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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



[Freeview
Digital UK](http://FreeviewDigitalUK)



[Freeview
Digital UK](http://FreeviewDigitalUK)

FREEVIEW GUIDE BOOST FOR LOCAL TV CHANNELS

Local TV channels across the UK are set for a boost with the offer of a more prominent position in the Freeview TV guide, following the transition of BBC Three to a fully online service. Currently listed at channel 23, local services in Scotland and Wales will be eligible to move to channel 8. Services in England and Northern Ireland, currently on 8, will be offered the chance to move to channel 7. The changes follow an industry wide [consultation](#) by Digital UK, which manages the allocation of channel numbers on the platform, and will increase the visibility of local services. Freeview is the most widely used TV service in the UK.

FREEVIEW PLAY SPECS NOW AVAILABLE TO ALL

Digital UK has published the technical specification for Freeview Play, opening the connected TV service to broadcasters, platforms and equipment manufacturers worldwide. Previously available only via formal registration, the document details the technologies required to design and implement Freeview Play TVs and boxes. The publication follows strong interest in the service from both UK manufacturers and international markets since its launch in October 2015.

The new TV platform is the world's first to include features recently defined in the HbbTV 2.0 standard for internet services and applications – building on the DTG's industry standard D-Book for broadcasting. The specification document is available [here](#).

DIGITAL UK STRENGTHENS TOP TEAM FOR TV FUTURE

Digital UK has restructured its top team to respond to the opportunities of an increasingly connected TV world. Previously responsible for programme management of Freeview Play, James Jackson has been appointed as Technical Director and will now lead technical development of the new hybrid TV service, while also overseeing wider technical management of the DTT platform. Prior to joining Digital UK in June 2015, James was Head of Distribution Strategy for the BBC.

A second appointment has seen Kate Macefield take on a new role leading the co-ordination of forthcoming major spectrum changes. Previously Digital UK's Broadcast Manager, Kate will manage the future move of Freeview channels to new airwaves as Programme Director for 700MHz Clearance. Company changes have also seen Michelle Brownrigg, Operations Director, take on wider responsibilities across a range of areas, including viewer support and EPG management.

FREEVIEW WELCOMES UKTV HOME TO CHANNEL 25

[Home](#) from UKTV is the latest pay TV channel to make the switch to Freeview. The UK's only service dedicated to inspirational home and gardens programming, it offers audiences hit shows such as *My Dream Derelict Home*, *Escape to the Country*, *My Flat-Pack Home* featuring Amanda Lamb and *Kitchen SOS* with Nadia Sawalha. Viewers may need to retune to receive the new service, which has taken up residence at channel 25, and can check all channels available in their area using the coverage checker at digitaluk.co.uk

STV PLAYER COMES TO FREEVIEW PLAY IN SCOTLAND

Viewers in North and Central Scotland with Freeview Play can now enjoy catch-up programming from [STV](#), Freeview has announced. Channel favourites such as *Coronation Street*, *Emmerdale* and *The Jonathan Ross Show* will be available to view for up to 30 days after broadcast, while *STV News at Six* and *Scotland Tonight* offer news and current affairs. Homes in the Scottish Borders which receive STV will also be able to access the service.

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