

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 secas@gemserv.com if you have any feedback.



SEC Panel and SECCo Board Headlines

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

The latest meetings of SEC Panel and SECCo Board took place on 25 November 2025. The Headlines from [SEC Panel 146](#) and [SECCo Board 146](#) are now uploaded to the SEC Website. The next Panel and Board meetings will be held on 16 and 17 December 2025 respectively.

Gemserv's Transition to Talan – Key Updates

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

Following Talan's acquisition of Gemserv, Gemserv is rebranding as Talan. This change will not impact the services provided to SEC Parties through Gemserv/Talan's engagement with SECCo. However, there are some upcoming changes that will affect how you interact with the SECAS team, as we transition to the new Talan domain.

Here are a few changes to expect

- New email addresses

Future communications will come from @talan.com instead of @gemserv.com.

Action: Please whitelist @talan.com to avoid missing important updates.

- Updated contact details

A new SECAS helpdesk email address on the Talan domain will be shared shortly for support and queries.

Action required

- Whitelist @talan.com to avoid missing important updates.
- Could all SEC Party primary and secondary contacts ensure that other key contacts within your organisation, such as Security or Privacy Assessment leads are also notified of these changes.

We've identified various stakeholders impacted by this transition, and targeted communications will be sent out to Parties over the next two weeks. SEC Parties are advised that there is no impact on the services provided to you.

If you have any questions or need clarification, please email secas@gemserv.com.

Guaranteed Standards of Performance (GSoP)

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

SEC Parties will be aware of Ofgem's intention to introduce a new GSoP, following their consultation in the summer 2025. Whilst we are fully supportive of the intent to compensate consumers where they're not able to receive the promised benefits from smart meters, it's hugely important to make sure that the way in which GSoP is implemented is well thought out. It would be a concerning outcome if the costs of implementing the GSoPs framework outweigh the benefits it aims to achieve.

Recognising the risks of this potential outcome, the Operations Group (OPSG) and the DCC have now initiated a full review of the SEC, and SEC subsidiary documents to identify any areas that are inconsistent with the proposed GSoP arrangements. At the same time, the DCC has also initiated a review of the Incident Management process, assessing the processes undertaken by the DCC's Service Desk function to align with the requirements for GSoP implementation.

We are pleased to report that our first deliverable – an assessment of the SEC and SEC Appendices has now been issued to the OPSG Supplier Party Representatives. There is unanimous agreement on the areas we have identified as requiring attention. We are now putting together our first GSOP Review Report &

Recommendations to be presented at OPSG in December 2025 for approval. The report will then be presented to SEC Panel in December 2025. Once approved, we will raise a SEC Modification for the initial set of Text-Only SEC changes to be progressed.

The next phase of this work will begin in January 2026, focusing on assessing the relevant aspects of the DCC Licence, and DCC Service Provider Contracts. Our current expectation is to be able to provide a second GSOP Review Report & Recommendations for OPSG approval in February 2026.

SEC Quarterly Budget Report – Q2 2025-2026

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

The SEC Panel has published its [Quarterly Budget Report](#), providing the out-turn of the Panel Budget for the period 01 April – 30 September 2025 (Q2 2025-2026).

The report provides SEC Parties with a transparent view of budget use, key variances, and forecasted expenditure for the full year.



For a comprehensive understanding, this report can be read alongside the [SECCo Business Plan & Budget](#), which provides detailed breakdowns of each element of the budget.

Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC) Chair Update

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

The purpose of TABASC is to provide advice to the SEC Panel, and other Sub-Committees, on Technical Code Specifications, End-to-end Technical Architecture, and Business Architecture.

TABASC is chaired by Julian Hughes who has been involved in Smart Metering for over a decade and has a wealth of experience in overseeing the development and implementation of technical programmes. In January 2026 Julian will move to an SME role on TABASC while Ros Singleton will take over the Chair position. Ros joined SECCo as the Head of Technical and Business Architecture in September 2025. She brings over 35 years of experience across telecoms and technology in architectural and leadership roles.

Further information about TABASC can be found on the SEC website [here](#).

Sub-Committee Highlights

Over the past six months, TABASC has worked closely with the DCC on several key topics:

- **DSP 2.0:** Addressing concerns around cost, timelines, clarity of implementation and impact on Service Users
- **4G Coverage:** Ongoing roadmap and roaming enhancements
- **Access to 4G Diagnostic data:** Working with Industry and the DCC to develop a proposal to enable user access to the improved diagnostic data available on 4G CHs
- **Future DCC Technology Roadmap:** 5G/6G/LRR planning, self-healing Devices, automation for installations
- **Major Incident review:** Regularly engaging with DCC on the root cause of incidents to assess for architectural impact
- **Effectiveness Review:** Shift from generic annual questionnaire to understanding issues shared across Sub-Committees
- **Virtual Wide Area Network (VWAN):** Providing guidance and feedback on the DCC's VWAN solution design.

Success Stories

TABASC has published the DCC's [Elective Communication Service-Notice of Provision](#) in accordance with SEC Section H7 requirements. This marked a key milestone in the delivery of an Elective Communications Services under a Bilateral Agreement with a SEC Party. It has also supported the creation of high-level requirements that would enable a broader set of SEC Parties (i.e. Other Users) to access 4G CH diagnostic data.

Future Plans

TABASC will continue to provide assurance of the Smart Metering technical and business architecture and offer advisory support to DCC technical delivery programmes, including the development, testing, implementation, and migration to new solutions resulting from re-procured services.

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 and impacts, engagement approaches, and share feedback. Below is a summary of the key points from the November 2025 meeting:



Manufacturing Pack 2 (MP2)

The DCC confirmed that MP2 (a new set of Device certificates that will be used in the manufacture of new Devices) is now in production pilots, including initial gas and electricity meter installations. The next major milestone is testing the Change of Supplier process, with full rollout dependent on suppliers' confidence in the pack's readiness. The DCC also noted it is working through OPSG governance approvals and will undertake a lessons-learned exercise to address challenges encountered so far.

Device Manager (DM) Re-Procurement

The DCC also updated on Device Manager (DM) re-procurement and plans for governance approvals for this programme work. This will be a light-touch process aimed at appointing a new manager for the DM function. The DCC and SECCo will be meeting soon to develop plans that clearly outline Panel requirements and incorporate valuable input from SEC Sub-Committees to support this approach.

SMDA Elections Outcome

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

We recently held the annual SMDA Sub-Committee (SMDASC) elections for five seats. Following the nominations received, the results are as follows:

Other SEC Party Meter Asset Provider

There was one nomination for the one available seat, which was for Nick Thomas from Macquarie. Nick will be taking over the role from Adam Cooke.

Other SEC Party ESME Manufacturer

There was one nomination for the one available seat, which was Andrew Willman from BEAMA. Andrew will be taking on a consecutive term.

Other SEC Party GSME Manufacturer

There was one nomination for the one available seat, which was Martin Bell, from EUA. Martin will be taking on a consecutive term.

Other SEC Party In Home Display Manufacturer

There was one nomination for the one available seat, which was Patrick Caiger-Smith from GEO. Patrick will be taking on a consecutive term.

Electricity Network Operator

There was one nomination for the one available seat, which was Matthew Alexander from SSEN. Matthew will be taking on a consecutive term. The new term begins on Monday, 01 December 2025, so the first SMDASC meeting with new membership will be on Tuesday, 09 December 2025. The online membership list is now updated to reflect this election.

Thank you to those of you who participated, by nominating a candidate. If you have any questions or feedback on the elections process, please do not hesitate to contact SECAS@gemserv.com.

Modifications

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

Request for Information

Title	Closing Date	Impacted Parties	Link
MP304 'Scheduling Services for SMETS1 Devices (SRV 4.3)'	03 December 2025	Large Suppliers, Small Suppliers, DCC	DOWNLOAD
Suppliers use smart-meter data, events, and alerts to detect tampering or energy theft and must act on anomalous events under their licence and SEC obligations. However, current data lacks the granularity needed for highly			

accurate tampering detection. The Proposer would like Suppliers to see detailed Alerts, enabling more accurate modelling and more investigations into meter tampering and energy theft.

New Modifications

Title	Issue	Solution
DP307	The implementation of MP219 'Accessing Consumption Data on behalf of SEC Parties' has allowed contracted Other Users to access consumption data without consumer consent, however they still cannot send 'Join' or 'Unjoin' Service Requests unless they are the Responsible Supplier or have obtained Unambiguous Consent from the Consumer	Any proposed solution(s) for this proposal are still under review
MP308	For a variety of reasons SEC Parties are operating Communications Hubs outside of the permitted Region. The DCC CSPs are not contractually obliged to continue permitting Out of Region Communications Hubs to be operated and connecting to their network.	The solution introduces a definition for 'Out of Region Communications Hubs' and a new charge to encourage suppliers to replace them promptly.
DP309	SEC Sections G8.3 and G9.2 currently reference requirements found within Appendix AC. However, this is not made explicit within the legal text, which may lead to confusion.	Correct the legal text within the affected paragraphs in SEC Section G to clearly reference Appendix AC.

Modification Report Consultation

Title	Closing Date	Impacted Parties	Link
MP303 'Aligning DCC Certificate processes with SMKI standards'	10 December 2025	DCC	DOWNLOAD
Consumers may refuse a smart meter; however, Suppliers are unable to install one in "dumb" mode, as SEC requirements mandate full commissioning with a DCC Communications Hub.; The SEC does not allow for the Devices on the Smart Metering Inventory to be either installed or not commissioned. A new 'Restricted' mode will be added for SMETS2+ credit-mode Devices, flagged by the DSP to show the consumer has limited communications.			

Latest Modcast



This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

[Listen to our latest Modcast now!](#)

In this episode, we roundup the past month in SEC Change before delving into the details of [DP307 'Extension of MP219 'Accessing Consumption Data on behalf of SEC Parties' concept to section I 1.3'](#).

Industry News

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

DCC onboarding Improvement Project

Making User Entry Simpler and Faster

The DCC is seeing increasing enquiries from parties wishing to connect to the smart meter network to build new consumer propositions or address social use cases. However, the onboarding journey hasn't kept pace and is often discouraging for new entrants. DCC, in collaboration with SECCo, is delivering the Onboarding Improvement Project to address these challenges.

The aim?

To make joining the smart metering network easier, faster, and more efficient for SEC Parties and the DCC.

What's changing?

We're introducing:

- A front-end tool for submitting onboarding information and documents
- A workflow management solution to coordinate tasks across DCC
- Simplified guidance materials and governance.

The new journey is designed with customers in mind, we've listened to feedback, studied over 100 pain points, and reviewed 95 onboarding forms to design a journey that's transparent, guided, and tailored to each user role. Phase 1 focuses on Parties applying to become a DCC Other User, which makes up over 85% of the current onboarding pipeline. Future phases will extend improvements to Energy Suppliers and (i)DNOs.

Why does this matter?

These changes will:

- Cut onboarding time and complexity
- Improve transparency and user experience
- Support broader accessibility to the smart metering network.

The project is now in advanced development, with a trial planned January 2026 for early feedback and insights with a pre-defined control group, ahead of full implementation targeted later in 2026. We'll share trial outcomes at the February 2026 SEC Panel meeting - watch this space for updates!

Industry Consultations

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

[DSP consultation on the regulatory changes for DCC Connect | Smart DCC](#)

The DCC seeks your views on rule changes needed to move smart-meter communications from the old Gamma network to the new "DCC Connect" system, and on updates to service charges for the year ending March 2026. You are invited to submit your feedback by **12 December 2025**.

[DSP Consultation on the SEC Variation Testing Approach Document for Future DSP | Smart DCC](#)

The DCC seeks your feedback over a draft document which sets out how testing should be carried out whenever the SEC needs to be varied for its future DSP arrangements. You are invited to submit your feedback by **19 December 2025**.

Upcoming Events and SEC Meetings

Date	Event	Who can attend?
01 December, 13:30	TIRG Meeting 15	Members
02 December, 10:00	Customer Challenge Group 07	Members
03 December, 10:00	SEC Working Group Meeting	Members
03 December, 13:00	SEC Issues Group Meeting	Members
09 December, 09:20	Operations Group Meeting 154	Members
09 December, 09:30	TABASC Meeting 120	Members
09 December, 14:00	SMDA Sub-Committee Meeting 21	Members
10 December, 09:15	SMKI PMA Meeting 136	Members
10 December, 09:30	Performance Assurance Board 08	Members
10 December, 11:30	Security Sub-Committee Meeting 229	Members
15 December, 10:30	Large Supplier Engagement Call	Open to Party Type
15 December, 11:00	SCIRS Meeting 48	Members
15 December, 13:00	Communications Transitions Group 34	Members
16 December, 09:30	SEC Panel 147	Members
16 December, 10:00	Change Sub-Committee Meeting 82	Members
17 December, 09:45	Testing Advisory Group 133	Members
17 December, 10:00	Change Board Meeting 109	Members
17 December, 14:00	SECCo Board Meeting 147	Members
18 December, 10:00	Privacy Sub-Committee 21	Members
18 December, 15:00	Small Supplier Engagement Call	Open to Party Type

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



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