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CTG Meeting 18

10:30 – 13:30, 12 August 2024

CTG_18_1208 – Meeting Headlines

Decision, Discussion and Information Items

1. Previous Meeting's Minutes (For Decision) (**RED**)

The CTG reviewed the confidential and non-confidential minutes from the CTG 17 meeting and **APPROVED** them as final.

2. Actions Log Update (For Decision) (**RED**)

The CTG **NOTED** the actions log update and **AGREED** to close all actions marked as Propose to Close.

3. DCC Update: 4G CH&N Programme (For Information) (**AMBER**)

Programme Update

DCC presented an overview of the overall plan for CH&N Transition to 4G Communication Hubs (CHs) and provided updates on its programme risks and issues, noting an overall RAG status of Green. DCC highlighted it has achieved Systems Integration Testing (SIT) Exit on 31 July 2024 and the commencement of User Integration Testing (UIT) on 5 August 2024.

User Integration Testing (UIT) Update

DCC presented an update on UIT and advised that UIT-B testing commenced on 5 August 2024 and noted that no defects had been raised by Test Participants (TPs) so far relating to CH firmware for completed customer journey runs. DCC highlighted that bi-weekly calls were occurring with testing participants during UIT-B.

Initial Pallet Validation (IPV) Working Group playback

DCC presented an update from the Initial Pallet Validation (IPV) Working Group and noted the second IPV Working Group meeting occurred on 24 July 2024 and discussed UIT, mesh requirements and firmware upgrades. DCC noted the next IPV Working Group will be held on 21 August and will discuss UIT, Installer Training and IPV rollout plans.

Regulations Update

DCC provided an update on regulations and noted that changes to the Network Evolution Transition and Migration Approach Document (NETMAD) were designated on 19 July 2024. DCC advised that 'Phase 4' of the regulatory consultations will be issued on 16 September and will focus on enduring reporting on Mesh CHs, enrolment and communication services for 4G CHs, and mass manufacturing of 4G CHs.

4G Comms Hub Outline Business Case Update

DCC presented an update on 4G Transitional Financing Arrangements and advised that the 4G CH Outline Business Case (OBC) would be presented to the August SEC Panel meeting to seek support for the proposed funding/financing option decision. DCC noted that separate to the OBC, DCC are undertaking a review of DCC's charging methodology ahead of mass rollout of 4G CHs and the CTG **REQUESTED** DCC return to CTG with an implementation and engagement plan, which includes impact on charging.

Supply Chain Update

DCC presented an update on the 2/3G to 4G Supply Chain transition and noted that the aggregated industry view of current orders, forecasts and stock supports the transition to 4G only installs by early January to early February 2026. DCC advised a consultation on amending the Temporary CH Order Delivery Rules will be released in August 2024.

Intimate Communications Hub Interface Specification (ICHIS) Progress Update

DCC presented an update on the Intimate Communications Hub Interface Specification and advised that the outcome of testing analysis confirmed no meters will be removed from the wall, and DCC will confirm the approach to mitigate any remaining RF Noise issues in line with the Joint Industry Plan Milestone of 9 September 2024.

The CTG **NOTED** these updates.

4. DCC Update: VMO2 3G Sunsetting (For Information) (AMBER)

DCC presented an update on VMO2 3G sunsetting trial activity and presented a draft delivery plan for the Traffic Management Gateway solution and noted DCC will return to CTG in September and provide a more detailed update on VMO2 3G sunsetting activities, including a customer engagement approach on reporting and service measures.

The CTG **NOTED** the update.

5. DCC Update: SMETS 1 End of Life (For Information) (AMBER)

DCC presented an update on SMETS1 End of Life (EoL) and noted ongoing discussions between DCC and DESNZ regarding the spending objectives of the business case. DCC acknowledged the outstanding action to share a revised engagement plan for the SMETS1 EoL project, with the aim to share this with CTG in September.

The CTG **NOTED** the update.

6. ENA Update on DCUSA DCP 419 and next steps (For Information) (GREEN)

ENA presented an update on DCUSA DCP 419 and noted DCP 419 is due to progress to a Change Report for Party voting, before being issued to Ofgem for decision. ENA noted that should DCP 419 be approved, it will lead to the creation of a new market message that should be used by Suppliers. CTG members raised concerns that DCP 419 would create additional requirements for Suppliers when completing CH exchanges and ENA **AGREED** to consider further any options not previously considered by working with Engage and SECAS that could have less impacts than the current DCP 419 proposed solution.

The CTG **NOTED** the update.

7. Sub-Committee Chair Updates (For Information) (GREEN)

The SSC/SMKI and TAG Chairs provided Sub-Committee updates relevant to the 4G programme: the SSC/SMKI Chair noted delays in penetration testing and the TAG Chair noted UIT was progressing, however acknowledged it was early in the testing process.

The CTG **NOTED** the updates.

8. CTG Overall Transition Plan (OTP) Update (For Information) (AMBER)

The Chair advised an updated draft Overall Transition Plan (OTP) would be presented to CTG in September for baselining and noted the OTP was unlikely to result in changes to the CTG Plan-on-a-Page currently.

E.ON presented a workstream overview of E.ON's 2/3G Sunsetting and 4G delivery plan to provide a supplier perspective to CTG and the presentation was welcomed by CTG Members.

The CTG **NOTED** the updates.

9. CTG Risks and Issues Register – monthly update (For Decision) (RED)

The CTG **NOTED** changes made to the CTG Risks and Issues Register, but **AGREED NOT** to a proposed lowering of the Severity Score for one Risk. The CTG **AGREED** to the baselining of the Risk and Issues Register draft as v17.0, conditional on the draft reflecting the discussion at CTG that the Risk rating remains unchanged.

10. CTG FACTSHEETS (For Decision) (AMBER)

SECAS presented the draft version 2.3 of the Green Factsheets and draft version 4.3 of the Amber Factsheets, with changes reflecting the latest updates on VMO2 2/3G Sunsetting and Mesh requirements. The CTG **NOTED** the DCC VMO2 3G sunsetting update provided by DCC earlier during the meeting which is an addition to the already proposed changes to the Amber Factsheet and SECAS **AGREED** to make additional changes prior to circulating the Factsheets to CTG ex-committee for baselining.

11. AOB (GREEN)

DCC presented a list of upcoming consultations as part of DCC's standard update to the SEC Sub-Committees for awareness.

SECAS informed members of a staffing change in support to CTG.

The CTG **NOTED** the update.

Next Meeting Date: 09 September 2024.