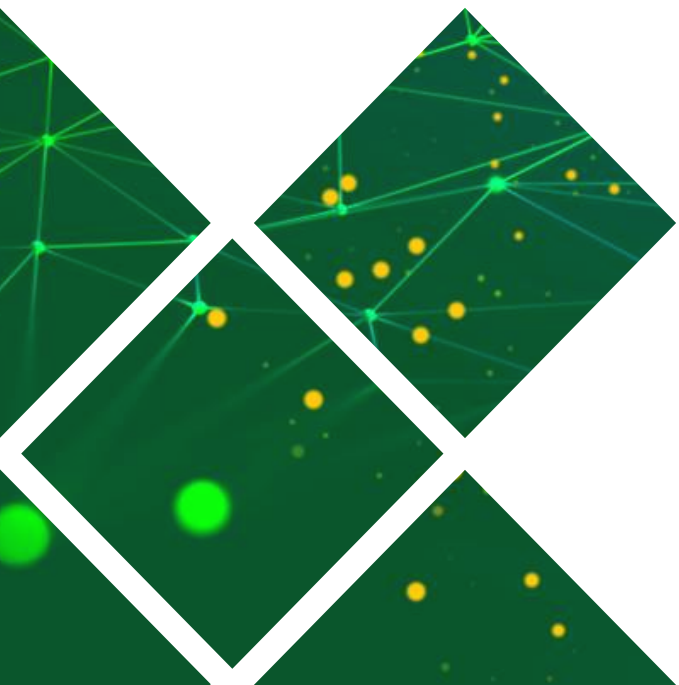


SEC CHANGE MONTHLY WORKING GROUP MEETING

FEBRUARY 2023



COMPETITION ACT COMPLIANCE

It is everyone's responsibility to say something

The Chair will move the conversation on



MP207: Allowing Registered Supplier Agents to Maintain Meter Firmware

Raised by Tom Woolley from SMS Plc

Objectives of the Working Group

REVIEW

Feedback received

REVIEW

The DCC Preliminary Assessment Response

AGREE

The next steps

Issue

- MOPs and MAMs are able to become DCC Users in the User Role 'Registered Supplier Agent (RSA)'.
- Only Suppliers are currently able to deploy and activate firmware.
- RSAs are authorised to maintain the Supplier's meters but unable to maintain Device Firmware.

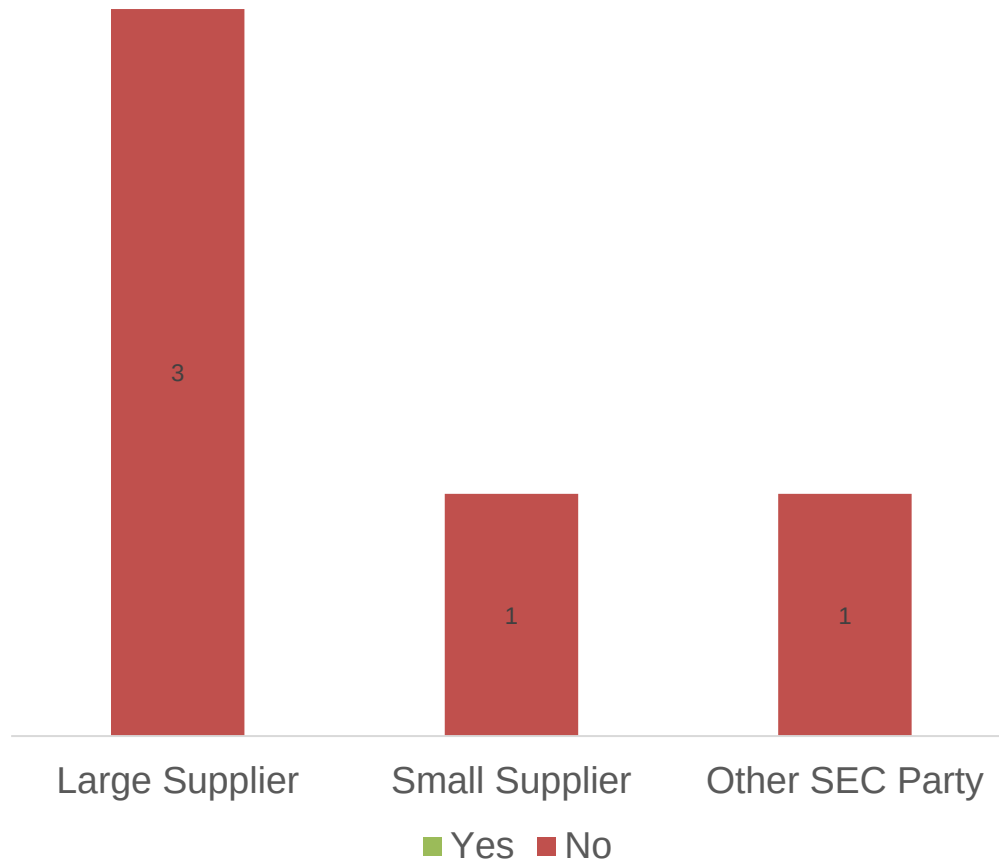
Potential Solution

- Only deploy firmware (*SRV 11.1 'Update Firmware'*).
- Suppliers will still need to activate firmware following the deployment.
- No changes to User CIO Assessment.

■ SECAS sought EUK member feedback

- Questions sent to EUK members:
 - 1) Do you think your organisation will make use of this change if it is approved?
 - 2) Would your organisation require anything additional to facilitate the change?
 - 3) Any other comments or queries.

EUK Member Responses



Key comments

- 'Existing process of automated firmware activation would be broken'
- 'Not something we support or believe there is a need for'
- 'We cannot see how this suggestion addresses anything as all the issues of managing the upgrade will need to be done by the Supplier. The RSA cannot manage most items.'
- 'Opening up critical commands to RSA's that are not also subject to the IS/GS security arrangements should be avoided in principle'
- 'As an organisation not expecting to make use of this change we would need certainty that a MOP/MAM could NEVER install Firmware on any meters operated by a Supplier without explicit permission from the Supplier (in the form of system-based approval).'

■ Business requirements

Ref.	Requirement
1	Enable Energy Supplier appointed RSAs (Registered Supplier Agents) to Update Firmware on SMETS1 and SMETS2+ Devices (ESME and GSME only)
2	Validation of Devices which the appointed RSAs are responsible for and have permission to manage
3	Current firmware management security requirements must be maintained
4	Reporting mechanism to monitor and ensure Energy Suppliers are aware of the current state of their Device portfolio
5	RSAs can access Alerts that are triggered by updating firmware

■ Proposed Solution Summary

Appointed RSAs

- Adds capability for RSAs to send SRV11.1s to ESME/GSME
- Receive all Alerts related to distribution & changes of firmware on Devices
- RSAs & Suppliers will receive confirmation of delivery

SSI

- RSAs and Suppliers able to see firmware tracking for Devices where the other Party has sent the SRV 11.1 using SSI

Definition change

- Invalid Device check (W110101*) to include checking an RSA is appointed to the Device (ESME/GSME)

*W110101 - Used when Device does not exist or sender is not the Registered Supplier

Preliminary Assessment Impacts

DSP Impacts

May need new error code to report validation failures for unauthorised RSA

Adding new error code may have impact on DUIS schema

If decision is made to create a new error code could increase costs and extend the project duration

CSP Impacts

Similar to SECMP0007 solution

Not expected to impact

Other Service Providers

SSI impact

S1SPs impact

DCC Data Science and Analytics (DS&A) impact

■ Preliminary Assessment Summary

Cost (Design, Build & PIT)

- £151,000 to £350,000

Implementation

- Release timeline to be confirmed in Full Impact Assessment.
- Based on the existing requirements, the total fixed price cost for a Full Impact Assessment is **£13,127** and would be expected to be completed in **40 Working Days**.

Impact

- Only DSP component impact and cost are included in this PIA.
- Possible impact on S1SPs, CSPs and DCC Data Science and Analytics (DS&A) team will be included in the Full Impact Assessment (FIA).

■ Proposer's Questions

Proposer's questions to
Working Group members

■ Questions for the Working Group

Should a new error code be created?



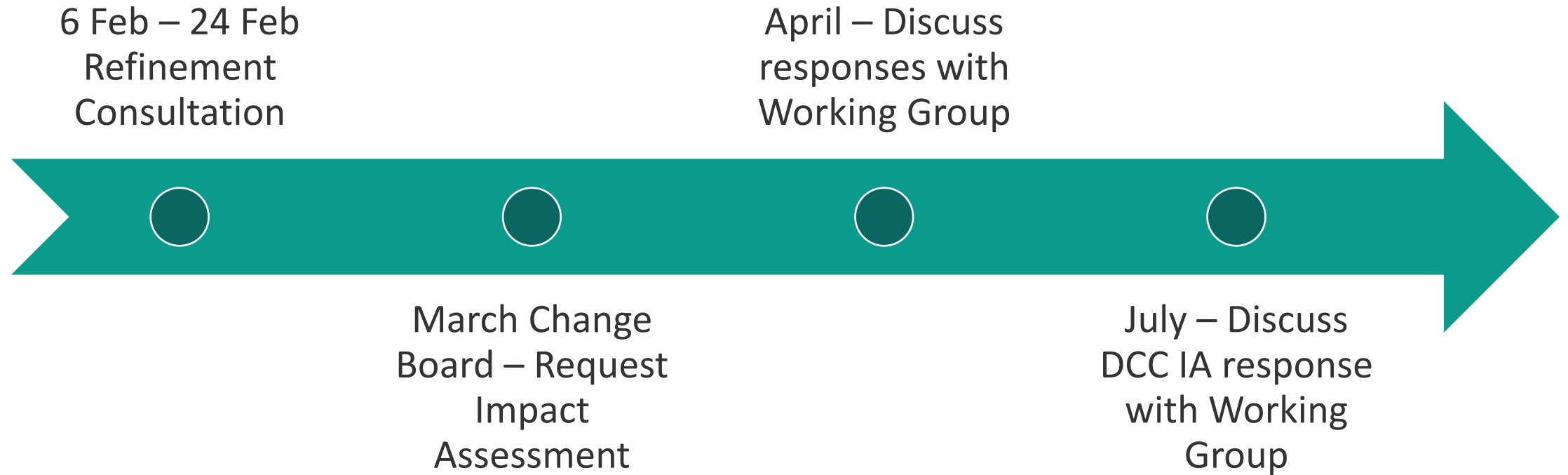
Does the Proposed Solution deliver the business requirements?

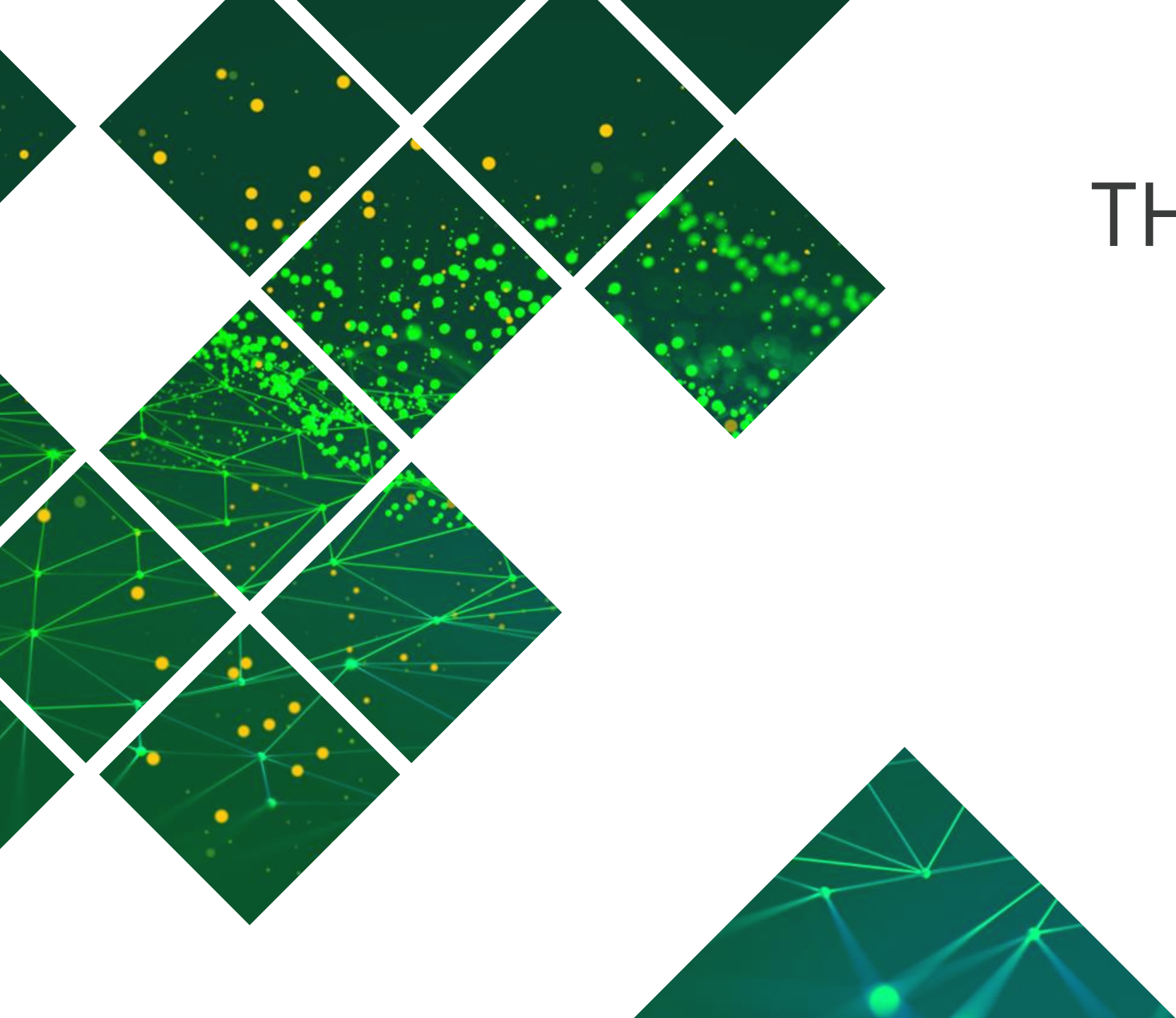


Should the Impact Assessment be requested?



Next Steps





THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

ANY FURTHER COMMENTS?

■ MP208 'Northbound Prioritisation of N56 Alerts'

Raised by Emslie Law from OVO Energy

Objectives of the Working Group

REVIEW	The DCC Preliminary Assessment Response
REVIEW	The considerations
AGREE	The next steps

Overview

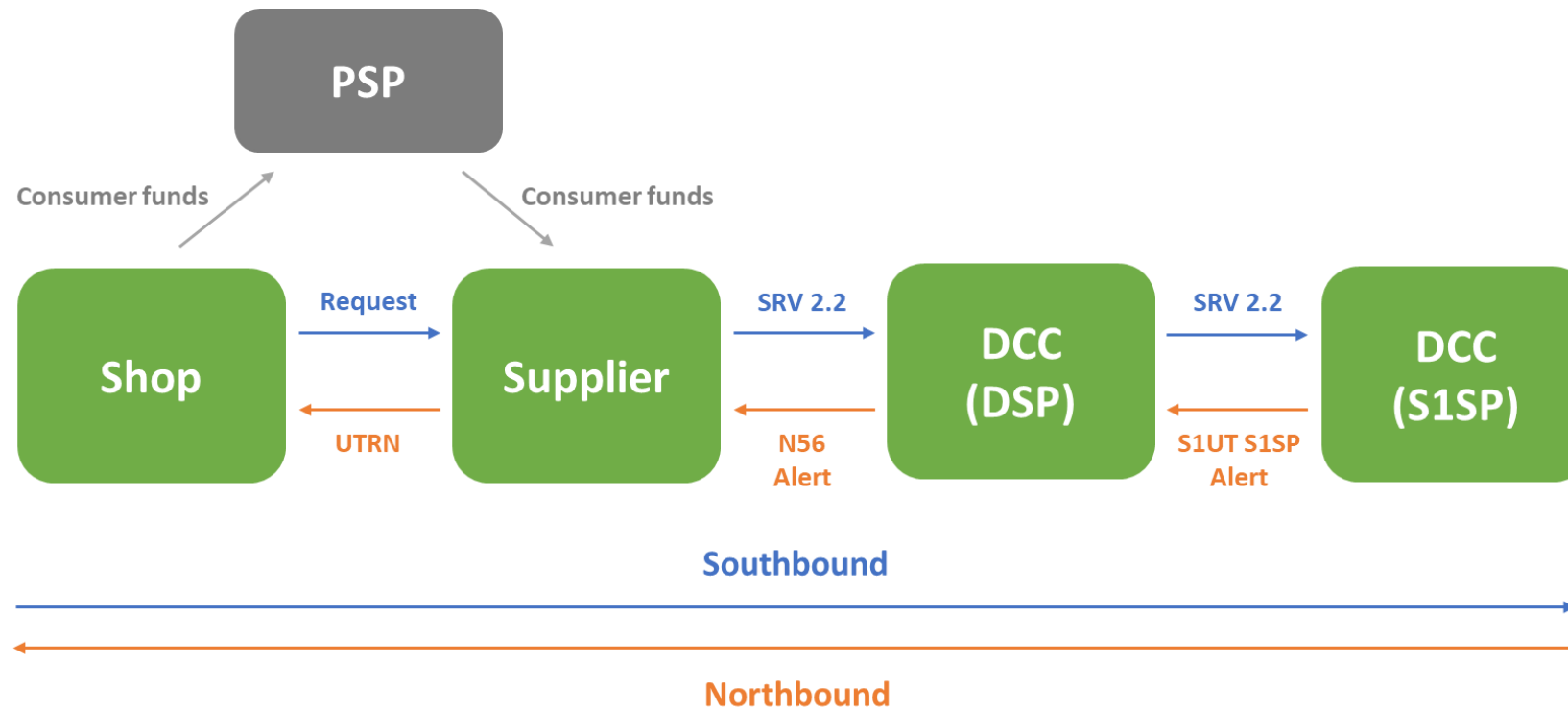
Issue

- When a consumer requests a Prepayment top up at a shop, if it takes longer than 30 seconds to return the Unique Transaction Reference Number (UTRN) the transaction will time out.
- DCC's Target Response Time (TRT) is 16 seconds; majority are successful, but known instances of failure occurring.
- Payment Service Provider (PSP) holds consumer funds until transaction or refund processed.

Solution

- Northbound prioritisation of N56 Alerts to prevent message queueing.

Overview (continued)



■ Relevant prioritisation workstreams

CR4630

- S1UT Reporting
- Records timing points for SRV2.2 & S1UT at the DSP

SECMPO028

- 4-tier prioritisation
- Assigning Priority Levels to all System Messages
- Northbound & Southbound

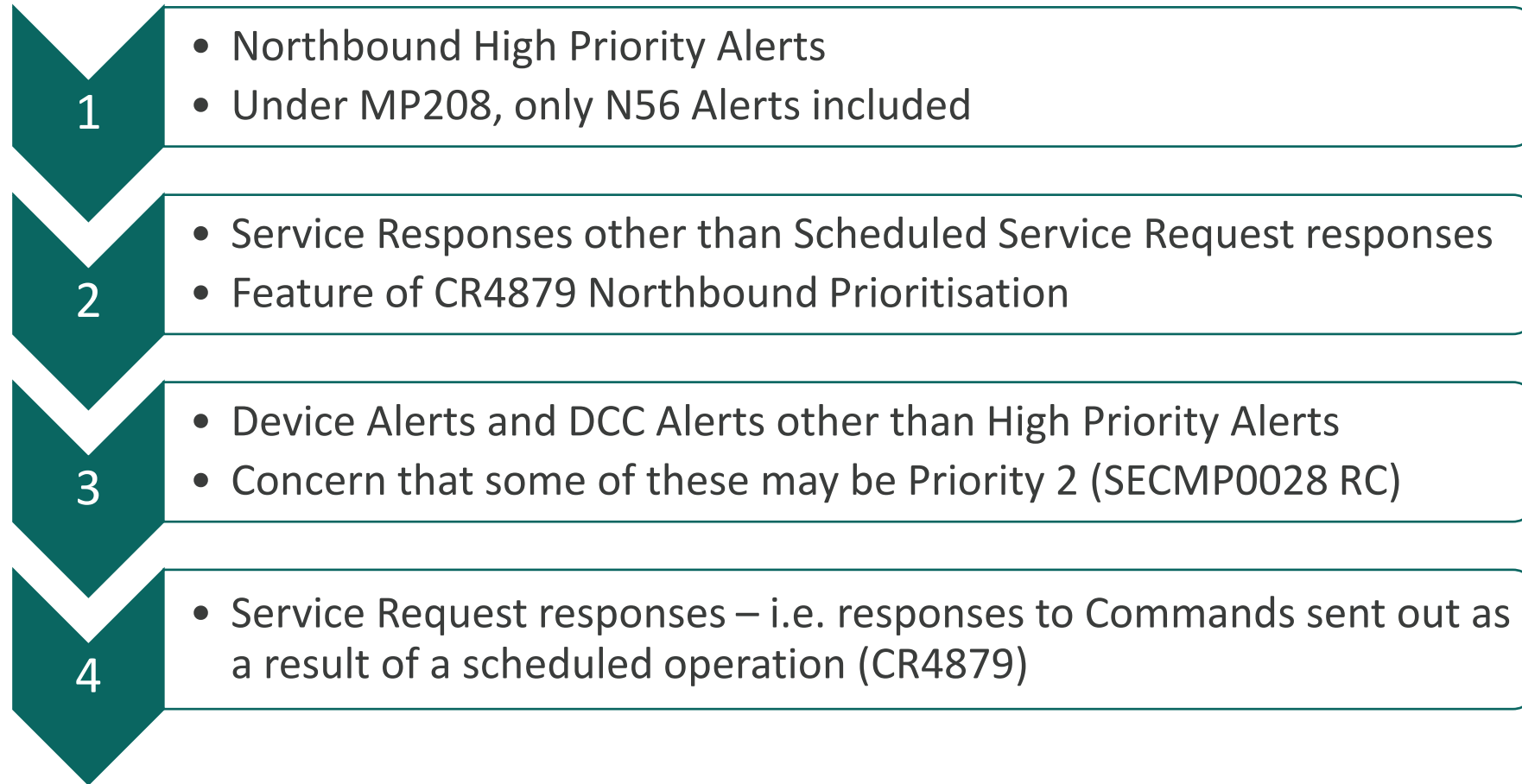
CR4879

- Network Traffic Management Enhancement (Northbound)
- SURB reconfiguration

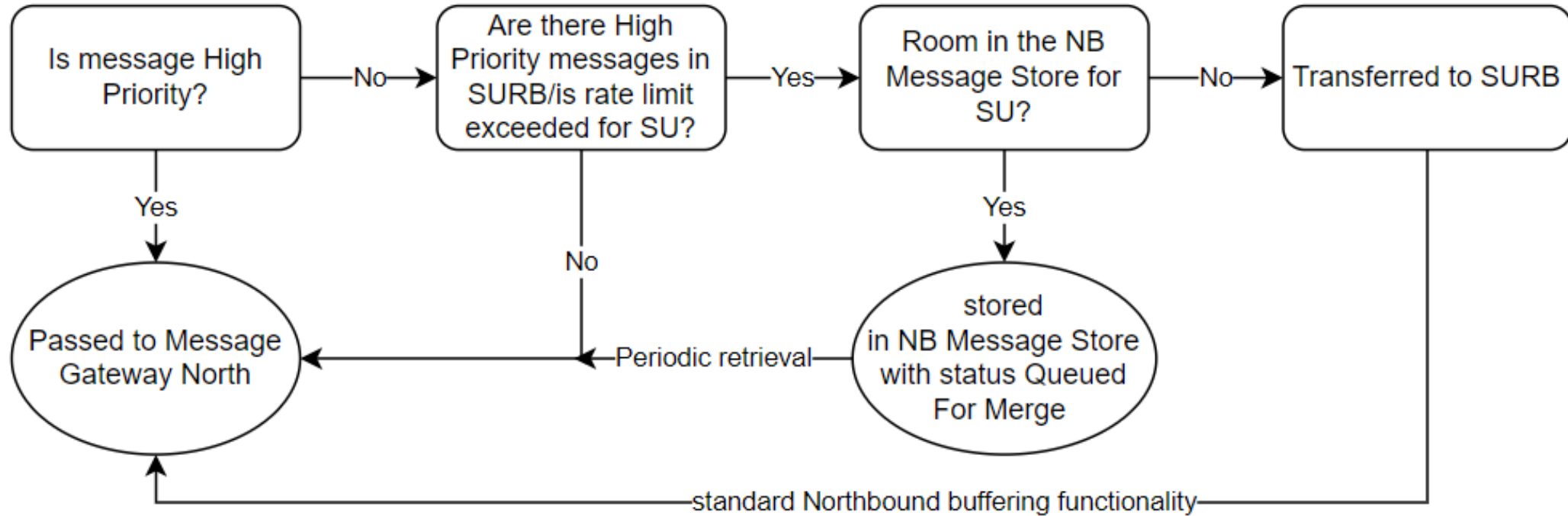
■ Business requirements

Ref.	Requirement
1	To apply prioritisation at the Data Service Provider (DSP) level to N56 Alerts such that they are processed ahead of other messages when they reach the Supplier gateway.
2	To introduce a mechanism to ensure that non-prioritised messages do not wait indefinitely to be processed.

■ Preliminary Assessment solution



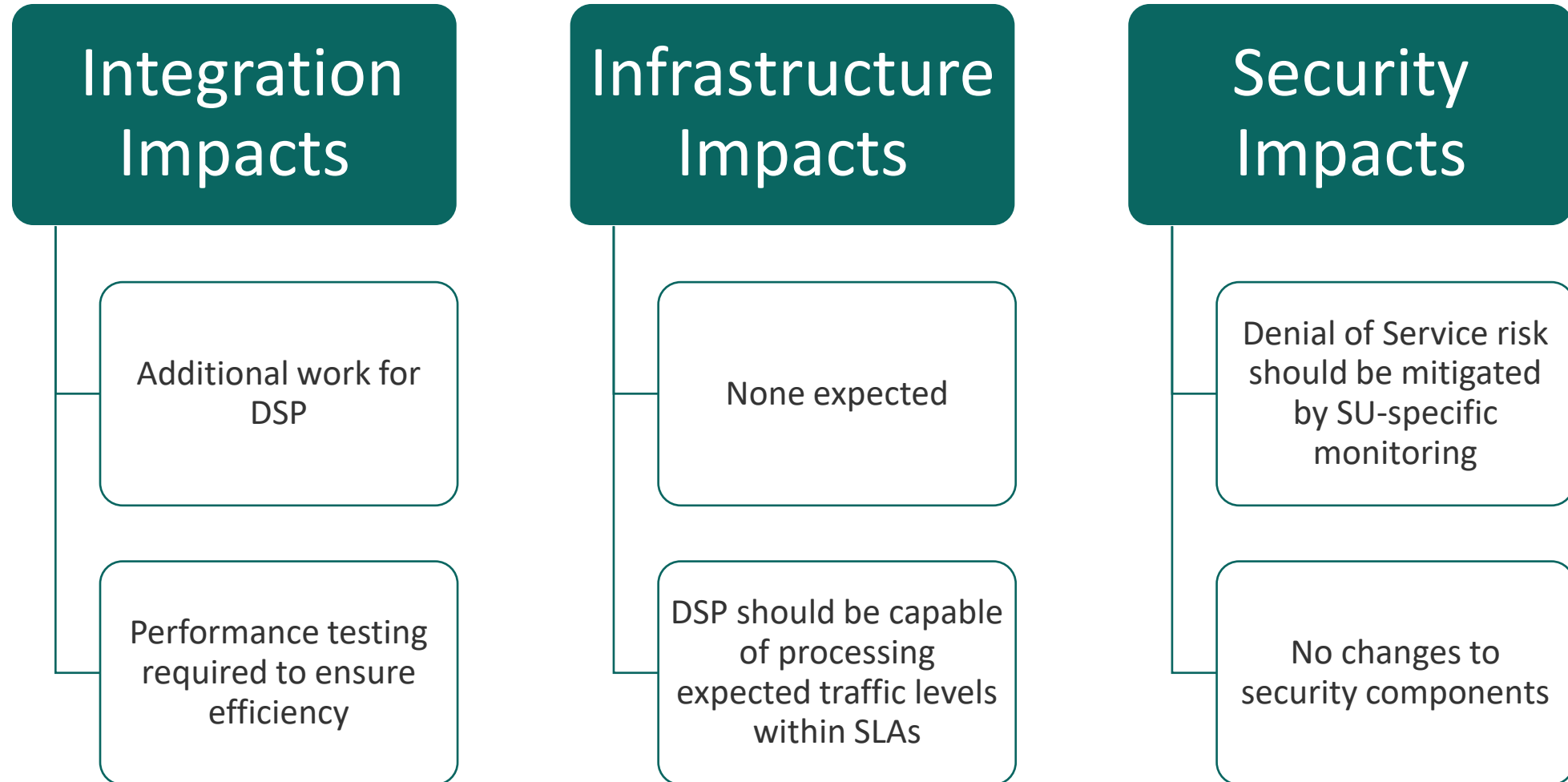
■ Proposed Solution



■ Considerations

- Configurable Priority Levels – authorisation from Operations Group
- Full analysis of N56 delays (CR4630) not yet complete
- ‘De-prioritisation’ of other messages – performance testing during Pre-Integration Testing (PIT) to ensure DSP can maintain SLAs

Preliminary Assessment Impacts



■ Preliminary Assessment Summary

Cost (Design, Build & PIT)

- £350,000 - £750,000

Implementation

- Release timeline to be confirmed in Full Impact Assessment.
- Based on the existing requirements, the total fixed price cost for a Full Impact Assessment is **£15,260** and would be expected to be completed in **40 Working Days**.

- Priority Levels should not be defined in the SEC as any configuration changes would need to pass through the modifications process.
- New clause to be inserted in Section H ‘DCC Services’ defining adherence to Priority Levels.
- Potential exception or acknowledgment required within Performance Measurement Report (PMR) and/or the Performance Measurement Methodology (PMM).

■ Questions for the Working Group

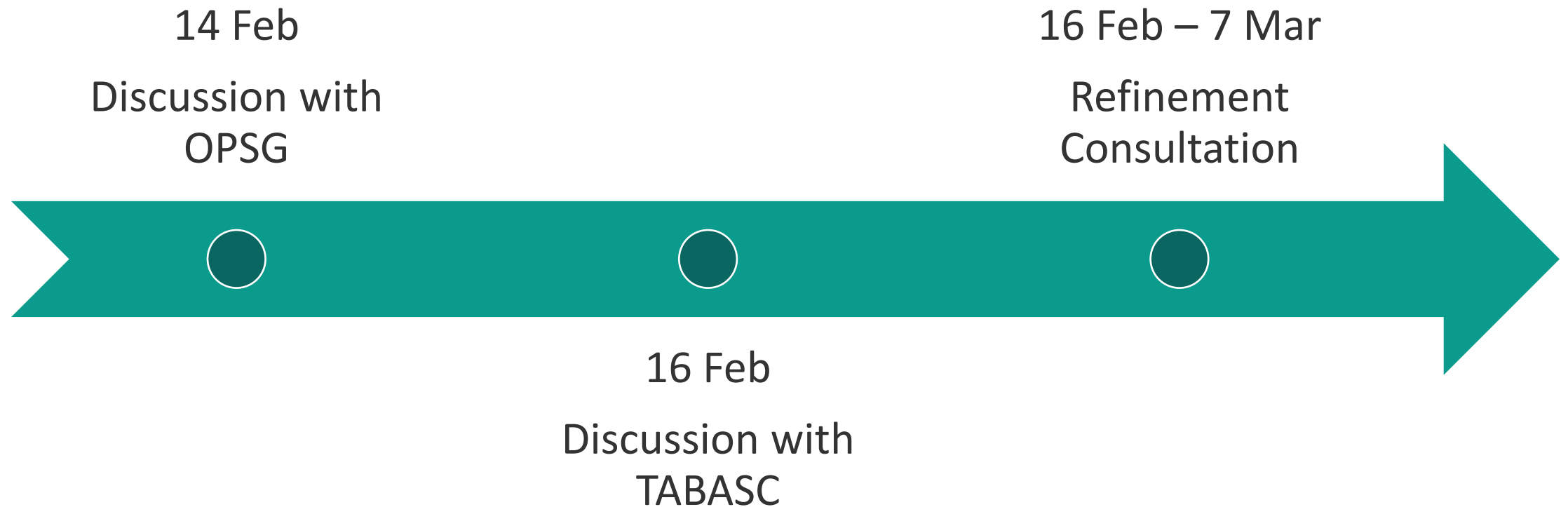
Does the Proposed Solution deliver the business requirements?

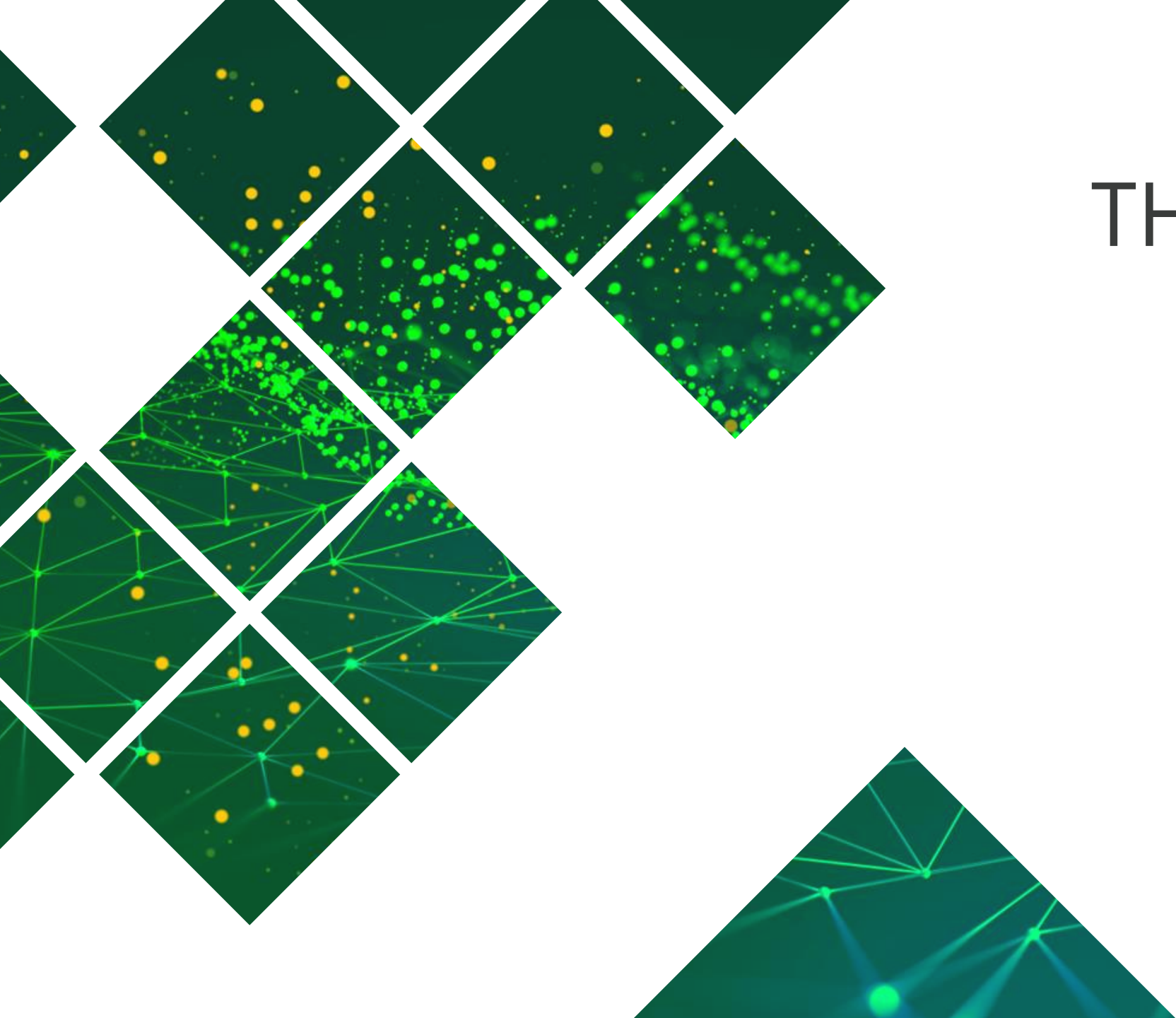


Would the suggested legal text deliver the Proposed Solution?



■ Next Steps





THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

ANY FURTHER COMMENTS?

■ MP214 'Clarification of Acceptable User IDs for Import and Export Suppliers'

Raised by David Walsh of the DCC

Objectives of the Working Group

NOTE	The issue
AGREE	The Proposed Solution
AGREE	The next steps

Issue

- SEC Section H1.5 states that when a Party wishes to register as a DCC User in the User Roles 'Import Supplier', 'Export Supplier' and 'Gas Supplier', it can use the same ID number for each role.
- The wording excludes a Party from using the same ID number for both the 'Import Supplier' and 'Export Supplier' User Roles unless it also intends to act in the 'Gas Supplier' User Role.

Impact

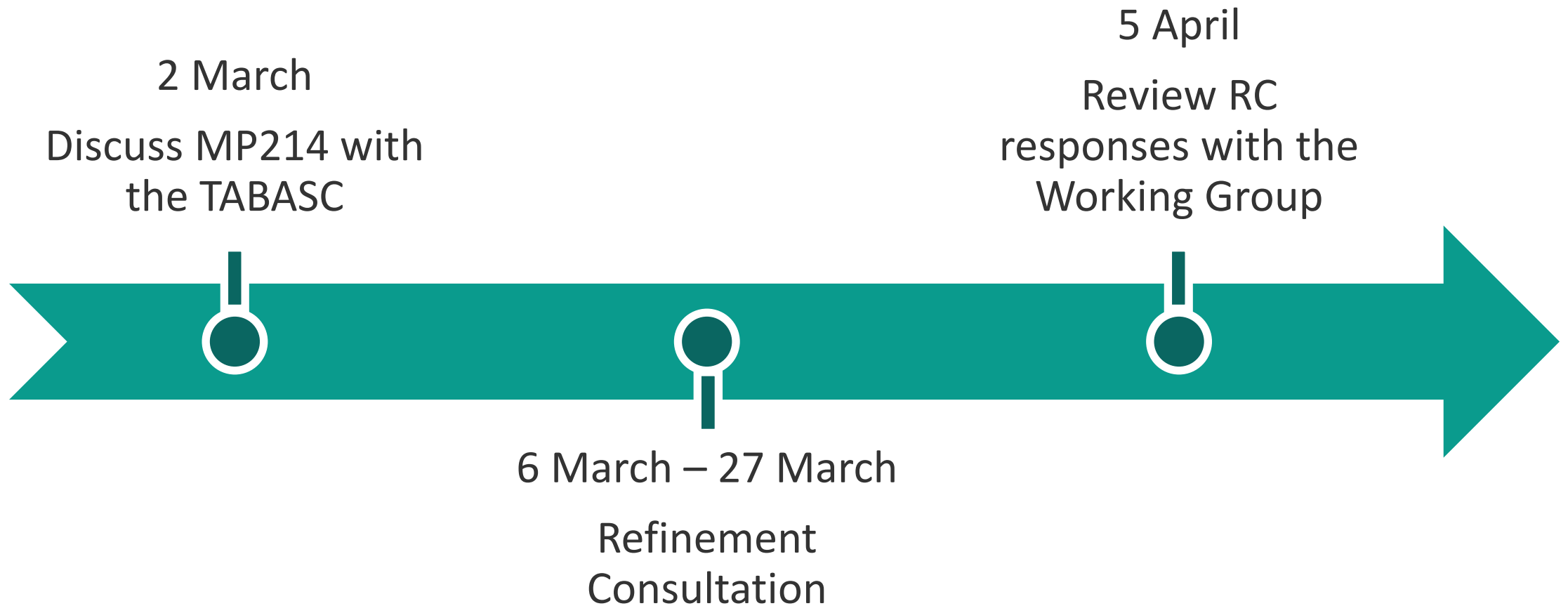
- Parties must request multiple ID numbers from the SEC Panel, causing minor operational inconvenience.
- DCC must also engage in further checks and monitoring to ensure these ID numbers are assigned correctly.

■ Proposed Solution

Legal Text

- **User IDs**
 - H1.4 - When accessing Services a User must operate in a particular User Role using the applicable User ID.
 - H1.5 - A Party wishing to act as a User in one or more User Roles shall propose to the DCC one or more identification numbers, issued to it by the Panel, to be used by that Party when acting in each such User Role. Each such identification number must be EUI- 64 Compliant, and the same identification number cannot be used for more than one User Role, save that a Party may use the same identification number when acting in any combination of some or all of the following ~~combined~~ User Roles ~~of either; 'Import Supplier' and 'Gas Supplier' or 'Import Supplier', 'Export Supplier' and~~ or 'Gas Supplier'.

Next Steps



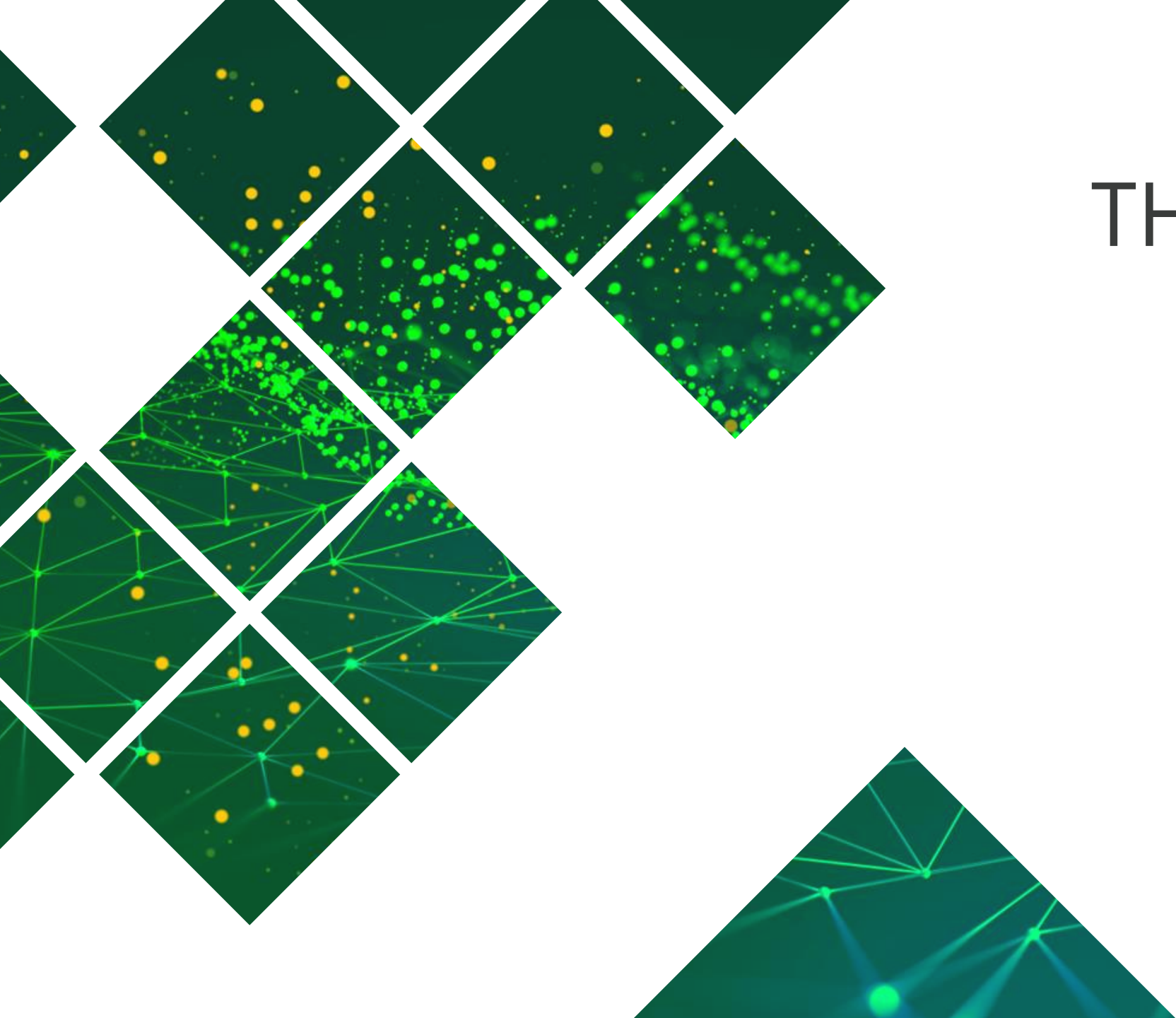
■ Questions for the Working Group

Does the Proposed Solution deliver the business requirements?



Would the suggested legal text deliver the Proposed Solution?





THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

ANY FURTHER COMMENTS?



■ BREAK

Back in 10 minutes

■ MP222 'CPL submission efficiency improvements'

Raised by Martin Bell from Energy and Utilities Alliance

Objectives of the Working Group

NOTE	The issue
AGREE	The Proposed Solution
AGREE	The next steps

Issue

- A Device Manufacturer can add a new Device to the CPL without any Supplier intervention.
- As soon as the same Device requires a change to hardware or firmware, it must have Supplier endorsement before it can be updated on the CPL.
- Without Supplier endorsement, the Device Manufacturer cannot progress with the CPL submission.
- Currently the SEC requires the Supplier to review the CPA documentation associated with the CPL submission. In practice, Suppliers simply forward an email from the Manufacturers with no notification or further checking.

Impact

- Urgent fixes to installed Devices can be delayed and potentially blocked.

Overview continued

Issue continued

The most detailed level of testing is the CPA, which is overseen by the SSC and NCSC.

- Hash Image is created by the Manufacturer, yet requires Supplier approval.

Further impact

- Can result in difficulties for new Manufacturers to enter the market if they are not affiliated with a Supplier.

■ What is a Hash Image?

A Hash Image enables a firmware update to be paired to the correct Device Model when an update is carried out



Associated hash “a3:g5:7h:8k:2f:6h:9l:0a:2x”

Device recognises the associated hash
“a3:g5:7h:8k:2f:6h:9l:0a:2x”

Firmware update is completed

■ Business Requirements

Business Requirements	
Ref	Requirement
1	Firmware and / or hardware revisions for Devices currently listed on the Central Products List (CPL) are to be submitted in a more efficient manner.
2	A Manufacturer can submit a Hash Image for firmware and / or hardware revisions for Devices currently listed on the CPL following CPA approval without the additional support of a Supplier Party.
3	CPL submission efficiencies will not compromise security and this does not force the supplier to deploy the firmware.

Through allowing Manufacturers to submit revisions without Supplier endorsement.

■ Proposed Solution

Remove Supplier endorsement

- To enable Manufacturers to submit firmware / hardware revisions for existing CPL registered Devices.
- Manufacturers are able to submit Hash Images themselves (following completion of CPA process as currently and with the current signing process).

SEC changes

- SEC Appendix Z 'CPL Requirements Document':
 - Remove reference to Supplier Parties:
 - '~~Supplier Party~~' to 'Party or Manufacturer' – (not all Manufacturers are SEC Parties)

■ Proposed Solution continued

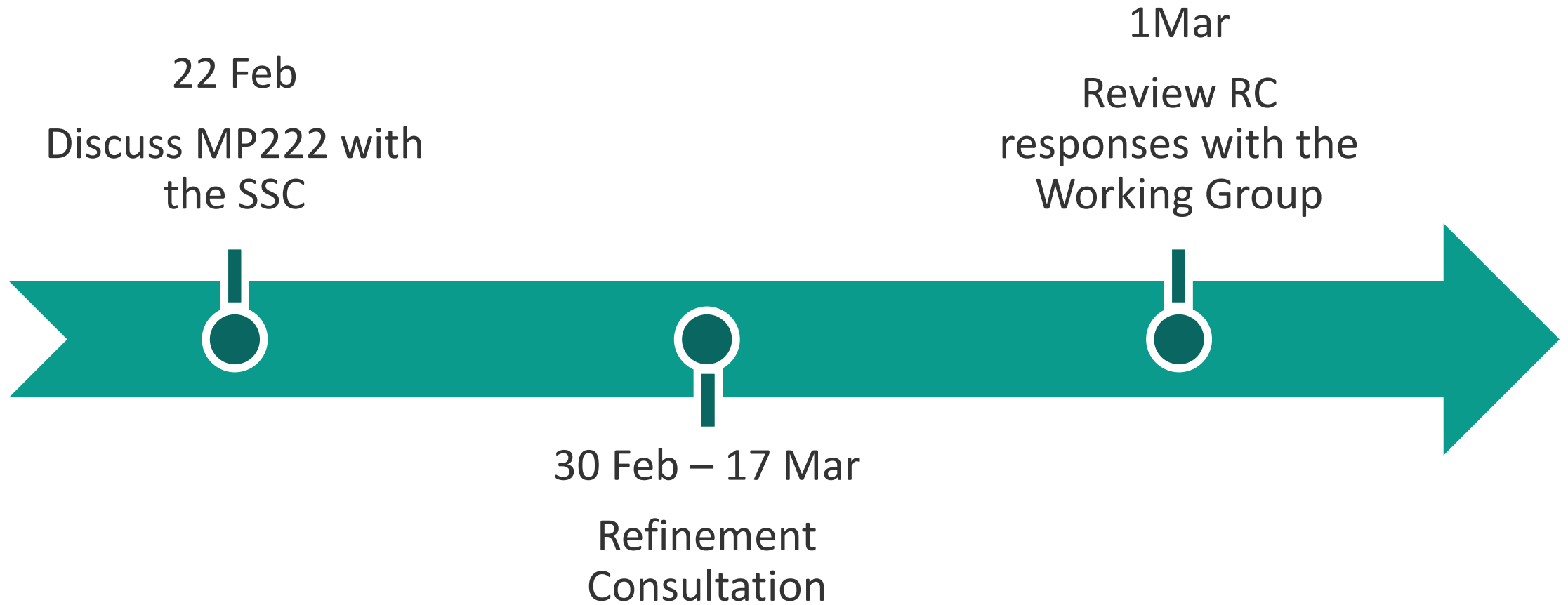
Manufacturer definition:

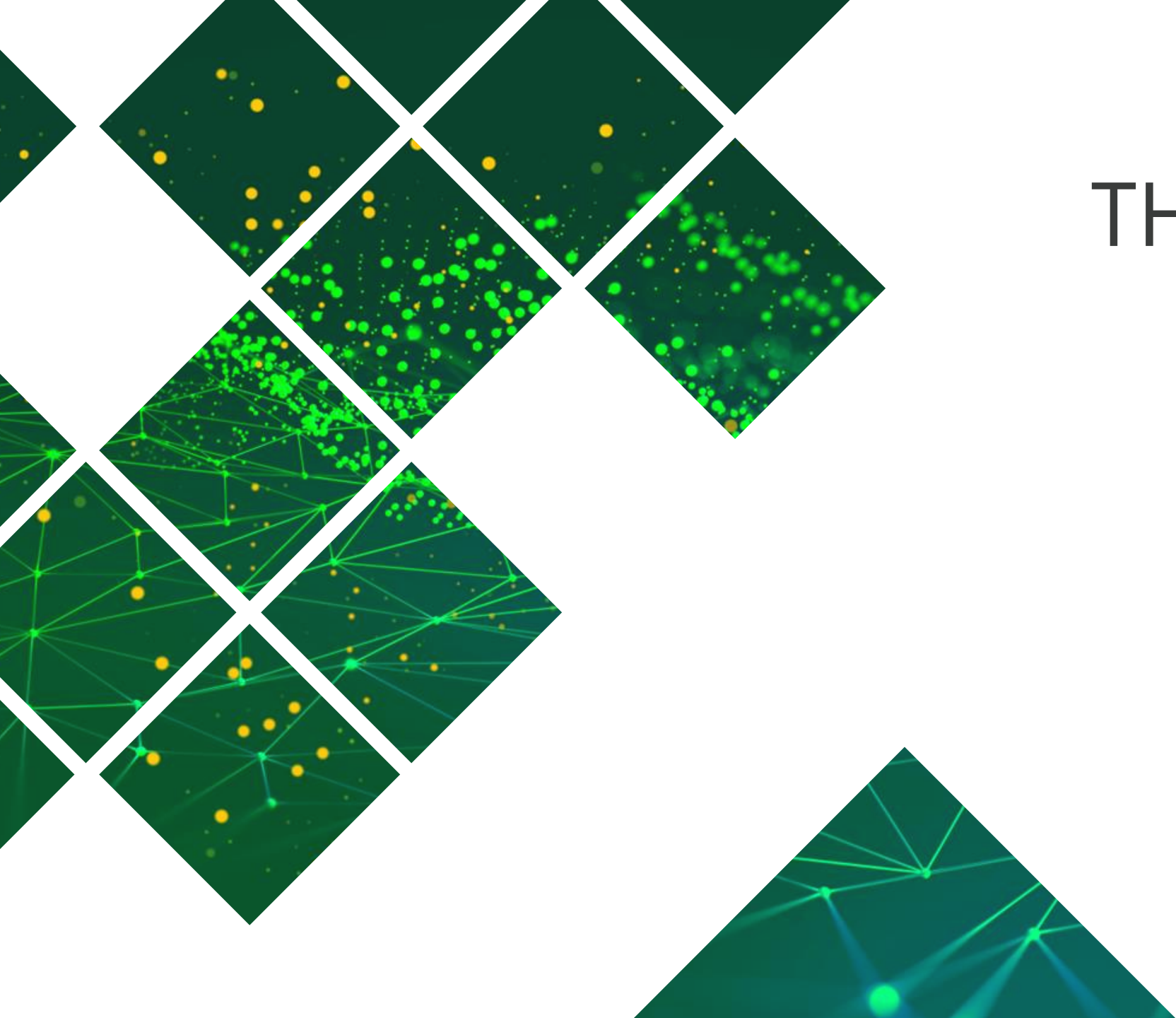
- *means, in respect of any Device Model, the person: (a) that manufactures some or all of the Devices of that Device Model; or (b) on whose behalf some or all of those Devices are manufactured for onward sale or other provision.*

Questions for the Working Group

- Does the Working Group agree with the Proposed Solution?
- Is the Working Group satisfied with the existing definition?

■ Next Steps





THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

ANY FURTHER COMMENTS?

■ SEC Working Group Terms of Reference update

Ali Beard

Objectives of the Working Group

NOTE	The changes
PROVIDE	feedback
AGREE	The next steps

Issue

- In October 2020, the SEC Panel agreed to SECAS carrying out an end-to-end review of the SEC modification framework. Several areas were investigated to identify any improvements that could be made which included a review of the role of the Working Group.
- Following extensive industry consultation and engagement, SECAS presented its final recommendations to the Panel in April 2021.

Impact

- The clarifications to the role of the Working Group identified through this review require reflecting in the Working Group Terms of Reference.

■ MAJOR CHANGES

To reflect Sub-Committee
ToRs

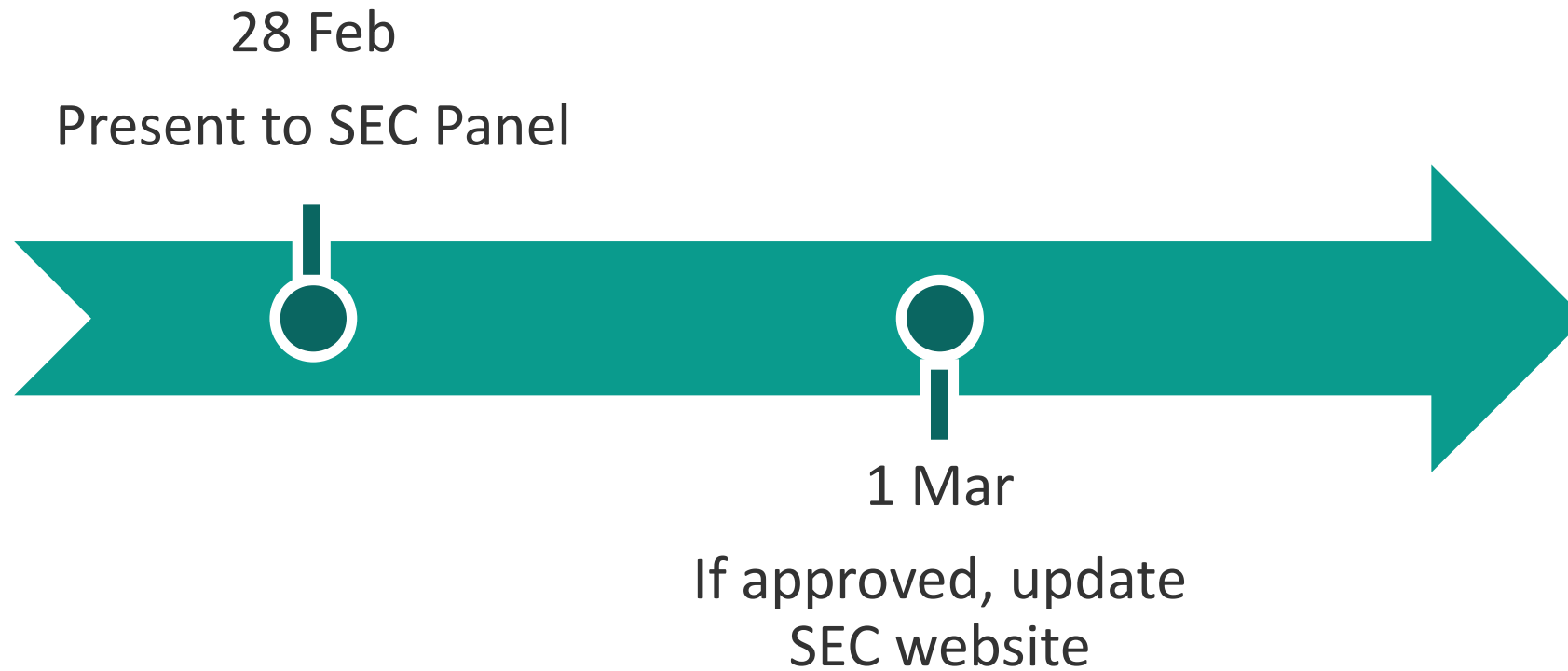
Anyone can
attend – not
just members

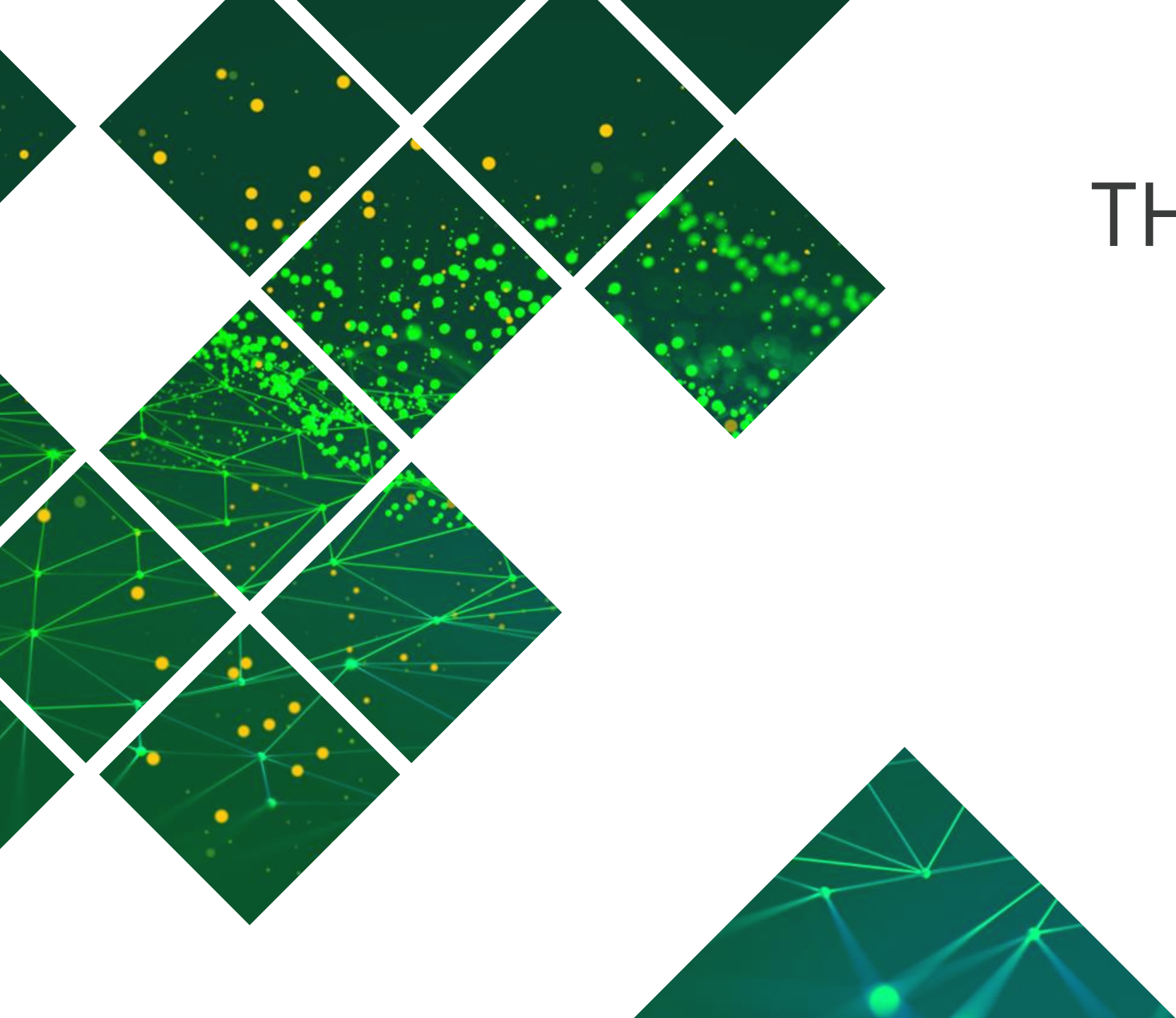
Changes to
Section D

Changes to
frequency

Changes to
voting

■ Next Steps





THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

ANY FURTHER COMMENTS?

■ ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Ali Beard



THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON
WEDNESDAY 1 MARCH 2023