

Cover sheet for response to an Ofcom consultation

BASIC DETAILS

Consultation title: **Self Help TV Relays & Digital Switchover**

To (Ofcom contact): **Sairah Majeed / Greg Bensberg**

Name of respondent: **Alex Pumfrey**

Representing (self or organisation/s): **Digital UK**

Address (if not received by email):

CONFIDENTIALITY

What do you want Ofcom to keep confidential?

Nothing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Name/contact details/job title	<input type="checkbox"/>
Whole response	<input type="checkbox"/>	Organisation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Part of the response	<input type="checkbox"/>	If there is no separate annex, which parts?	

If you want part of your response, your name or your organisation to be confidential, can Ofcom still publish a reference to the contents of your response (including, for any confidential parts, a general summary that does not disclose the specific information or enable you to be identified)?

DECLARATION

I confirm that the correspondence supplied with this cover sheet is a formal consultation response. It can be published in full on Ofcom's website, unless otherwise specified on this cover sheet, and I authorise Ofcom to make use of the information in this response to meet its legal requirements. If I have sent my response by email, Ofcom can disregard any standard e-mail text about not disclosing email contents and attachments.

Ofcom seeks to publish responses on receipt. If your response is non-confidential (in whole or in part), and you would prefer us to publish your response only once the consultation has ended, please tick here.

Name **Alex Pumfrey**

Signed (if hard copy)

OFCOM CONSULTATION ON SELF HELP TV RELAYS AND DIGITAL SWITCHOVER

RESPONSE FROM DIGITAL UK

DIGITAL UK

Digital UK is the independent not-for-profit company set up in April 2005 to lead the Government's policy of digital switchover (DSO).

Digital UK's members are those carrying legal obligations to achieve switchover: BBC, ITV, Channel Four, Five, S4C and Teletext and the commercial multiplex operators SDN and National Grid Wireless.

The Digital UK Board also includes two nominated representatives of the supply chain industries.

The constituent members of Digital UK and the members of the Digital UK Board are all fully supportive of this response.

INTRODUCTION

Digital UK fully supports Ofcom's proposal to licence digital self-help relays. We believe that this is the most appropriate way to ensure that, after DSO:

- those communities currently receiving signals from self-help relays because they are out of normal coverage may continue to do so; and
- any communities that fall outside DTT coverage have access to the fullest range of options for restoration of reception of terrestrial television.

We also agree that it is necessary to ensure that any prospective digital self-help relays are properly planned and engineered to ensure that they do not interfere with coverage directly received from the broadcasters' relay.

Question 1: Do you agree with Ofcom's proposal to license digital self-helps for areas currently served by a self-help relay, and how we propose to make licences available? If not, please give your reasons.

Digital UK supports Ofcom's proposals.

Question 2: Do you agree with Ofcom's proposal to license digital self-helps for areas not currently served by a self-help relay, and how we propose to make available licences? If not, please give your reasons.

Digital UK supports Ofcom's proposals and agrees that digital self-help relays will be a useful option for addressing small localised coverage issues which are identified both before and after DSO.

We believe that it would be helpful for Ofcom to be proactive in providing information about how to apply for a licence and how to source and maintain equipment. This could be a separate page on the Ofcom website and/or a dedicated telephone contact.

Question 3: Do you agree with how Ofcom proposes to deal with the frequency planning for self-help relays? If not, please give your reasons.

Digital UK supports Ofcom's proposals.

Question 4: Do you agree with Ofcom's proposed fee for WTA licences for self-help relays? If not, please give your reasons.

Digital UK supports Ofcom's proposals.

ENDS