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Your regular briefing from Freeview and Digital UK - working together to support the UK's most-watched TV service.

About Freeview

Launched in 2002, Freeview is a subscription-free TV service offering more than 60 standard and high-definition TV channels, radio stations and interactive services through an aerial. It is managed by DTV Services Ltd, a company owned and run by its five shareholders - BBC, Sky, Channel 4, ITV and Arqiva.

About Digital UK

Digital UK supports Freeview viewers and channels on digital terrestrial television (DTT). The company is owned by the BBC, ITV, Channel 4 and Arqiva.

Find out more online at:

freeview.co.uk and
digitaluk.co.uk



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LG TO LAUNCH FREEVIEW PLAY PRODUCTS THIS YEAR

LG will launch Freeview Play-enabled Smart TVs in the first half of 2016, it has been [announced](#). The new sets will combine the company's award-winning webOS technology with a backwards EPG and free catch-up TV from the BBC, ITV, Channel 4 and Channel 5. Guy North, Managing Director of Freeview, said: 'The news that LG will offer Freeview Play this year is a great way to start 2016. We look forward to the platform continuing to grow and welcome our new partners on board.' Freeview Play is already available on TVs and recorders from Panasonic and Humax.

JENKINSON MOVES TO MARKETING DIRECTOR ROLE

Freeview has [announced](#) that Owen Jenkinson has been promoted to the role of Marketing Director. Owen, who was previously Head of Marketing, will assume responsibility for all of Freeview's creative output. Owen joined Freeview in 2009 having previously worked at PlayStation and Channel 4, as well as co-founding a start-up and working at some of the marketing industry's biggest agencies. He also holds an MSc in Consumer Psychology and lectures in advertising psychology at London Metropolitan University.

CONSULTATIONS SEEK VIEWS ON TV GUIDE CHANGES

Digital UK has [published](#) two consultations on proposed changes to the Freeview programme guide. The first looks at options for the allocation of channel 7, following confirmation of the BBC's plans to transition BBC Three to an online service. A second consultation explores the reservation of channel numbers in the General Entertainment and News genres for HD-only services, designed to make it simpler to implement a possible SD/HD channel substitution in the future. Both consultations close on 22 January.

CONNECTED TVS TOP WITH IPLAYER THIS CHRISTMAS

Connected TVs were the most popular way to watch catch-up shows from BBC iPlayer over the 'festive fortnight', the BBC has [announced](#) - with viewing up 32 per cent on the same period in 2014. Connected TVs accounted for 38 per cent of unique browsers, followed by 24 per cent on tablets, 22 per cent on computers and 17 per cent on mobiles. The most popular show was *Eastenders*, followed by *The Apprentice Final* and *Mrs Brown's Boys*. TVs and recorders with Freeview Play allow viewers to access catch-up services straight from their TV guide.

Dan Taylor-Watt, Head of BBC iPlayer, said: 'Whether it was bringing the family together to watch cliff-hangers from Albert Square, drama like *And Then There Were None* or hilarious antics from *Mrs Brown*, more and more people were watching BBC iPlayer on the biggest screen in the house.'

MORE CHOICE AND ADVICE FOR FREEVIEW TV VIEWERS

The last few weeks have seen new channels arrive on Freeview, alongside other changes to the on-screen TV guide. Viewers interested in the Russian view of the latest headlines can now get an even clearer picture with RT HD on 113, while reality TV fans can catch-up with shows such as *Heir Hunters*, *Ice Cold Killers* and *Judge Judy* on CBS Reality+1 at 67. Anyone looking for general information and help with Freeview can now also hit 100 on their remote for details of how to contact the Freeview advice line.

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