

SEC Newsletter



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Welcome

Welcome to the latest edition of the fortnightly newsletter from the Smart Energy Code. We would love to hear from you - get in touch by emailing SEC@talan.com



SECCo Business Plan & Budget 2026-29 published

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

SECCo has published its final [Business Plan and Budget for 2026–2029](#), setting out how we are defining our priorities, enabling the delivery of high-quality, cost-effective services while supporting the evolution of the SEC and the wider smart metering ecosystem.

The proposed 2026-27 budget remains in line with 2025-26, demonstrating that increased activity and complexity can be accommodated without material budget growth. Through strengthened procurement, improved supplier management and a more efficient operating model, SECCo has identified £14m of avoided spend over the next three years.



The Business Plan reflects feedback from Parties and stakeholder received during the consultation, alongside input from the SEC Panel and Sub-Committees. Key priorities include:

- embedding SECCo's Target Operating Model and strengthening in-house capability;
- improving service delivery, assurance and operational performance across the SEC;
- developing Code Manager capabilities to support future governance arrangements;
- working with DCC to continue to improve customer experience for SEC Parties; and
- delivering strong value for money through disciplined cost control and transparent financial management.

Quarterly Budgetary Report – Q3 2025-26 published

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

Separately, the SEC Panel has published its latest [Quarterly Budget Report](#), providing the out-turn of the Panel Budget for the period 01 April – 31 December 2025.

This year, we entered into three strategic contracts with Talan UK & Ireland (Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat), Ernst & Young (User Independent Competent Organisation / Independent Privacy Auditor) and Moorhouse (Performance Assurance Partner). These partnerships reflect our commitment to delivering high-quality cost-effective services to SEC Parties avoiding spend where possible. This is reflected in underspend against all budgeted functions this year.

The Quarterly Budgetary Report can be read in conjunction with [SECCo Business Plan & Budget 2025-28](#), which contains detailed information about each element of the Budget.

Sub-Committee nominations and election results

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

SMKI PMA nominations open

May 2026 signals the end of the term for two Smart Metering Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority (SMKI PMA) Members. The 2026 SMKI PMA nominations are now open and the following seats are up for nomination:

- 1 Large Supplier
- 1 Gas Network Representative

SEC Parties are invited to make a nomination for their Party category using the [online form](#) by 17:00 on 10 April 2026. Learn more about the roles and responsibilities of the [SMKI PMA](#) on the SEC website.

How to Make a Nomination: You may nominate yourself or another prospective candidate. While nominees do not need to be SEC Parties, only SEC Parties can submit nominations. Nominees must be eligible to become and remain a Member under SEC Section C4.2 at the time of nomination. You may use the nomination form's text box to provide relevant experience, though this is optional.

Voting Process: If nominations exceed available seats in a Party Category, a vote will take place. Each Voting Group within that category will be entitled to cast one vote for their preferred nominee. Eligible candidates will be notified after the nomination window closes.

If voting is required, it will open on 20 April 2026 and voting forms will be distributed to the relevant Voting Groups.

Change Sub-Committee nominations outcomes

We recently held the annual Change Sub-Committee (CSC) nomination process for several seats. Following the nominations received, the results are listed below. The new terms of the appointed candidates will begin in April 2026.

Large Supplier Seats: One nomination was received for one available Large Supplier seat. The nominee is appointed without the need for an election.

- Emslie Law (OVO)

Network Parties (Gas and Electricity): One nomination was received for one available Network Parties seat. The nominee is appointed without the need for an election.

- Kelly Kinsman (National Grid)

TAG nomination outcomes and commencement of election

We recently held the annual Testing Advisory Group (TAG) nomination process for several seats. Following the nominations received, the results are listed below. The new terms of the appointed candidates will begin in April 2026. An election now follows for the Other SEC Party seats.

Other SEC Party Seats

Three nominations were received for two Other SEC Party seats.

- Martin Bell (EUA)
- Lydia Igoche (Alt HAN)
- James Singleton (Green Energy Options Ltd)

These seats will now go to an election open to all Other SEC Parties. Please view candidates' [biographies for the Other SEC Parties](#). To submit your vote, please complete the [voting form on the SEC Website](#). Voting closes at 17:00 on 24 March 2026.

Large Supplier Seats

Three nominations were received for three Large Supplier seats. The nominees are appointed without the need for an election.

- Renoop Puthukudy (Octopus Energy)
- Mahfuzar Rahman (Scottish Power)
- Ranjit Dulay (E.ON Energy)

Small Supplier Seats

One nomination was received for three Small Supplier seats. The nominee is appointed without the need for an election.

- Robert Trueman (Ecotricity)

Network Operator Seats

No nominations were received for the three Network Operator seats.

Consumer Representative Seats

No nominations were received for the one Consumer Representative seat.

DCC engagement with Sub-Committee chairs

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

The SEC Sub-Committee Chairs meet monthly with the DCC engagement team and programme Directors to discuss key programme changes, impacts, engagement approaches, and share feedback. Below is a summary from the March 2025 meeting.

- DCC provided Chairs with an update on DCC Connect, setting out its revised installation approach, using the exclusive High Impact Maintenance Window on 14 April 2026 to complete the DCC Connect Cloud Gateway. This approach would avoid any impact on business-as-usual activity for DCC Users, as well as the end-March/early-April price change event.
- Planned Go Live date for the service has shifted from 25 March to 22 April 2026. This will not impact planned service user cutovers to the new service, scheduled to start in June 2026, or the overall March 2027 completion target.

SMDA change procedure updated

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

The Smart Meter Device Assurance (SMDA) Change Procedure has been enhanced to improve transparency and clarity. Changes are now classified as either:

- **Major Changes** – Introduction or removal of test scripts:
 - Full SEC Party consultation required
- **Minor Changes** – Script naming updates or minor corrections
 - Advance notification provided, with opportunity to raise objections.

These updates strengthen visibility and ensure stakeholders have greater opportunity to review and comment before implementation. The [updated procedure](#) is available on the [SMDA website](#).

Modifications update

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

Access the latest information about SEC Modifications by visiting the [Modifications Register](#) on the SEC Website. Key updates since the previous newsletter (date) are listed below.

Refinement Consultations

Title	Closing Date	Impacted Parties	Link
MP293 'Deferment of DCC Planned Maintenance during Adverse Weather'	27 March 2026	Large Suppliers, Small Suppliers, DCC, Electricity Network Parties, Gas Network Parties, Other SEC Parties	DOWNLOAD
During DCC Planned Maintenance events, it is not possible to communicate with Smart Metering Systems (SMSs). Distribution Network Operators (DNO) rely on communication with SMSs during and after Adverse Weather events 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.			

New Modifications

Title	Issue	Solution
DP315	Ofgem has drafted a new Smart Metering Communications Licence (SMCL) and appointed a Successor Licensee. Due to operational requirements between the SMCL license holders, there will be a period where both will be in use. The SEC makes refers to the SMCL conditions, and unless amended, the parallel operation of both the SMCL and SMCL2 has the potential to cause confusion.	Any proposed solution(s) for this proposal are still under review
DP316	The DCC User Interface Specification (DUIS) does not specify the error code expected if the sender of a Service Request (SR) erroneously specifies both the Communication Hub Function (CHF) and the Gas Proxy Function (GPF) identifiers to be the same value. Should this occur, the DCC sends a response with the response code 'E120201'. The 'E120201' response code description does not cover the duplication of the CHF Device ID nor is it descriptive of the problem.	The proposed solution is to make text-only changes to SEC Appendix AD with the aim of providing clarity and to avoid any ambiguity and misinterpretation.
DP317	The DCC has carried out a competitive re-procurement of the Smart Metering Technical Specifications 1 (SMETS1) Final Operating Capability (FOC) Application, Network, Security and Operations (ANSO) service provision. To reflect the change in Service Provider, the DCC has identified references in SEC Appendix AP2 'FOC S1SPKI Certificate Policy' that require updating.	The proposed solution is to update the references to the existing ANSO FOC Service Provider within SEC Appendix AP2 to the new Service Provider at the point the contract comes into effect.
DP318	Where a Unique Transaction Reference Number (UTRN) has been sent from the Prepayment Meter Interface Device (PPMID) to the meter the meter will apply the UTRN and send one message to the energy Supplier and a second message to the PPMID informing of the successful top-up. If the meter detects a duplicate UTRN, then the meter will not send a message to the energy Supplier, or the PPMID.	Wording changes to Great Britain Companion Specification (GBCS) to clarify the meter behaviour by separating the generation of the message to the PPMID from the generation of the message to the energy Supplier.

Industry news and consultations

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

Industry news

DCC Customer Satisfaction Survey

The DCC's [Customer Satisfaction Survey](#) is now live and will close on 26 March 2026. Your feedback is important and will help inform and shape future service delivery. When prompted, please ensure you enter your SEC Party email address, as this will help with grouping scores and reviewing comments.

DCC Announces Approval of MP2 Live Service Criteria

The DCC are pleased to confirm the SEC Panel approved Manufacturing Pack 2 (MP2) Live Service Criteria at SECP149 on 24 February 2026. The DCC thanks customers, industry, SECCo and operational service providers for their continued support, particularly during the Production Pilot phase.

DCC have ongoing support available until end of May 2026 to those continuing to test in Production.

Contact DCCDevices@smartdcc.co.uk for support on meter and device manufacturers related to MP2.

Consultations

Industry consultations

[DSP Consultation on the Device Selection Methodology \(DSM\) for Future DSP | Smart DCC](#)

This DCC consultation seeks feedback on the proposed methodology for selecting which Devices should be used in testing for the Future Data Services Provider programme. You are invited to submit your feedback by **18 March 2026**.

[Consumer Consent Solution | REC](#)

This REC consultation seeks feedback on creating a standard digital system for consumers to control how their energy data is shared. You are invited to submit your feedback by **25 March 2026**.

[Proposed indicators: Ofgem performance and energy sector health | Ofgem](#)

Ofgem seeks feedback on proposed indicators to measure its performance and the overall health of the energy sector, improving transparency and tracking progress against its strategy. You are invited to submit your feedback by **07 April 2026**.

Upcoming meetings calendar

Date	Event	Who can attend?
19 March, 10:00	Privacy Sub-Committee Meeting 24	Members
20 March, 10:30	Other SEC Party Monthly Engagement Call	Open to Party Type
23 March, 10:30	Large Supplier Engagement Call	Open to Party Type
23 March, 12:30	Operations Group Meeting 160	Members
24 March, 09:30	SEC Panel Meeting 150	Members
24 March, 14:00	SECCo Board Meeting 150	Members
25 March, 09:45	Testing Advisory Group 136	Members
25 March, 10:00	Change Board Meeting 112	Members
25 March, 10:00	Security Sub-Committee Meeting 235	Members
26 March, 15:00	Small Supplier Engagement Call	Open to Party Type

View all upcoming industry events in the [Industry Events Calendar](#)

Vacancies

[Energy Market Support Coordinator](#)



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