

TV GUIDE EXPANDS TO MEET DEMAND FOR NEW CHANNELS

Following an industry wide consultation, the Freeview TV guide is set to be updated and expanded on Wednesday, 2 August 2017. This change is designed to increase capacity for the launch of new channels in the future and strengthen consumer protection measures to further minimise risks around minors viewing inappropriate content. Some existing channels will move to new numbers.

The main changes are:

Genre	Current range	New range
General Entertainment	1-99	1-99 / 140 -199
HD	101-119	101-139
Children's ¹	120-129	200-229
News	130-149	230-249
Text	200-224	250-259
Streamed services (MHEG-ICS)	225-299	260-299
Interactive services	600-620	600-609
SD simulcast area	N/A	610-669
Adult	170-199	670-699

Digital UK's policy for allocating channel numbers is also being simplified to provide greater flexibility for channel providers.

Freeview viewers may need to retune on or after this date to ensure they have the latest channel line-up, where equipment does not do this automatically.

A full statement on the outcome of the consultation and all upcoming changes to the TV guide and Digital UK's LCN Policy can be downloaded from digitaluk.co.uk/statements.

ends; notes follow

1 - Due to increased demand for channel slots from broadcasters, some Children's channels are currently listed at the end of General Entertainment in a temporary overflow area.

About Digital UK: Digital UK supports digital terrestrial TV (DTT) in the UK. The company provides operational support for the platform, including management of the Freeview electronic programme guide, and leads on developing DTT strategy, working with broadcast partners and industry. We have also led development of Freeview Play, a new hybrid platform bringing together free-to-view DTT and catch-up services in a range of TVs and set-top boxes. Digital UK is owned by the BBC, ITV, Channel 4 and Arqiva.

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