

Digital UK Consultation on the allocation of an LCN for the Freeview Accessible TV Guide

YouView Response to Digital UK

November 2019

YouView response to the Consultation

Do you agree with Digital UK that LCN 555 (Option A) should be allocated to the Freeview Accessible TV Guide (“Guide”)?

Answer:

We do not have a strong preference as between Option A and Option B but would prefer Option B as noted below.

As Digital UK states in the consultation, if LCN 555 was allocated for the Guide, then it is possible that YouView would have to make a software change across its device estate in order to accommodate this change.

Given that Option B is a reasonable alternative, which we believe would not require any software changes from YouView, this would be our preference (see answer below). However, if Digital UK decided to implement the Guide at 555, we believe that we could accommodate this change in our channel listings.

In the event that Digital UK did implement the Guide at LCN 555, this should be implemented on a strictly non-precedential basis with regard to the re-purposing of an IP channel for other services. Particularly as the demand for IP channel services continues.

If not, do you believe that LCN 258 (Option B) should instead be allocated to the Freeview Accessible TV Guide?

Answer:

As already stated, our preference would be that LCN 258 should instead be allocated to the Guide. Whilst we note that LCN 555 was the preference amongst those users canvassed by the DAC, we note that those canvassed also felt that LCN 258 would be a reasonable alternative to LCN 555. So, from an “ease of use” perspective, we believe that this is also easy to remember and can also operate as a suitable tactile indicator for blind users.

We appreciate that by pursuing this option, one less LCN would be available for allocation to future Text services, but this is unlikely to cause any issues, given that no new Text services have launched since 2013 and four have closed since then. This is in comparison to the demand for IP channel services which are continuing to grow and therefore resources in this area should, if possible, be maintained for IP channels.