

SEC Newsletter



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Welcome to the latest edition of the fortnightly newsletter from the Smart Energy Code.

We would love to hear from you, so get in touch by [emailing the SECAS Helpdesk](#) if you have any feedback.



SEC Party Engagement Day – Livestream Option Available

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

We're excited to welcome you to the upcoming SEC Party Engagement Day on Tuesday, 01 July 2025.

Event Format

In-person attendance is encouraged for the best experience, but a Livestream will be available for the first half of the day, covering:

- Panel Chair Update – Year in review and 2025/26 look ahead
- DCC Update & Introduction to New CEO
- Ofgem Update
- SECCo Executive Updates
- Q&A Session

Note: Afternoon breakout sessions will not be streamed.

Joining Virtually?

Email the **SECAS Helpdesk** by **27 June 2025** to receive your

Livestream link. You may also submit questions for the SEC Panel by this date. Feel free to share this with colleagues who may benefit from attending.



Joining In-person - Haven't Registered Yet?

There's still time! Confirm your in-person attendance by **20 June 2025** by emailing secas@gemserv.com with the subject line: **"SEC Party Engagement Day"**.

Attendance is limited to two people per SEC Party.

We look forward to seeing you there! Let us know if you have any questions.

SWG Closure and SEC Strategic Plan Update

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

At its April 2025 meeting, the SEC Panel agreed to wind down the Strategic Working Group (SWG) following a review of its objectives and achievements. The May 2025 meeting marked the group's final session.

The Panel recognised the SWG's valuable contributions over the years, including:

- Regular reviews of the SEC Strategic Plan
 - Horizon scanning activities
 - Ensuring alignment between the Panel, its Sub-Committees, and industry direction and policy change
- Responsibility for the SWG's work will now transition to:
- SECCo's internal Strategy team
 - The Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC)
 - The Panel itself

This realignment will support the SEC's ability to respond to a changing market, including future Code Manager requirements, and ensure delivery remains aligned with Ofgem's Strategic Direction Statements. It will also enable Sub-Committees to draw on a wider range of input and expertise.

The Panel extends sincere thanks to all SWG members, with special appreciation to the Chair for their leadership and dedication.

Concurrently, in the May 2025 SEC Panel meeting the latest update of the SEC Strategic Plan was agreed upon. As in previous reviews, the plan's content was evaluated based on its management approach—either through active engagement or strategic issue monitoring. This ensures the plan remains focused, relevant, and aligned with the evolving energy landscape.

What's New?

The refreshed plan reflects several key developments:



- **Energy Code Reform:** Updates capture the increasing momentum from Ofgem as code reform efforts begin to take shape.
- **DCC Programmes & Initiatives:** Notably, the plan now includes the first provision of *Elective Communications Services* for a SEC Party.

What's Changed?

To keep the plan streamlined and forward-looking, content related to DCC programmes such as Communications Hubs and Networks and Enduring Key Infrastructure has been removed. These areas are now transitioning into business-as-usual and will be managed through other governance processes.

The updated [SEC Strategic Plan](#) is now available on the SEC website. Please note you will need to be logged in to the SEC website to view the document.

Security Guidance Documents Updates

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

Updates have been made to the following Security related documentation and published on the SEC Website:

[SSC Guidance for Device Security Assurance and Triage Parts 1 and 2:](#)

- Updated information following the transfer of the Commercial Product Assurance (CPA) Scheme Owner from National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) to Security Sub Committee (SSC).
- Inclusion of the security requirements for Use Case 005.
- Updated references to DESNZ (previously BEIS).

[Commercial Product Assurance Policies and Procedures:](#)

- Clarified requirements such as the UK-based sales presence for Manufacturers.
- Improved several definitions of terms used throughout the documents.
- Minor housekeeping changes.

Smart Metering Key Infrastructure (SMKI) Policy Management Authority (PMA) [Terms of Reference v3.0:](#)

- Corrected the Quorum figure.
- Clarification of meeting recording.
- Updated Traffic Light Protocol (TLP) wording as per the new SEC Panel policy.

SSC [Terms of Reference v3.3:](#)

- Clarification of meeting recording (audio only).
- Governance oversight for CPL including relevant guidance maintenance.



- An alignment checks with Panel Information Policy (PIP) Traffic Light Protocol (TLP) wording.

[The Security Controls Framework \(SCF\) v2.15; Part 1: User Assessment Methodology/ Part 2: User Assessment Guidance:](#)

- Updates made include targeted updates in relation to emerging technologies and the impact on security controls and the inclusion of a relevant FAQ.
- A user conduct policy including the introduction of an alert to senior management ahead of all assessments to ensure appropriate engagement.
- Minor housekeeping changes.

[Agreed Interpretations v2.5:](#)

- Addition of issued SSC Briefing Notes.
- Targeted updates pertaining to emerging technologies (e.g. artificial intelligence).
- Minor housekeeping changes.

Future Connectivity North Project ‘Go Live’ Approved

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

The SEC Panel endorsed the Operations Group (OPSG) recommendation for the Future Connectivity North (FCN) project to Go Live on 30 May 2025, enabling the expansion of 4G services into the CSP North region. The OPSG reviewed the Data Communications Company's (DCC) operational readiness against the Live Service Criteria (LSC) which indicated full readiness and no significant risks to existing SEC services.



The System Integration Testing (SIT) milestone was exited with approval from the Test Advisory Group (TAG). An acknowledgement of a minor browser-specific issue was noted, affecting only Google Chrome and Microsoft Edge. While the root cause analysis is still in progress, the DCC will be releasing a workaround communication to address the issue. The DCC has commenced a two-month Hypercare phase following Go Live, set to conclude on 31 July 2025. Throughout this period, progress updates will be regularly shared with the SEC Sub-Committees.



Modifications Update

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

Refinement Consultations

Title	Closing Date	Impacted Parties	Link
MP292 'DSP DBT Finance Facility'	13 June 2025	Large Suppliers, Small Suppliers, Network Parties, DCC	DOWNLOAD
MP292 proposes to extend the current wording on 4G Design, Build and Test (DBT) Financing to be extended to cover Data Service Provider (DSP) DBT costs as well. This will allow the DCC to finalise its financing facilities for the DSP DBT programme. The arrangements will mirror the 4G DBT arrangements.			
Title	Closing Date	Impacted Parties	Link
MP268 'Certificate rotation and expired Certificates'	18 June 2025	Large Suppliers, Small Suppliers, DCC, Electricity Network Parties	DOWNLOAD
MP268 involves developing clear guidelines within the SEC mandating post-commissioning replacement of Organisation Certificates by the DCC. These guidelines will provide explicit instructions and timelines for replacing any Organisation Certificate which has a Validity Period longer than ten years or is revoked or expired. This is to ensure, ongoing network security and compliance. Additionally, monitoring mechanisms will be established to ensure compliance with SEC guidelines and stakeholder collaboration will be key in communicating and enforcing the new guidelines effectively.			



New Modifications

Title	Issue	Solution
DP293 'Deferment of DCC Planned Maintenance during Adverse Weather'	During DCC Planned Maintenance events, it is not possible to communicate with Smart Metering Systems (SMSs). DNOs rely on communication with SMSs during and after Adverse Weather events in order to determine if elements of their network are functional. Where a Planned Maintenance Event and Adverse Weather event overlap, this functionality is lost. This Issue seeks to explore possible deferral of Planned Maintenance during Adverse Weather events to allow DNOs to maintain communication with SMSs on their network.	Any proposed solution(s) for this proposal are still under review.
DP294 'Review of DCC Maintenance Activities and Temporary Additional Allowance'	The DCC is required to maintain DCC Systems to avoid service disruption as much as possible. This includes completing Planned Maintenance and Unplanned Maintenance activities to ensure vital components are running, are up to date, are reliable and secure. The SEC does not currently contain detail of what might be considered an allowable reason for instigating Unplanned Maintenance and therefore it could be perceived to be used to enable short notice User impacting work. In addition to this, services delivered by DCC have grown (number of Service Providers / amount of change) and the increased complexity as well as less time available to complete post deployment may be exacerbated by new Data Service Provider (DSP). Furthermore, consideration is needed on activity that sits outside of Planned and Unplanned maintenance as there is currently no view of maintenance that sits outside of Planned and Unplanned Maintenance activities.	The Proposer (DCC) and Co-sponsor (OVO) are currently looking to do the following with regards to DCC Maintenance: • full review of the best practise to be followed, and the allowable purposes of using Unplanned Maintenance; • consider opportunities to manage increasing change volumes in a controlled way until the new DSP 2 is delivered via temporarily additional maintenance; and • introduce Planned Resilience Maintenance, where Maintenance activity is not expected to impact services to Devices connected to 100,000 or more Communications Hubs.



June 2025 Code Release

The June 2025 SEC Release will take place on 26 June 2025 and includes the following modifications:

Modification	Proposed Solution	Parties Impacted
MP239 'Enduring Solution for Resolving SMETS2 Device Certificate Misalignment Issue'	Allow Suppliers to identify the correct Device Certificates and update any misaligned Certificates on Devices via the Self-Service Interface (SSI) or Self-Service Management Interface (SSMI) instead of raising an Incident with the DCC for manual correction.	Large Suppliers Small Suppliers DCC
MP246 'DCC User access to metadata via the DCC Self-Service Interface'	Remove the Meter Read Transaction (MRT) function screen from the DCC SSI application. All code specific to this screen will be removed from the application. Removal will be more than simply preventing access to the screen by configuration of Role Based Access Controls (RBAC). Once removal has been completed, the MRT function would cease to exist.	Large Suppliers Small Suppliers Electricity Network Parties DCC Other SEC Parties
MP271 'Sub-Committee seats for Other Users, Meter Data Retrievers and Registered Supplier Agents'	Re-allocate one existing Other SEC Party seat at the OPSG), TABASC, CSC and Change Board to an elected Other SEC Party who acts in the role of Other User, Meter Data Retriever (MDR) or Registered Supplier Agent (RSA).	Other SEC Parties
MP279 'June 2025 SEC Release & DUIS Housekeeping Changes'	Correct the errors and inconsistencies identified in the SEC through implementation of text only changes.	N/A
MP282 'Removal of Registration Check for Suppliers using SR8.9 targeting SMETS2+ CHF'	Remove the Registration Check for Service Request (SR) 8.9 'Read Device Log' when Suppliers trigger this in a Communications Hub replacement scenario where SR8.12.1 'Restore HAN Device Log' has timed out. This would require a Data Service Provider (DSP) change that the DCC will implement via an internal Change Request. SEC changes are required to Appendix AB 'Service Request Processing Document' and Appendix AD 'DCC User Interface Specification' to ensure the DSP change is included in the SEC.	Large Suppliers Small Suppliers DCC



Industry News and Consultations

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

[Energy code reform: Code manager licence conditions and code modification appeals to the CMA - GOV.UK](#)

Ofgem and DESNZ seeks feedback on how code managers should be licensed and how industry parties can appeal modification decisions to ensure accountability and support the transition to net-zero. You are invited to submit feedback on this consultation, closing on 27 June 2025.

[DCC Review Phase 2: Objectives, operational model and future role of DCC | Ofgem](#)

Ofgem is consulting on the future DCC licence framework ahead of 2027 –you are invited to submit feedback on this consultation by 14 July 2025.

Upcoming Events and SEC Meetings

- 16 June, 13:00 – [Communications Transition Group 28](#) (Members)
- 17 June, 10:00 – [Change Sub-Committee Meeting 76](#) (Members)
- 18 June, 10:00 – [SMDA Sub-Committee 18 Meeting](#) (Members)
- 19 June, 09:30 – [TABASC Meeting 114X](#) (Members)
- 19 June, 10:00 – [Privacy Sub-Committee 15](#) (Members)
- 20 June, 10:30 – [Other SEC Party Engagement Call](#) (Open to Party Type)
- 23 June, 10:30 – [Large Supplier Engagement Call](#) (Open to Party Type)
- 23 June, 12:20 – [Operations Group Meeting 143](#) (Members)
- 24 June, 09:30 – [SEC Panel 141](#) (Members)
- 24 June, 14:00 – [SECCo Board 141](#) (Members)
- 25 June, 09:45 – [Testing Advisory Group 127](#) (Members)
- 25 June, 10:00 – [Change Board 103](#) (Members)
- 25 June, 10:00 – [Security Sub-Committee 218](#) (Members)
- 26 June, 15:00 – [Small Supplier Engagement Call](#) (Open to Party Type)



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