

Microsoft strongly supports the proposals made in this paper, namely to introduce orders which would allow TV services to be carried on a radio multiplex without the need for the radio multiplex to be reclassified as a TV multiplex, and which would increase the data limits on radio multiplexes to 30%.

The rationale is well set out in the Consultation Paper. The proposals would recognise the technological advances that have now made it possible for DAB users to receive the benefit of small-screen TV services, while maintaining the current sound-radio DAB service base. The proposals will be good for industry and consumers alike.

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In many ways we see the proposals as removing a previous anomaly, where TV multiplexes can (and successfully do) carry radio, while radio multiplexes are barred from carrying mobile multimedia services which fall within the legislative definition of TV. We welcome Government's responsiveness in this area, and would support the laying of the orders before Parliament as soon as possible.

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