

# ACTO

local public service television directory

## REVIEW & ANALYSIS

**Ofcom's Local TV Report**

**DIGITAL LOCAL:**

*Options for the future of  
local video content and  
interactive services*

**... and YES - it's good news  
for LOCAL TV ....**

**UK LOCAL TV FORUM**

**March 22nd - book now**

**ACTO** is an advisory committee of local television organisations working alongside the Institute of Local Television. **ACTO**'s initial objective is to share information supporting the introduction of local digital terrestrial television as an independent form of local public service broadcasting.

**ACTO** was established in 2003 by local television members of the Community Media Association to focus on the introduction of local digital terrestrial television services - or 'local DTT'.

Through the Institute of Local Television **ACTO** is represented on **Open Channels for Europe!** the organisation representing European local and open channels in exchanging information on European practice and in negotiation with the European parliament on small-scale TV provision.

Personal and institutional affiliation to **ACTO** is by a small annual subscription (see page 14) entitling subscribers to copies of Institute of Local Television research and reports as well as to **ACTO** directories. Subscribers also receive early announcement of local TV conferences, forums, workshops and are offered networking and support with submissions to regulators and government as well as encouragement with local-tv related activities.

**ACTO - local public service television directory** - encourages local lines of research and documentation and promotes publications which support a wide public engagement with small-scale local TV.

This is the tenth edition of the **ACTO - local public service television directory**.

**ACTO back issues can be downloaded from [www.maccess.org.uk/members/ilt.html](http://www.maccess.org.uk/members/ilt.html)**

## **WEBSITES**

### **For information:**

on local and community TV in Europe: [www.obs.int/db/persky/eu.html](http://www.obs.int/db/persky/eu.html)

on community TV channels worldwide: [www.openchannel.se/](http://www.openchannel.se/)

UK's Community Media Association: [www.commedia.org.uk/](http://www.commedia.org.uk/)

UK examples of local and community TV programmes:

[www.showcase.commedia.org.uk/](http://www.showcase.commedia.org.uk/)

website of NvTv Belfast's Local TV Channel: [www.nvttv.co.uk](http://www.nvttv.co.uk)

Public Voice is the leading voluntary sector coalition campaigning for citizens' interests in communications policy and regulation:

[www.politics.co.uk/campaignsite/public-voice-\\$3436683.htm](http://www.politics.co.uk/campaignsite/public-voice-$3436683.htm)

Ofcom - the UK's independent regulator and competition authority - site includes sections on codes, guidelines and consultations: [www.ofcom.org.uk/](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/)

..... provides an extensive catalogue of consultations and reports - for background to local TV look out the public service broadcasting consultations Phase 1-3 and you can join the Ofcom email list for updates on future consultations and publications

inter-ACT!#5 media activism in South Korea. You can subscribe to this regular

English language newsletter at <http://lists.riseup.net/www/info/inter-act>

Institute of Local Television [www.localtvonline.com/](http://www.localtvonline.com/) .... shared with The Broadcasting Trust, website lists publications, provides background papers, illustrates local TV DVDs, 2.4 Ghz TV studies ....

Ofcom's new spectrum dividend review consultation

[http://www.ofcom.org.uk/media/news/2005/11/nr\\_20051117](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/media/news/2005/11/nr_20051117)

This edition of ACTO looks at the Ofcom Local TV Report titled *Digital Local: Options for the future of local video content and interactive services*. Ofcom has a responsibility under the 2003 Communications Act to consider the desirability of promoting the purposes of Public Service Broadcasting and in this report identifies

local TV as a potentially important element of the future PSB mix, serving audience needs that were not fully met by the current blend of national and regional broadcasting ('Executive Summary' *Digital Local*, Ofcom, 2006)

## Where to begin?

The first Two Sections are a Review and an Analysis of *Digital Local* - but are not a substitute for reading Ofcom's Report and contributing your own comments and assessment. Ofcom's Report: *Digital Local* can be downloaded from [http://www.ofcom.org.uk/tv/psb\\_review/digital\\_local/](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/tv/psb_review/digital_local/)

Firstly, we'll reproduce Ofcom's duties and principles to help us understand the regulator's role and responsibilities involved.

Alongside Ofcom's role we remind ourselves from earlier ACTO directories of where the Government stands on local digital terrestrial TV, that the Department for Media and Sport (DCMS) had asked Ofcom to address planning for local digital frequencies in August 2004. Lord Mcintosh, Minister DCMS, in his Letter of Address to the Scottish Local TV Forum 23rd March 2005 wrote:

The Government is committed to supporting local television and ..... we need to start thinking now about what we want local television to be in the future as we need to have a licensing regime in place for when spectrum does become available.

and earlier had written to Stephen Carter Chief Executive, Ofcom, 11th August 2004:

As you know, the Government is committed to supporting local television and would like to see an expansion of services. The availability of spectrum for these services has always been a problem, but the switch to digital transmission offer possibilities of identifying additional capacity which could be used for local services .....there seems to be no consideration being given by the spectrum planners to provide local television in the allocation of digital capacity. .... I would also find it helpful to have a report on the parameters and options for digital local television services, both for existing services and for increasing the number of services.

***Digital Local* does answer the key question of how to get Local TV into the majority of homes in each local TV area and onto each householder's TVs.**

## Introducing Ofcom's Local TV Report

About Ofcom (reproduced from [www.ofcom.org.uk](http://www.ofcom.org.uk))

### Statutory Duties and Regulatory Principles

Ofcom is the regulator for the UK communications industries, with responsibilities across television, radio, telecommunications and wireless communications services. Ofcom's Statutory Duties Under the Communications Act 2003:

- 3(1) It shall be the principal duty of Ofcom, in carrying out their functions;
  - (a) to further the interests of citizens in relation to communications matters; and

(b) to further the interests of consumers in relevant markets, where appropriate by promoting competition"

Ofcom's specific duties fall into six areas:

1. Ensuring the optimal use of the electromagnetic spectrum
2. Ensuring that a wide range of electronic communications services - including high speed data services - is available throughout the UK
3. Ensuring a wide range of TV and radio services of high quality and wide appeal
4. Maintaining plurality in the provision of broadcasting
5. Applying adequate protection for audiences against offensive or harmful material
6. Applying adequate protection for audiences against unfairness or the infringement of privacy

Ofcom's Regulatory Principles

- \* Ofcom will regulate with a clearly articulated and publicly reviewed annual plan, with stated policy objectives.
- \* Ofcom will intervene where there is a specific statutory duty to work towards a public policy goal which markets alone cannot achieve.
- \* Ofcom will operate with a bias against intervention, but with a willingness to intervene firmly, promptly and effectively where required.
- \* Ofcom will strive to ensure its interventions will be evidence-based, proportionate, consistent, accountable and transparent in both deliberation and outcome.
- \* Ofcom will always seek the least intrusive regulatory mechanisms to achieve its policy objectives.
- \* Ofcom will research markets constantly and will aim to remain at the forefront of technological understanding.
- \* Ofcom will consult widely with all relevant stakeholders and assess the impact of regulatory action before imposing regulation upon a market.

Ofcom's remit is regularly restated in public presentations. Here Peter Bury of Ofcom's Spectrum Team outlines the regulator's role during his Appleton Lecture in January 2005:

Broadcasting is still used to achieve public policy. The transitional challenges here are significantly greater. The Broadcasting Acts and Communications Act continue to give Ofcom very detailed duties around content, to ensure quality, diversity, localness, community goals etc .... In TV, we have a clear plan to achieve switchover. As digital technology increases the capacity available for broadcasting, spectrum rationing becomes less necessary in choosing who is able to broadcast.

In summary, Ofcom provides a communications policy that is evidence-based to comply with its statutory duty to further the interests of the citizen on communications matters and, where appropriate, to promote competition on behalf of the consumer.

**The Government are committed to supporting local television and we very much hope to see an expansion of services in the future. We envisage that local television will play a valuable role in keeping communities informed and in particular, help keep in touch those most socially isolated members of the community who may not have access, or are uneasy about using new technology. Local television will also bring economic benefits to areas in terms of employment and training....” Lord Mcintosh, Minister for the Media and Heritage at DCMS, addressing Scottish Local TV Forum in March 2005.**

**The ‘add/drop solution’ for terrestrial digital Local TV offers the most consistent and convenient solution, and potentially offers the widest reach for Local TV of all the terrestrial options.” Ofcom, *Digital Local*, January 2006.**

Again the focus on what's best for the citizen-consumer could easily become forgotten under pressure from Government as well as from the incumbent commercial and large scale PSB stakeholders. But ITV is withdrawing from regional PSB responsibilities - while retaining access to spectrum as a public service broadcaster. The value of that public loss - drawing on Ofcom's methodology and figures - is in the region of £70m per year - an analysis provided to Ofcom through the ACTO directories.

In *Digital Local* Ofcom reminds everyone (including itself) – of those duties to the citizen-consumer. Ofcom should

secure the availability throughout the UK of a wide range of television and radio services which (taken as a whole) are of high quality and calculated to appeal to a variety of tastes and interests;

and to have regard to

the different interests of persons in different parts of the UK, of the different ethnic communities and of persons living in rural and urban areas. (*Digital Local*, Footnote 18, page 21)

On the following page of *Digital Local* Ofcom highlight earlier concerns of regulators that introducing Local TV presented difficulties because

some areas might not be catered for [which] was seen to be unacceptable. (ITC, *What Viewers Want from Regional Television*, 2002).

By introducing this historical note Ofcom are suggesting that the regulatory perspective on Local TV has assumed that services *for all* needed to possible and that without offering universal access the regulator was unable to get behind Local TV (certainly not behind a genuine local public service broadcasting).

If a technical solution were then to be found to deliver a free Local TV channel on a universal basis offering a range of distinctive public goods (see Box) then these historical and regulatory reminders are Government as much as illustration for the reader of where Ofcom's principal duties lie.

Throughout the first ten editions of ACTO we suggested that an effective Local TV solution had already been found in March 2005. This had become known as the

'add/drop solution'. Suggesting this solution to Ofcom provoked some rather awkward and worrying regulatory shuffling during the preparation of this Report. There remains something of this confusion as to the 'best platform' in this report – not least this is reflected in the strained title - *Digital Local: Options for the future of local video content and interactive services* as well as in what we believe are errors in Figure 4.5 from *Digital Local* reproduced below.

Local TV 'services', 'stations' or 'channels' will remain for most households the main form of local content-delivery involving Local TV for some time to come. The Local TV sector believes this, as do past regulators (and Ofcom till recently stressed the work required to be focused on DTT in their Workplan for 2005/6). The Government too currently as well as in the 2003 Communications Act, and the Ministers of State since have all focused attention on local TV spectrum.

This is not to deny the value of downloading from the internet or of video on demand provided by broadband on TV or computer – but the singular and defining feature of Local TV is that it is of a social scale and engagement. In this it is participation which represents Local TV's unique characteristic not interaction. This has been apparent from our surveys and studies dating from 1989.

In the city studies that ILT has undertaken since 1989 we have found a high level of public interest in forms of television which have local relevance. The ITC's national studies show the majority of people in Britain want to relate some part of the programming they watch to their own experiences. ILT has shown that many people seem to want to go further and to actually represent themselves on their local television service.

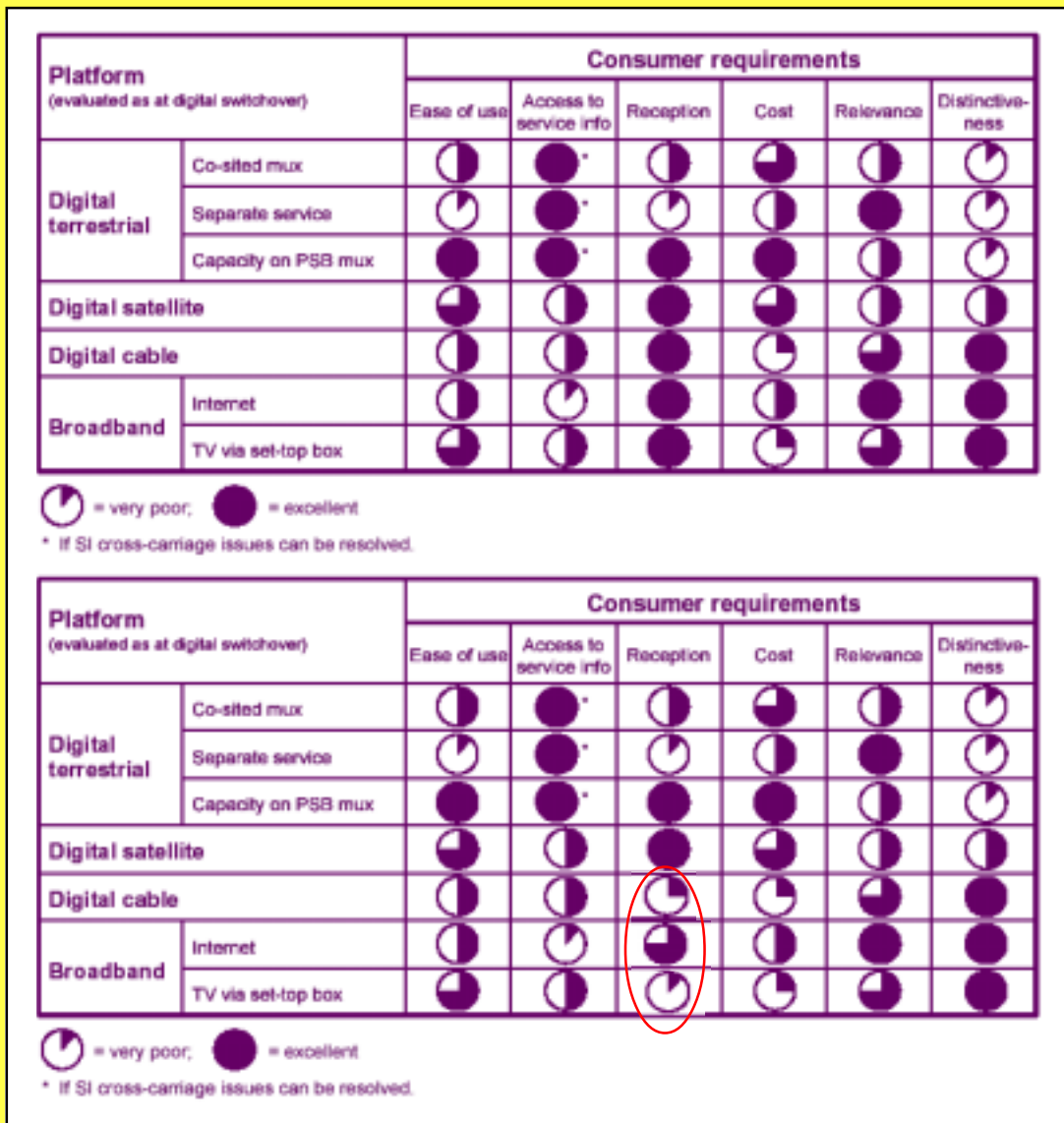
Yet without the small scale of city sized services public participation and accountability are unrealistic ambitions. This may well have been a factor - rather than consequence - in removing local options from the proposals that led up to the Broadcasting Act of 1990. There is a national paranoia evident among broadcasters and politicians. After so long without a voice, giving people a local say now might lead to views of Britain entirely different from those promoted centrally.

In a diverse country such as Britain, local views represent powerful cultural, economic and social differences across the country. Television successfully suppresses these differences. Television regions have no cultural integrity. The BBC is not sure whether Scotland is a country or a region. Scottish Television thinks it serves a country but only reaches a region. Experience related television will inevitably be mostly local and real: the rest of television even when relevant is still vicarious and distant. Dave Rushton, (ed) 'Introduction', *Citizen Television: a local dimension to public service broadcasting*, John Libbey, (1993))

We don't assume that a survey in one city can be taken to reflect the country as a whole. However, in Edinburgh in 1989:-

- \* over 50% of the city's population would be interested in participating in local television on subjects in which they have a particular interest
- \* there is a high percentage of people (around 90%) interested in watching a diversity of local television programmes. This interest is fairly uniform over all ages, social grades and ACORN groups. Peter Kitchenman, 'Edinburgh Television Study', (1989) in *Citizen Television: a local dimension to public service broadcasting*, John Libbey, (1993))

Between September and November 2005 Ofcom has gradually been substituting 'local video content' for 'Local TV' (see ACTO XX). In this we're reminded uneasily of the Radio Authority's desire during the passage of the 2003 Communications Act to re-brand 'community radio' as 'access radio' - as if to take ownership of a popular idea and to offer a new centralised spin which might codify in their own terms some-



Top is Ofcom's Figure 4.5: Advantages and disadvantages of different distribution platforms from a consumer perspective. Figure 4.5 is reprinted as it appears in *Digital Local* while the lower figure has been modified by ILT for reasons explained below.

In this comparative chart there seems to be an error ('correction' ringed in red). ILT thinks that Figure 4.5 as presented in *Digital Local* overstates the ability of both Digital Cable and Broadband on TV to deliver 'excellent reception' at digital switchover. Internet too is overstated but less so, and is still not >100%.

This might be an error or Ofcom should say how cable and broadband on TV penetration will be driven by market forces to approach 100% reception. If it is a mistake it leaves add/drop as the only universal PSB solution - regardless of platform. Add/drop brings no additional cost to the viewer; offers local public service television on equal terms with the other PSB channels; is efficient in spectrum use compared with other DTT options offering far better reach; its spectrum can be re-used if other platforms make DTT redundant or Local TV fails. Add/drop is also the least expensive option for operators, without requirement for transmitters, relays or antenna; presents no frequency interference issues; won't jeopardise spectrum auctions; is engineered in the roll out of national DTT; provides a barker channel to support the arrival of Local TV for each area and - with three 'add/drops' per main site - increases relevance above 4.5's indications.

thing they didn't quite understand but were becoming required to regulate, to assert authority over.

No one invited the Radio Authority or Ofcom to rename either 'community radio' or 'Local TV'.

Local TV as a sector combines commercial, municipal and community objectives and a variety of scales - only some of which require regulation and licenses. A sector which should continue to develop horizontally rather than to become dissipated from the centre by a monstrously vague renaming as 'local video content'.

The task for Ofcom is to be a regulator not a monopolistic innovator. Ofcom's role is to consider 'in the viewers best interest' how to ensure a public service Local TV channel could reach every TV home in the land by the best available means from 2008 through to 2012. This is now possible - and though Government had doubted it was technically possible (because Ofcom refused to do the work (see above) Ofcom has at last more than accepted in this Report the role 'add/drop' plays in addressing past concerns about intervention unless services can be made available in every area.

Digital switchover provides the best opportunity for Local TV to be undertaken comprehensively and as rigorously. Rather than burying this good-news Ofcom should be proudly calling meetings to proclaim its reconciliation with this discovery in every Town Hall and community centre across the land.

Emerging butterfly-like from a difficult few months of identity crisis with Ofcom is a new television service almost fully formed conceptually with transmission nearly resolved; a new Local TV service which helps to justify switchover politically and makes the transition a positive one for some of those households who don't see why they should bother leaving analogue behind. Viewers can now become genuine stakeholders and citizens of TV and not just consumers burdened with specious choice. With Local TV Ofcom addresses the citizen deficit in 'citizen-consumer'.

II

In his Address to the Scottish Local TV Forum in March 2005 Lord Macintosh made clear he had asked Ofcom to explore the prospect of a local digital terrestrial TV service for everyone. At that time it was not clear that a technical solution was possible. Less than an hour after his Address was read out it all began to look possible.

Also at the Scottish Local TV Forum, was Frank Brown of ntl who in the course of his Presentation introduced 'add/drop', a solution that might introduce a different TV signal at each main transmitter site. The 'add/drop solution' has since been developed by the Institute of Local Television and published in the *Local Channel Atlas*, in *Local Television Renewed* and in the ACTO directories. With a national 'local network channel' running on each of three PSB multiplexes 'add/drop' we have suggested three local channels 'added' at each main transmitter area, involving duplication of coverage but providing three distinctive local services across each local area reaching 98.5% of viewers and offering commercial and PSB viability for a Local TV channel for the first time in the UK.

In describing Local TV as having a 'future as Public Service Broadcasting' - Ofcom is now clearly of the view that Local TV is possible throughout the country. Of the various terrestrial digital options considered by the Report Ofcom strongly favours the add/drop solution as the best for the viewer.

We had initially read *Digital Local* believing it suggested that the add/drop solution could not be considered until after the Digital Dividend Review, or until well into 2007. We're still not sure that the timetable Ofcom offers in *Digital Local* doesn't point all terrestrial options that way.

We'd argued over several months that one of 'add/drops' great advantages was that the Digital Dividend Review and the Regional Radio Conference in May 2006 were not hurdles add/drop had to climb since it uses existing spectrum gained by better compression and transmission.

We've since been corrected on Ofcom's view – and planning add/drop can go ahead now.

Add/drop addresses the Government's commitment to expand Local TV services on

**ACTO's UK LOCAL TV FORUM will offer a major opportunity for everyone interested in Local TV to consider:-**

- **different technical platforms, with the variations and possible difficulties these present; including**
- **add/drop and SI solutions**
- **the different scales and ambitions for local authority, commercial and community services;**
- **the BBC's commitment to community and citizen production with their West Midlands Local TV Pilot;**
- **explore investment options and local commercial and regional newspaper partnerships**
- **Local TV models drawn from a variety of locations, from neighbourhood to city scale, from the UK and Eastern Europe.**

**CoSLA Edinburgh 22nd March 2006 10.00-5.00 £75.00 (concessions**

digital spectrum as well as being ready for the Order of Licence to be presented to Parliament this Summer.

The technical report of spectrum options for Local TV requested by Lord McIntosh in August 2004 is very lightly buried below the surface in *Digital Local* - when unearthed from the 'local video content' and (we believe) the errors of Figure 4.5 it is unequivocal *add/drop is the only solution for Local TV that offers the PSB scale of reach.*

## **Analysis**

Strategically, *Digital Local* is a clear message to everyone who has an interest in Local Television – government, regulator, local politician, private citizen and programme producer – that LOCAL TV has to be taken seriously. The Executive Summary delivers, overall, a ringing endorsement of the need for LOCAL TV and the

report simply poses the questions: How best to achieve it and who best to do it? It also recognises the curate's egg of the BBC's contribution and experiments: the involvement of the huge BBC resource ( - *but is it truly "local"?*) and the structure it would bring to LOCAL TV ( - *but would it crowd out and discourage other initiatives?*).

I have a number of questions and observations – but, overall, Ofcom's consideration of the use of public funds, through a subsidised tender process for spectrum, or a reallocation of (? )£50m of BBC funding, is hugely encouraging. Other thoughts:

- DTT needs to incorporate the interactive and enhanced services that (Ofcom say) currently it cannot?
- ITV's experiments are seen as nakedly commercial and largely ineffective in delivering the local PSB dimension.
- Working with local/regional newspapers (cross-media) might be helpful in funding and start-up
- Ofcom see efficiency of reach (to target audience) as a vital ingredient in their decision-making; therefore
- DTT has a strong card if/as it avoids expenditure on receivers, TVs new aerials etc
- Ofcom quite rightly see (3.12) "quality" as a high hurdle for LOCAL TV, not least because the service must not look like a "poor relation" of other channels eager to become stake-holders
- Ofcom have omitted "Encouraging local talent" (arts, business, tourism) from 3.3
- Ofcom underscore the ability (3.51, 3.54 and 3.56) of LOCAL TV to assist the democratic process, which will resonate with local authorities
- For the moment, anyone considering LOCAL TV should start with BROADBAND (4.15 on)
- The economics (5.1 on) are encouraging but need very close examination.
- Fig 5.2, for instance, shows a 50% increase in viewing share, due to better quality content (?on what basis)
- Ofcom have interesting (?optimistic) views on revenue from ads etc, particularly on Broadband.
- If there is no expenditure on PSP (6.1), where is the money going?
- Figure 6.1 raises the "political interference" spectre for local authorities. Provided a schedule were acceptable (should there be a licence system for DTT), this presumably would be the acid test
- The Add-Drop solution is an ideal solution, provided technical challenges can be overcome; the exploration of this should become a priority in the next few months

While stocks last - a few paper copies of **Ofcom's Digital Local** remain. Send cheque payable 'Institute of Local Television' to ILT 13 Bellevue Place Edinburgh EH7 4BS. If stocks run out re-prints will be available - see **BOOKS** below ....

# UK Local TV Forum

"The Government are committed to supporting local television and we very much hope to see an expansion of services in the future. We envisage that local television will play a valuable role in keeping communities informed and in particular, help keep in touch those most socially isolated members of the community who may not have access, or are uneasy about using new technology. Local television will also bring economic benefits to areas in terms of employment and training...." LORD McINTOSH, Minister for the Media and Heritage at DCMS, addressing Scottish Local TV Forum 2005.

The 'add/drop solution' was initially proposed at the Scottish Local TV Forum. It "offers the most consistent and convenient solution, and potentially offers the widest reach for Local TV of all the terrestrial options." OFCOM, Digital Local, January 2006

"digital local television  
**22nd March 2006**

10.00-5.00pm

**CoSLA**

Rosebery House  
Haymarket Terrace  
Edinburgh  
EH12 5XZ

to register, email names of  
delegates and organisation to

**local.tv@virgin.net**

before Friday 17th February

**£75.00** (concessions  
available)

## UK Local TV Forum

Registration and Exhibition

10.00

10.30

**Local Freeview & Broadband on TV**  
Engineering Local Digital Terrestrial Television

SergeFrancois, Terayon, Belgium,

Andy Woodcock, ngwireless TBC

Frank Brown, arqiva TBC

**Prospects for Broadband on TV**

Alison Stack, BT

TBC Homechoice,

Question & Answer

11.45

12.00

COFFEE

**Council Channels & Economic Development**

County TV

Peter Williams, PWTv

South Lanarkshire TV

Drew King

Question & Answer

1.00

2.00

LUNCH

**A sense of proportion?**

City TV Kosice - city & satellite

Eva Debranovsky, City TV Kosice

Community Production opportunities with BBC Local

Nic Millington, Rural Media Company

Question & Answer

3.45

4.00

TEA

**Investment Enterprise and Partnership**

Venture Capital

TBC

Regional Enterprise

TBC

Regional Newspapers & Local News

Ian Davies, Archant

Question & Answer

5.00

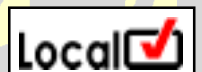
FINISH



Institute of Local Television



The Broadcasting Trust



Campaign for Local TV



# Local e • PETITION

AT DIGITAL SWITCHOVER, we call upon the UK government to make provision for a Local TV channel in ALL LOCAL AUTHORITY AREAS to ensure a majority of households are able to receive a Local TV channel alongside the other public service channels.

Vote **LOCAL TV** Today

<http://www.commentonline.co.uk/survey/>

to assist local TV organisation in your area and across the UK email [local.tv@virgin.net](mailto:local.tv@virgin.net) for copies of the paper version of the **CAMPAIGN for LOCAL TV PETITION**, some **LOCAL ✓ BADGES** and copies of the **LOCAL TV PARLOUR GAME**. Otherwise, do you really want more Quiz, Shopping Channels and Lifestyle channels *instead* of Local TV?

## CAMPAIGN for LOCAL TV

***Local TV and digital switchover provide a major opportunity to redistribute the social and economic benefits of broadcasting across the UK in creating upwards of 240 local scale TV channels. These will provide employment closer to the centres of media and journalism training, local news where it is relevant and local programmes that address community needs and aspirations.*** Dave Rushton, Director, Institute of Local Television, at Television from the Nations and Regions: The Promised Land, the future of television outside London, January 2006.

**LOCAL TELEVISION PUBLICATIONS from the Institute of Local Television**

***DIGITAL LOCAL: Options for the future of local video content and interactive services*** (Published by Ofcom, 19 January 2006) CONTENTS: Executive Summary; Introduction; The History and Future of Local TV; Public Purposes; Delivering Local Services in a Digital Environment; The Economics of Digital Local Content; Options for the Future; ANNEX A Overview of Current Restricted Service Licence Holders. (Published separately on Ofcom's website: ANNEX B Findings of Economic Analysis; ANNEX C

Technical Options in the Interleaved Spectrum.) Reprinted by Agreement, £10.00 inc p&p 84pgs

**The Pocket LOCAL CHANNEL ATLAS (Scotland)** ISBN: 1 899405 05 4. The 'add/drop solution' explained. The terrestrial Local TV option proposed by ACTO and described in Ofcom's Digital Local as "the most consistent and convenient solution and potentially offers the widest reach for Local TV of all the terrestrial options." Add/drop explained and applied to delivering Local TV throughout Scotland (2005), £9.00 inc p&p 40pgs.

**ACTO - local public service television directories.** Is the pdf directory circulated as an information resource and discussion forum on Local TV. FOC and distributed by email to over 800 readers. To 'subscribe' forward you email address. Papers from the first ten editions of ACTO have been compiled into LOCAL television REPORT.

**LOCAL television REPORT - ACTO local public service television papers**, ISBN: 1 899405 04 6, published by School Press/ACTO/Institute of Local Television, (December 2005), £13.50 inc p&p 144 pgs. Softback. CONTENTS I Preamble. ii Introduction. ONE Questions & Answers: Natalie White's: Questions on the Future of Local Television; Ofcom's: Assessing the Future of Local Television and Interactive Services: A Survey for Stakeholders. TWO European Background: Assessing Opportunities for Local TV Across Europe; THREE Case Histories: Triangle TV Auckland; Open Channels Germany; Open Channel Berlin; Teveline: Reality Show vs Real People; Channel Six Dundee plus Audience Research; 'e-tv' in Aberfeldy. FOUR Local Spectrum & Costs: The Add/drop Solution and Local Network Channel; How Big or Small is Local TV?; A Stab at Local TV Costs. FIVE Shifting Policies: Media Literacy, Local Licences and Local Government; God's Own Spectrum: Local TV and the Public Good; Regional Variations in Production Spend; Bigger Picture on the Smaller Screen; Valuing Local Public Service Television. SIX Nutshell: ACTO Checklist to Ofcom, April 2005.

**LOCAL TELEVISION RENEWED: essays on local television 1994-2005** published by School Press for the Institute of Local Television, (August 2005). £13.50 inc p&p 112 pgs, Softback LOCAL TELEVISION RENEWED provides a vigorous critique of the political impact of public service broadcasting since 1990 and argues for two hundred plus independent local, community and municipal television channels in line with developments underway across Europe. LOCAL TELEVISION RENEWED outlines how these proposals for local TV channels can be introduced as part of digital switchover from 2008 and expanded via broadband.

LOCAL TELEVISION RENEWED is the fifth volume on local television to be published by the Institute of Local Television - published either with John Libbey, the Community Radio Association (CRA, now the Community Media Association) or on the ILT imprint: School Press.

LOCAL TELEVISION RENEWED: essays on local television 1994-2005, ISBN:1 899405 03 8, Dave Rushton, published by School Press (2005) £13.50 inc p&p 112 pgs Softback CONTENTS Preamble; Introduction; Technical Background; Virtual Reality; Vicarious and Experiential TV News; A General Theory of Spectrum; Defining the Social Geography of Local News Identity; Assessing opportunities for local digital TV across Europe; Add/Drop and the Local Network Channel. APPENDICES: A Local Television Reader; Scottish Local TV Forum Report; Some pointers for filming local TV news and short documentaries

**CITIZEN TELEVISION: a local dimension to Public Service Broadcasting**, ISBN: 0 86196 433 0 edited by Dave Rushton, published by John Libbey & Institute of Local Television

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