):

Email:

lee@leesykes.net

What do you want Ofcom to keep confidential?:

Keep nothing confidential

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

As a Software Engineer and user and creator of Free and Open Source software (FOSS) I am concerned the the proposed content management will prevent the implementation of FOSS that would be needed to view Freeview HD TV channels on Free and Open Source operating systems like GNU\Linux.

I don't believe FRND licensing provision laid out in section 3.7 would allow this problem to be circumvented for a number of reason. Firstly, those restriction are incompatible with free software licenses like the GPL, one of if not the most widely used free software licenses. Secondly, Open Source project are usually community lead, developed by a loose coalition of independent volunteers. There is no 'organisation' that could enter can be negotiated with and agree to, to obtain the license. 'Fair and reasonable' does not necessarily mean within the budget available of volunteers who will not be deriving any income from their work.

This problem would require views wishing to view HD TV on Free/Open source to resort to propriety commercial software vendors. Commercial software vendors have a shown little interest crating application for FOSS operating systems like GNU\Linux. Ultimately limiting viewing of Freeview HD TV to users of commercial operating systems from the likes of Microsoft and Apple.

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:

As a Software Engineer and user and creator of Free and Open Source software (FOSS) I am concerned the the proposed content management will prevent the implementation of FOSS that would be needed to view Freeview HD TV channels on Free and Open Source operating systems like GNU\Linux.

I don't believe FRND licensing provision laid out in section 3.7 would allow this problem to be circumvented for a number of reason. Firstly, those restriction are incompatible with free software licenses like the GPL, one of if not the most widely used free software licenses. Secondly, Open Source project are usually community lead, developed by a loose coalition of independent volunteers. There is no 'organisation' that could enter can be negotiated with and agree to, to obtain the license. 'Fair and reasonable' does not necessarily mean within the budget available of volunteers who will not be deriving any income from their work.

This problem would require views wishing to view HD TV on Free/Open source to resort to propriety commercial software vendors. Commercial software vendors have a shown little interest crating application for FOSS operating systems like GNU\Linux. Ultimately limiting viewing of Freeview HD TV to users of commercial operating systems from the likes of Microsoft and Apple.

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.

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? :

No.

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.

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? :

No. The licensing proposal would stifle, or indeed prevent, the development of Free and Open Source receivers.

As noted above, this would effectively prevent citizens viewing accessing Freeview HD TV content on Free and Open Source computer system like GNU\Linux or anything other than proprietary commercial operating systems.

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? . :

Yes.

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 licensing proposal would stifle, or indeed prevent, the development of Free and Open Source receivers.

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? . :

No opinion.

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?:

As a Software Engineer and user and creator of Free and Open Source software (FOSS) I am concerned the the proposed content management will prevent the implementation of FOSS that would be needed to view Freeview HD TV channels on Free and Open Source operating systems like GNU\Linux.

I don't believe FRND licensing provision laid out in section 3.7 would allow this problem to be circumvented for a number of reason. Firstly, those restriction are incompatible with free software licenses like the GPL, one of if not the most widely used free software licenses. Secondly, Open Source project are usually community lead, developed by a loose coalition of independent volunteers. There is no 'organisation' that could enter can be negotiated with and

agree to, to obtain the license. 'Fair and reasonable' does not necessarily mean within the budget available of volunteers who will not be deriving any income from their work.

This problem would require views wishing to view HD TV on Free/Open source to resort to propriety commercial software vendors. Commercial software vendors have a shown little interest crating application for FOSS operating systems like GNU\Linux. Ultimately limiting viewing of Freeview HD TV to users of commercial operating systems from the likes of Microsoft and Apple.