



## Border Installer Newsletter Special Edition - April 2009

### AN IMPORTANT CHANGE TO THE CALDBECK SWITCHOVER

- **Caldbeck England and Caldbeck Scotland - Change in DSO frequencies**

The BBC and Digital 3 and 4 have agreed to swap the frequencies used at Caldbeck England and Caldbeck Scotland to deliver the BBC-A Multiplex so that the English regional services will use a lower frequency than their Scottish counterparts at Digital Switchover (DSO) on **24 June 2009**.

Existing DTT viewers who currently receive English services direct from the Caldbeck transmitter (whether they live in Scotland or England) will almost certainly find BBC One and BBC Two England allocated to Logical channel number (LCN) positions 1 and 2 in their channel lists and electronic program guides (EPGs). The 20,000 Scottish viewers watching services direct from Caldbeck will also continue to find English services at LCN1 and 2 and will need to take action to locate and reposition the Scottish BBC1 and BBC2 services in these slots, if that is their preference.

#### Reason for change:

##### Minimising viewer confusion of Scottish and English services

The inability of current digital terrestrial TV (Freeview, Top Up TV, BT Vision) receivers to distinguish between BBC English and Scottish services from Caldbeck means that viewers may not have their preferred services allocated to LCN 1 and 2. Because receivers tend to scan up the frequency band, the original plan would have meant that around 60,000 households, in England currently receiving English services, would have found Scottish services at LCNs 1 and 2 at switchover.

After reviewing possible infrastructure solutions to this issue and the communication impact, the solution consistent with the messaging already in the public domain is to swap the frequencies of the BBC services transmitted from Caldbeck so that the English services are on lower frequencies than the Scottish ones. This reduces the number of households likely to experience an issue from around 60,000 (English homes receiving Scottish services) to around 20,000.

In addition to the BBC-A and Digital 3 and 4 channel swaps at Caldbeck England, the Caldbeck Scotland BBC-A and BBC-B muxes and related services are doing the same. See the table below for full details. It is the combination of all of these changes that puts the regionalised services of BBC-A England on a lower channel than BBC-A Scotland.

Transmitter	PSB Mux	Original plan (UHF Channel)	New Allocations (UHF Channel)
Caldbeck England	BBC-A	28	25
	D3-4	25	28
	BBC-B	30	30
Caldbeck Scotland	BBC-A	22	27
	D3-4	24	24
	BBC-B	27	22