

## Call for Evidence response form

Please complete this form in full and return to  
[FutureofTVDistributionCallforEvidence@ofcom.org.uk](mailto:FutureofTVDistributionCallforEvidence@ofcom.org.uk)

<b>Title</b>	Call for evidence: Future of TV Distribution
<b>Full name</b>	✂
<b>Contact phone number</b>	✂
<b>Representing (delete as appropriate)</b>	Organisation
<b>Organisation name</b>	Age UK
<b>Email address</b>	✂

## Confidentiality

We ask for your contact details along with your response so that we can engage with you on this consultation. For further information about how Ofcom handles your personal information and your corresponding rights, see [Ofcom's General Privacy Statement](#).

<b>Your details: We will keep your contact number and email address confidential. Is there anything else you want to keep confidential? Delete as appropriate.</b>	Nothing
<b>Your response: Please indicate how much of your response you want to keep confidential. Delete as appropriate.</b>	None
<b>For confidential responses, can Ofcom publish a reference to the contents of your response?</b>	N/A

## Your response

<b>Question</b>	<b>Your response</b>
<b>Q1. How are audience demands and expectations evolving, and how does that vary for users of different TV platforms and different demographics?</b>	<p>Age UK is a national charity that works with a network of partners, including Age Scotland, Age Cymru, Age NI and local Age UKs across England, to help everyone make the most of later life, with a focus on supporting those with the greatest needs.</p> <p>As the Ofcom consultation says, while audiences' TV habits are changing, traditional</p>

	<p>broadcast TV remains important, and people aged 75+, those in lower socioeconomic groups, and people with disabilities are more likely to rely on terrestrial TV. Digital inclusion among older people is increasing, however our latest analysis indicates that in 2022, 2.7 million people aged 65+ had not recently used the internet.<sup>1</sup> People in this situation often rely on their TV for news, information, entertainment and companionship. While, over time, digital inclusion will increase further, there will still be some people who do not want to, or cannot, use the internet and who will not have broadband. This may be due to cost, difficulties gaining and retaining digital skills, or increasing physical or cognitive impairments. Many in this situation, as well as others who are online, remain content with traditional TV services and do not want to change the way they access TV, for example by subscribing to additional streamed services. In order to ensure that everyone continues to have access to affordable and good quality TV services, we believe that broadcast services should be protected beyond the current date of 2034.</p>
<p><b>Q2. What do audience trends mean for the financial prospects and sustainability of TV distribution platforms, and what are the key decision points over the next ten years?</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Q3. How do broadband networks and supporting infrastructure need to evolve to support resilient delivery of TV over the internet in the future?</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Q4. In what ways might different types of 'hybrid' terrestrial and internet services deliver benefits for audiences and what risks may arise?</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Q5. Given the sharing of infrastructure, what would the implications for other sectors be if there was a change to the use of digital terrestrial television (DTT)?</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Q6. What coordination and planning across the value chain might be necessary to secure good outcomes for audiences and key providers over the long term?</b></p>	<p>N/A</p>

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<sup>i</sup> <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/globalassets/age-uk/documents/reports-and-publications/reports-and-briefings/active-communities/policy-briefing---facts-and-figures-about-digital-inclusion-and-older-people.pdf>