

I strongly object to the proposal to allow 30% of DAB bandwidth to be wasted on television services, and for television to be classed as "digital programme services" that can be carried on Digital Radio multiplexes.

DAB bandwidth should be reserved exclusively for RADIO (and radio related data such as an Electronic Programme Guide for radio).

The quality on DAB is already very low, making it unsuitable for any form of hi-fi listening. Indeed, as many services are only in low-quality mono, it's often hardly worth listening at all, even on a 'kitchen' radio.

Robbing DAB radio of yet more bandwidth shouldn't merit a moment of serious consideration, nor should similar degradation be allowed, e.g. any downgrading of stereo 128kbit services to 112kbit, or changing any stereo services to mono.

Britain made the mistake of staying with 405-line TV when it was obvious that it was outdated, just to protect a small number of receivers. We were then stuck with 405 for the next 40 years. It seems we're about to make the same mistakes with Digital Radio; many countries are mothballing or closing their DAB systems, and others are choosing modern digital systems. Only Britain will be left with the DAB dinosaur.

The existing DAB standard is hopelessly outdated and inefficient. It should be scrapped straightaway in favour of DAB2 or suchlike.