

Digital TV switchover – minimising the potential for negative environmental effects

What will happen?

The switchover from analogue to digital TV in the Anglia TV region takes place in July 2011 (for south Suffolk) and November 2011 (for north Suffolk).

To keep your TV service, you will need to convert your existing TVs to digital before the switchover date, if you haven't done so already. Cable and satellite services are not affected by the switchover.

This does not mean that you will have to get rid of your old set as almost any TV can be converted simply by adding a digital box, even a black and white one, so there is no need to buy a new TV unless you want to. As well as avoiding the unnecessary waste created by replacing a perfectly good TV, converting your existing TV can be a far cheaper way of adapting to the switchover, as digital boxes are available from around £20 though as with actual TVs, prices vary depending on the product.

What if my TV cannot be upgraded?

If however you are planning to replace your TV, for instance because it no longer works and cannot be repaired, or it is not possible to convert your existing TV to receive the digital signal by the addition of a digital box, try to buy one that is energy efficient - look out for the Energy Saving Trust's 'Recommended' logo.



If you still do decide to get rid of an old TV that is in good working order, you could offer it to a friend, or offer it via a reuse network such as Freecycle (<http://www.freecycle.org>) or Freegle (<http://www.ilovefreegle.org>)

Alternatively, you can take your old set for recycling, free of charge, to the Household Waste Recycling Centres at Bramford, Brome, Chelmondiston, Hadleigh, Stowmarket and Sudbury. You could also ask the supplier delivering your new TV if they have a service for taking the old one away, or you can arrange for Mid Suffolk and Babergh Waste Services to collect it at a cost of £22 (0845 606 6045)

Do not dump your old TV – fly-tipping is a criminal offence.