



# Broadcasting Act 1996

## 1996 CHAPTER 55

### PART I

#### DIGITAL TERRESTRIAL TELEVISION BROADCASTING

##### *Introductory*

#### **1 Multiplex services and digital programme services.**

- (1) In this Part “multiplex service” means a service provided by any person which consists in the broadcasting for general reception of two or more services specified in subsection (3) by combining the relevant information in digital form, together with any broadcasting in digital form of digital additional services (as defined by section 24(1)).
- (2) A service in respect of which a licence under section 7 is in force is not prevented from being a multiplex service at a particular time merely because only one service specified in subsection (3) is being broadcast in digital form at that time.
- (3) The services referred to in subsections (1) and (2) are—
  - (a) a digital programme service (as defined by subsection (4)), or
  - (b) a qualifying service (as defined by section 2(2)).
- (4) In this Part “digital programme service” means a service consisting in the provision by any person of television programmes (together with any ancillary services, as defined by section 24(2)) with a view to their being broadcast in digital form for general reception, whether by him or by some other person, but does not include—
  - (a) a qualifying service,
  - (b) a teletext service, or
  - (c) any service in the case of which the visual images to be broadcast do not consist wholly or mainly of images capable of being seen as moving pictures, except, in the case of a service falling within paragraph (b) or (c), to the extent that it is an ancillary service.

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*Status: Point in time view as at 01/11/1996. This version of this provision has been superseded.*

**Changes to legislation:** *Broadcasting Act 1996, Section 1 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 05 August 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)*

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- (5) The Secretary of State may, if having regard to developments in broadcasting technology he considers it appropriate to do so, by order amend the definition of “digital programme service” in subsection (4).
- (6) No order under subsection (5) shall be made unless a draft of the order has been laid before and approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament.
- (7) In this section—
- “broadcast” means broadcast otherwise than—
    - (a) by satellite, or
    - (b) in the provision of a local delivery service (as defined by section 72(1) of the 1990 Act), and
- “for general reception” means for general reception in, or in any area in, the United Kingdom.

**Status:**

Point in time view as at 01/11/1996. This version of this provision has been superseded.

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