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DP306

‘Alternative Self Service Data solution for Service Users’

Modification Report

Version 0.1

14 October 2025



About this document

This document is a draft Modification Report. It currently sets out the background, issue, and progression timetable for this modification, along with any relevant discussions, views and conclusions. This document will be updated as this modification progresses.

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1. Summary

This proposal has been raised by Andrew Firth from British Gas.

The Data Communications Company (DCC) shares reports with Service Users via a SharePoint in order to support Service Users in reporting backward looking positions using DCC Data. The current process for sharing DCC reports presents some challenges to Service Users in which changes would be required in order to remedy. Some of the challenges include Data ingestion, Data frequency and reporting dataset formats e.g. Comma Separated Values (CSV) files.

The Proposer has identified several potential areas for improvement within the current DCC process which will be assessed as part of this modification.

Implementation costs are yet to be determined. This is a Self-Governance modification.

2. Issue

What are the current arrangements?

The DCC shares reports with Service Users via a SharePoint in order to support Service Users in reporting backward looking positions using DCC Data. The files shared with Users are primarily CSV or Excel Open XML Format Spreadsheet (XLSX) files, which allow for Users to ingest DCC Data using their own internal methods.

What is the issue?

The current process for sharing DCC reports presents some challenges to Service Users in which changes would be required in order to remedy. Some of the challenges identified are:

- The use case of some of the reports provided has changed overtime, with some Service Users using the existing reports to underpin operational processes in addition to that of reporting on backward looking positions.
- Some of the provided DCC reports are shared on a less frequent basis than others e.g. weekly or monthly. Service Users can see benefit in having Data provided on a more regular basis to support operational processes.
- The DCC requires named Service Users to access reporting Data on SharePoint. This drives significant manual effort for Service Users through the manual retrieval of reporting datasets.
- The need to ingest DCC report extracts into Service User reporting solutions from extract files introduces complexity into the ingestion process.
- The combination of SharePoint, CSV files, named Service Users and email updates on report availability combined serves to limit the operability of the solution for some Service Users. It's either not possible or inconvenient to confirm that reporting Data is complete or has been updated
- Sharing of Data via CSV files can potentially remove useful metadata that can provide insight, and also potentially removes the ability to share relationships between datasets.

What is the impact this is having?

If the current process remains in place, there is likely to be continued significant manual processing of DCC reporting potentially limiting the amount of benefit a Service User can yield into operational processes.

Impact on consumers

There is no impact on consumers as a result of this modification.

3. Assessment of the proposal

Areas for assessment

Potential Solution

The Proposer has identified several potential areas for improvement within the current DCC process. These are outlined in high-level detail below:

- Cloud-based reporting solution
- Authenticated Service User access
- Daily frequency of all DCC reporting datasets (where possible)
- Continued access to all existing DCC reporting datasets
- System to system notifications of updates to reporting datasets
- Backwards compatibility for reporting dataset updates
- Improved security through control of Data access to authorised Service Users

As part of this modification, SECAS will look to explore the possibility of implementing the criteria provided by the Proposer as part of any potential solutions.

Sub-Committee input

SECAS will engage with the Chairs from the Privacy Sub-Committee (PSC), Performance Assurance Board (PAB), Testing Advisory Group (TAG), Operations Group (OPSG), the Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC), the Security Sub-Committee (SSC) and the Smart Metering Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority (SMKI PMA) to confirm what input is required from these forums. SECAS believes the following Sub-Committees will need to provide the following input to this modification:

Sub-Committee input	
Sub-Committee	Input sought
OPSG	Understand the operational impacts of the proposed changes.
PAB	<i>There is no impact to Performance Assurance as a result of this modification.</i>
PSC	<i>There is no impact to Privacy as a result of this modification.</i>
SMKI PMA	<i>There is no impact to SMKI as a result of this modification.</i>
SSC	Understand the security impacts of the proposed changes.
TABASC	Understand the technical impacts of the proposed changes.
TAG	<i>There is no impact to Testing as a result of this modification.</i>

Appendix 1: Progression timetable

Timetable	
Event/Action	Date
Draft Proposal raised	14 Oct 2025
<i>Presented to the Change Sub-Committee (CSC) for initial comment</i>	21 Oct 2025
<i>Business Requirements Workshop</i>	Nov 2025
<i>Presented to the OPSG</i>	Dec 2025 – Jan 2025
<i>Presented to the SSC</i>	Dec 2025 – Jan 2025

Italics denote planned events that could be subject to change

Appendix 2: Glossary

This table lists all the acronyms used in this document and the full term they are an abbreviation for.

Glossary	
Acronym	Full term
CSC	Change Sub-Committee
CSV	Comma Separated Values
DCC	Data Communications Company
OPSG	Operations Group
PAB	Performance Assurance Board
PSC	Privacy Sub-Committee
SEC	Smart Energy Code
SECAS	The Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat
SMKI PMA	Smart Metering Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority
SSC	Security Sub-Committee
TABASC	Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee

Glossary	
Acronym	Full term
TAG	Testing Advisory Group
XLSX	Excel Open XML Format Spreadsheet