

REPORTING BACK on the Digital Switch



House of Commons - Early Day Motion 1526 sponsored by Nick Harvey MP (North Devon), 8th May 2008

“That this House recognises the existence of a digital divide in rural areas of the UK; notes that residents in areas such as Devon are being further exposed to this problem through the digital television switchover; is concerned that residents in the South West of England are still falling prey to inadequate systems of implementation preventing them from enjoying access to the internet, mobile and television services which denies them the benefits of 21st century communications available to others; and calls for the implementation of systems combining the use of satellites and appropriate ground-based communications technology that remove transmission blind spots so that these services are available to everyone irrespective of location.”

Co-sponsored by:

Don Foster (LD - Bath)

Roger Williams (LD - Ceredigion)

Andrew George (LD - St Ives)

Richard Younger-Ross (LD - Teignbridge)

Matthew Taylor (LD - Truro)

Supported by:

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Rudi Vis (Lab)

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Mark Williams (LD)

Phil Willis (LD)



Advice about the Digital Switch

To help people understand how and when the switch over will take place DigitalUK has been set up.

Information is being made available as leaflets available from TV shops and other outlets.

For those with internet access they have a website: www.digitaluk.com which has up-to-date information on the key dates for the change over, and has a post code checker to let you see what is **expected** to happen when the switch over happens. This is not 100% certain as, for instance, tall trees might block a signal, or even reflect it on to an area which should not be able to receive it!

WARNING

Beware of door to door sales people offering “digital aerials”.

There’s no such thing!

Some people have paid out upto £300 for new aerials they didn’t need!

Almost all aerials under 5 years old and many even 20 years old are quite

capable of receiving a good digital signal based on practical experience in the Borders ITV

region where the switch is already happening!

