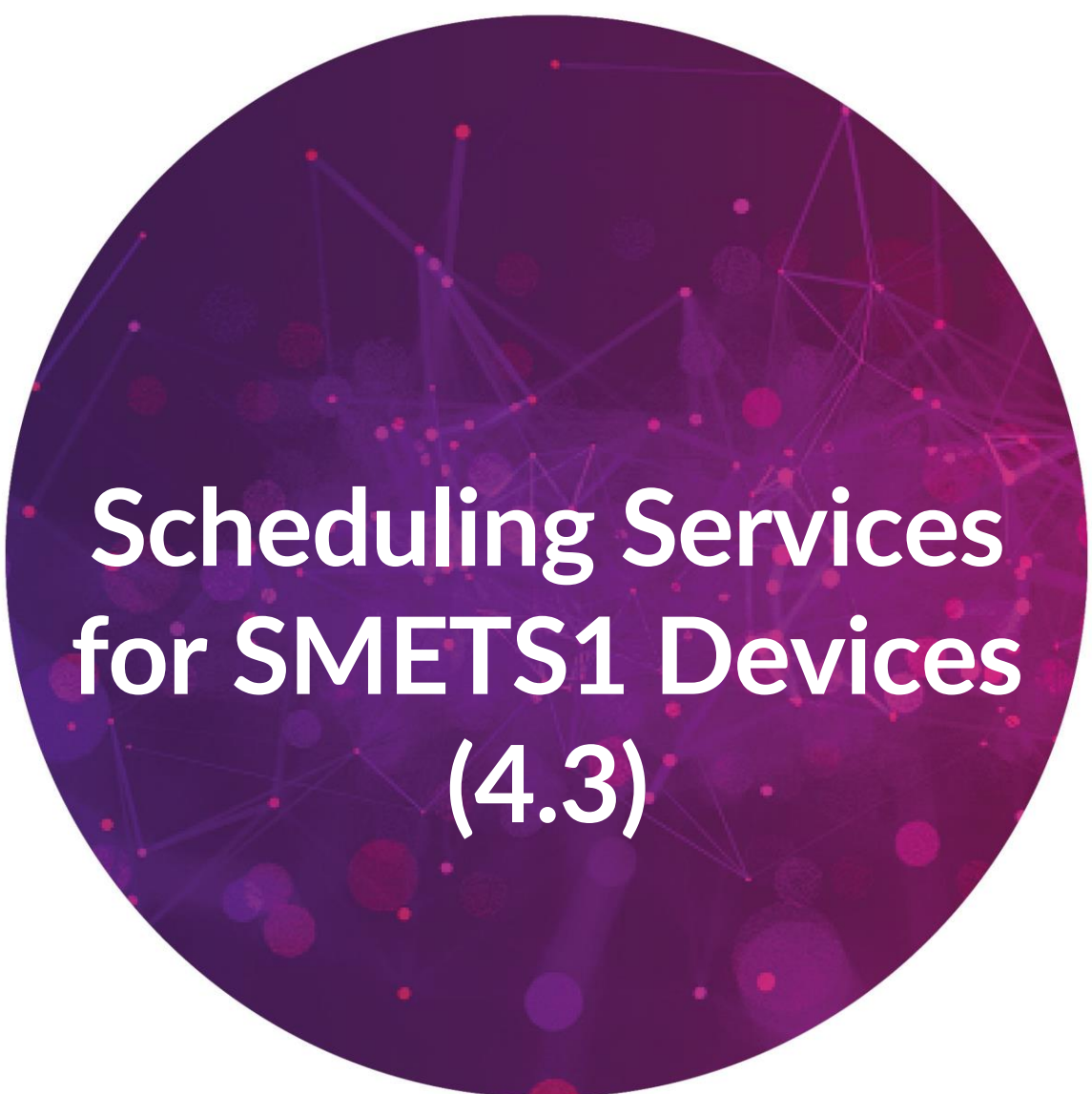




Scheduling Services for SMETS1 Devices (4.3)

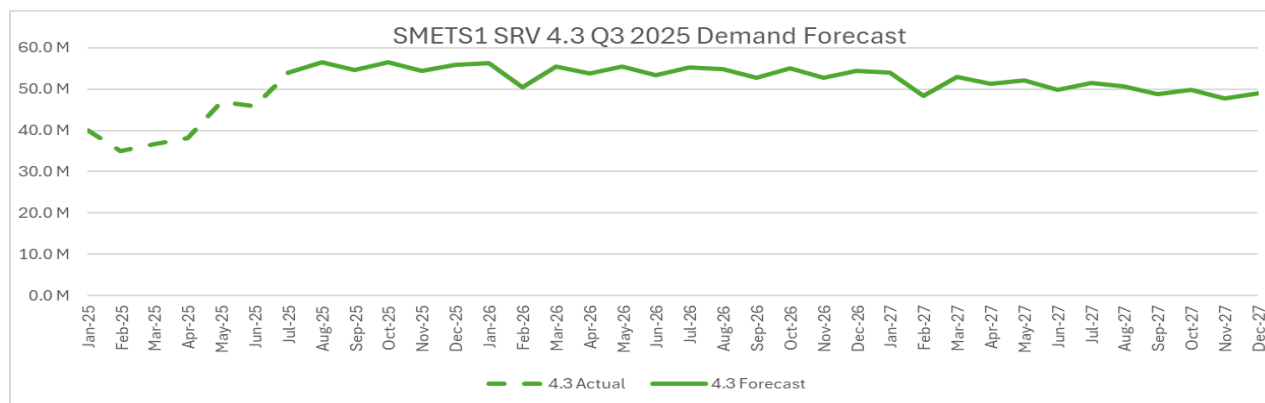
Version: V0.2
Date: 8 September 2025
Author: DCC

What is the issue or problem identified?

Smart Energy Code (SEC) Appendix AD 'DCC User Interface Specification' (DUIS) defines the individual Service Reference Variants (SRVs) that are eligible for sending as Scheduled Services by Users.

For Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specifications 1 (SMETS1), SRV 4.3 'Read Instantaneous Prepay Values' can currently only be requested on an 'On-Demand' or 'Future Dated' service basis. As such, Eligible Users must send one of these SRVs to the DCC each time the associated data is required. As SRV 4.3 is not currently eligible for Scheduled Services for SMETS1 services, Service Users cannot utilise SRV 5.1 'Create Schedule' to schedule SRV 4.3 on a repeating basis.

This results in a high volume of 'On Demand' or 'Future Dated' SRV 4.3s being requested on a regular, repeated basis. The chart below shows the actual and forecasted volumes of SRV4.3s based on the DCC 'Q3 2025 Demand Forecast'. In the case of SMETS1, SRV 4.3 volumes are forecast to peak in September 2025 in line with the completion of SMETS1 Enrolment and Adoption. This forecast is based on the total volume of SMETS1 Devices migrated to the DCC and current proportion of prepayment Devices enrolled.

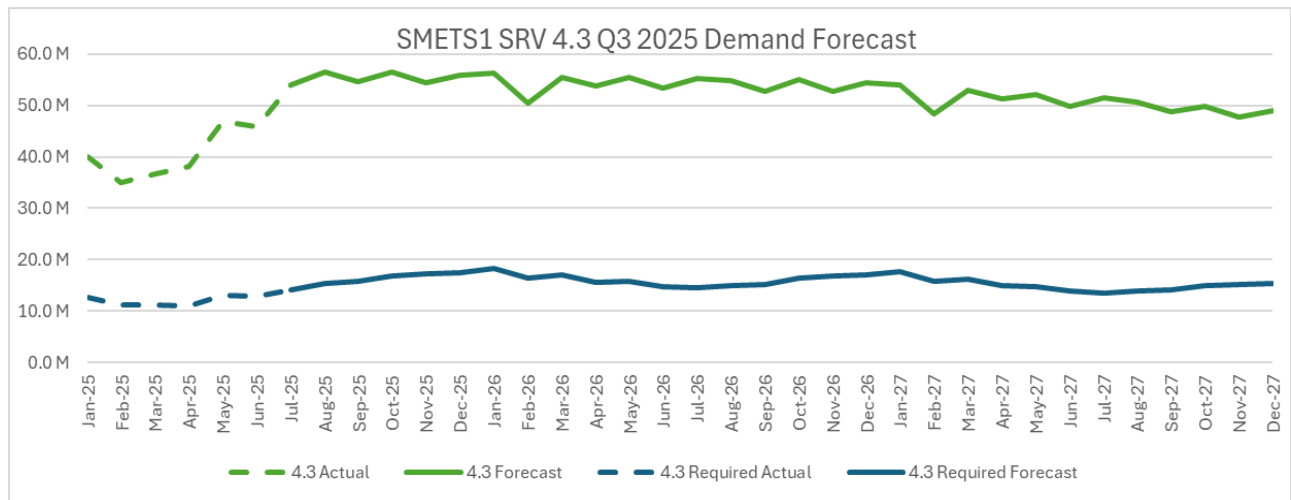


What is the impact (including the impacts of doing nothing)?

Due to the nature of SMETS1 Device communication, each 'On-demand' and 'Future Dated' request requires at least one SMS text message to be sent, resulting in a significant cost for DCC and DCC customers. In addition, the running of these SRVs using either the 'On-Demand' or 'Future-Dated' service is onerous for DCC Users as a new request is made on an individual basis.

The chart below shows the actual and forecast volumes of SRV 4.3 for SMETS1 based on the DCC 'Q3 2025 Demand Forecast'. Based on initial customer feedback, the chart also shows the volume of 'On-demand' and 'Future Dated' SRV 4.3s that are required to run in these Modes of Operation, with the remaining volume being migrated to Scheduled Mode of Operation, this is based on the following assumptions

- 1) Any SRV 4.3 not sent immediately following an SRV 2.2 (TopUpDevice) is eligible to be moved to Scheduled Mode of Operation
- 2) Service Users migrate 80% of all eligible SRV 4.3s to Scheduled mode of operation.



Based on the assumptions above around 74% of all 'On-demand' and 'Future Dated' SRV 4.3s can be moved to Scheduled Mode of Operation. Based on the assumptions above, around 74% of all 'On-demand' and 'Future Dated' SRV 4.3s can be moved to Scheduled Mode of Operation. Due to the one-to-one mapping between 'On-demand' and 'Future Dated' SRVs and SMS volumes, this will result in significant cost avoidance for DCC and incurred costs to DCC users.

DCC is currently modelling the commercial impact of this change but is expected to result in cost avoidance in the Tens of Millions of Pounds (£) between delivery in November 2026 and SMETS1 End of Life. As part of the Preliminary Impact Assessment (PIA), DCC will provide developed and refined costs and cost avoidance estimates resulting from this change.

Please note that the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) have recently indicated that SMETS1 Devices are likely to not require replacement until 2033¹.

Suggested Modification

The Proposed Solution is to update DCC User Interface Specification (DUIS) to allow SRV 4.3 'DCC Scheduled' Mode of Operation. This will enable Eligible Users to setup Scheduled SRV 4.3s to SMETS1 Devices using SRV 5.1.

As the scheduling capability for SRV 4.3 will be applicable for SMETS1 Devices only, the DCC will implement an error code to notify this validation failure if a Supplier attempts to schedule for SMETS2+ Devices.

Assumptions

1. Service Users will update their systems to adapt and schedule SRV 4.3 requests accordingly.
2. As this modification requires a change in User behaviour, DUIS uplift and adapter changes (and the associated costs for doing so), we have assumed an 80% take up of this change by Users. This estimate will be validated in customer engagement sessions.
3. As this requires a full DUIS uplift, we anticipate this change to be implemented by November 2026.

Customer Engagement

DCC proposed that the next step in terms of customer engagement should be to hold focussed sessions with customers that are producing the highest volume of SRV 4.3 requests to validate the

¹ Smart Metering Policy Framework – Post 2025: consultation

assumptions on user behaviour and gather further information to support the modification. DCC recognises that formal engagement will be delivered in partnership with SECAS primarily through the OPSG and TABASC sub-committees to ensure that customers can better understand, scrutinise and support the proposed change.