

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 28 October 2025. The Headlines from [SEC Panel 145](#) and [SECCo Board 145](#) are now uploaded to the SEC Website.

The next Panel and Board meetings will be held on 25 November 2025.

DCC Programme Assurance Quarterly Update

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

During Q3 2025 there were no new programmes instigated by the DCC, and no status changes to those underway. The DCC has progressed its Data Service Provider (DSP) programme, engaging with SEC Sub-Committees on technical design and connectivity with DCC users, as well as revising its delivery plan timetable. The Future Service Management (FSM) programme has received approval for the documents required under the SEC which capture requirements for the new service, and the DCC has held awareness sessions with industry to ensure they are aware of the new arrangements.

The DCC's Public-Key Infrastructure – Enduring (PKI-E) programme has progressed, with the DCC receiving instruction from DESNZ to prepare a Live Services Criteria submission ahead of go-live for the new service. Go-live readiness has also progressed for the SMETS1 Dual Control Organisation (DCO) procurement, with the new arrangements planned to go-live in the next few weeks.

The DCC's Future Connectivity North Programme is now in its post-go-live stage, with hyper-care monitoring and Acceptance into Service being discussed at Operations Group (OPSG) during Q3. This programme is expected to roll-into Business as Usual during Q4 and will be removed from future programme updates.

Communications Transition Group (CTG) Update

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

We would like to share the wonderful news that Ashton Briggs, Chair of the CTG, welcomed a baby boy on Tuesday 21 October 2025. We can confirm that both mum and baby are doing well, despite Baby Briggs coming a little bit earlier than expected. We're sure you will all join us in congratulating Ashton and her partner!

Due to the unanticipated arrival, handover plans have now been expedited, and we can confirm that Cherrelle Mclean will take over as Chair of CTG for the period of Ashton's maternity leave. Cherrelle presented the CTG evolution proposal to members on Monday 20 October 2025, where nine risks were closed and CTG members agreed the new quarterly meeting dates for 2026 with an option for extraordinary meetings when required.

The CTG has monitored the successful implementation of 4G Comms Hubs and SECCo would like to thank members for their valuable input so far. The CTG will continue to monitor progress on Long-Range Radio Committed Term, 4G Coverage and the central and south 2/3G switch off. Watch this space for further updates on the work that the Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC) and the Operations Group (OPSG) will pick up as the 4G CHs transition into BAU.

Join the Performance Assurance Board!

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

We're excited to share there is still opportunity to shape the future of the Smart Energy Code.

We have the last few open seats on the Performance Assurance Board (PAB), and we're inviting nominations for the following positions:

- 1 Large Supplier
- 1 Gas Network Party
- 1 Other SEC Party



The PAB plays a vital role in overseeing the Performance Assurance Framework (PAF), ensuring SEC obligations are met and risks and issues are managed effectively. Its mission is to:

- Build confidence that Parties are fulfilling their obligations under the Code;
- Ensure no Party is disadvantaged by others' non-compliance; and
- Identify and address performance risks and issues in a consistent and transparent way.

PAB meets monthly, and members will make key decisions on SEC Party performance and support the delivery of the General SEC Objectives.

What's ahead: Procurement of the PAF Service Provider will conclude in December 2025, with mobilisation of the PAF starting in January 2026. As a PAB member, you'll play an active role in guiding the future design of the PAF.

Whether you're nominating a colleague or stepping forward yourself, this is your chance to contribute to meaningful industry progress.

For nominations, please contact secas@gemserv.com. If you have any questions or would like to learn more, please get in touch at pab@seccoltd.com - Beth Procter, Performance Assurance Board Chair.

SECCo Customer Experience Project Update

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

This year, the SECCo-led Customer Experience Project has focused on understanding and designing a cohesive, insight-driven approach across the SEC. We developed detailed customer and business personas to inform process design and communication strategies, ensuring our approach reflects genuine SEC Party needs.

Working collaboratively with internal teams and external stakeholders, we mapped current experience journeys, analysing queries, resources, and key processes. This groundwork enabled us to understand our current state and identify our desired future state: a customer-centred model to meet user requirements through balancing technology capabilities and team strengths.



We have designed customer experience principles that aim to create alignment between the SEC Objectives and best practices in design and delivery for all organisations involved in service delivery. Through targeted support, we're helping all business areas identify and address experience process gaps, strengthening experience delivery at critical touchpoints. Through targeted support, we're helping all business areas identify and address experience process gaps, strengthening experience delivery at critical touchpoints. One highlight is our partnership with DCC on experience delivery across shared touchpoints—particularly around the SEC Accession. This collaboration creates consistency for customers whilst building capability amongst teams responsible for the journey. We're encouraging more experience partnerships and idea sharing to improve code accessibility and knowledge sharing in 2026.

The result is now growing as a focused, experience-led practice connecting customer insight, operational reality, and future ambition. We're building an experience architecture that serves both SEC Party's need and business objectives whilst improving the energy code customer experience landscape.

To learn more about our plans, or to get involved with experience partnership and development, please contact Hollie Daines-Grey at hollie.daines-grey@seccoltd.com.

Modifications

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

November 2025 SEC Release

The November 2025 SEC Release will take place on 06 November 2025 and includes the following modifications:

Modification	Proposed Solution	Parties Impacted
MP252 'Amending the process for Communications Hub returns'	Proposes to allow any SEC Party to return Communications Hubs to the Data Communications Company (DCC). This will require SEC Parties to return Communications Hubs to the DCC using the current method via the Communication Service Providers (CSPs), and the Data Service Provider (DSP) and DCC to process the returns internally.	Large Suppliers Small Suppliers Electricity Network Parties Gas Network Parties Other SEC Parties DCC
MP268 'Certificate rotation and expired Certificates'	Aims to address the security risks associated with using Organisation Certificates with extended Validity Periods in Devices installed after the 2024 manufacturing pack release.	Large Suppliers Small Suppliers Electricity Network Parties DCC
MP283 'Data Breach Reporting'	Aims to include a requirement for DCC Other Users to report Data breaches to the Privacy Sub-Committee.	Other SEC Parties
MP290 'Incorporation of Category 3 Issue Resolution Proposal into the SEC – Batch 11 and GBCS Changes'	Aims to make a text-only change to emphasise that Certificate Path Validation (CPV) only applies to the replacement Certificates and does not apply under any circumstance to existing Certificates held as credentials in Trust Anchor Cells.	Large Suppliers Small Suppliers

MP297 ‘Housekeeping for November 2025 SEC Release’	Aims to correct typographical and grammatical errors identified in the SEC, to ensure clarity.	None
MP286 ‘Establishment of the Privacy Sub-Committee into the SEC’	Aims to introduce the Privacy Sub-Committee into the SEC and allow the Sub-Committee to raise its own modifications, following the path of the Security Sub-Committee.	Large Suppliers Small Suppliers Electricity Network Parties Gas Network Parties Other SEC Parties

New Modifications

Title	Issue	Solution
DP305	The process within the SEC for Communications Hub (CH) returns has multiple gaps or requirements for clarity to aid a successful process and enable better reporting for the CH returns process for industry.	Any proposed solution(s) for this proposal are still under review
DP306	The current DCC reporting process presents several challenges, including inconsistent update frequencies, and manual data retrieval via SharePoint.	The Proposer has identified several potential areas for improvement within the current DCC process.

Request for Information

Title	Closing Date	Impacted Parties	Link
MP169 ‘Managing the consumer’s refusal of a Smart Meter’	05 November 2025	Large Suppliers, Small Suppliers, DCC, Electricity Network Parties, Gas Network Parties, Shared Resource Providers, Flexibility Providers, Meter Installers	DOWNLOAD
Consumers can refuse a smart meter, but Suppliers can’t install one in “dumb” mode. Current rules require full commissioning with a communications hub. The proposal is to add a new “Restricted” mode for SMETS2+ meters in credit, letting the system flag limited communications if the consumer chooses.			

Latest Modcast

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties



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

In this episode we have our usual roundup of the past month in SEC Change before an overview of the [November 2025 SEC Release](#), including how to get more information and support.

SMDA Updates

This story is of interest to all SEC Parties

SMDA November 2025 SEC Release

The Scheme Operator has determined that no changes to the SMDA Test Specification or Test Scripts are required to align with the November 2025 SEC Release.

For details of the latest testing Baseline please refer to the SMDA June 2024 SEC Release Baseline available on the SMDA website [here](#).

SMDA Sub-Committee Call for Nomination

The 2025 SMDA Sub-Committee elections are now open, and the following seats are up for nomination:

- 1 Large Supplier
- 2 Small Suppliers
- 1 Electricity Network
- 1 Other SEC Party ESME Manufacturer
- 1 Other SEC Party GSME Manufacturer
- 2 Other SEC Party Display Manufacturers
- 1 Other SEC Party Meter Asset Provider

SEC Parties are invited to make a nomination for their Party category using the [online form](#) by **21 November 2025**. You will need to be [logged in](#) to access the form.

SMDA 4G Communications Hub Pilot Programme

As part of SMDA's drive to align with industry, the SMDA Sub-Committee commissioned a 4G Communications Hub (CH) Testing Pilot. The aim of the Pilot was to determine if that 4G CHs behaved consistently with all other current CHs used in SMDA (e.g. WNC, Toshiba 2/3G, EDM1). The Pilot carried out a small subset of CH specific tests considered to be key priority tests covering areas such as security credentials, supply tamper state, soak test, change of tenancy test cases, TCSO (Trust Centre Swap Out) / CH replacement and Network Party specific tests.

Testing has been completed successfully with no variances or issues found. The results were presented at the SMDA Sub-Committee on 22 October 2025 where the SMDASC agreed that the results provided sufficient confidence that 4G CHs could be used with SMDA Device Assurance testing.

Therefore, the Scheme has introduced 4G CH testing into SMDA Device Assurance testing and any new Devices submissions for testing will include tests with 4G CHs.

To find out more, please see the [SMDA Baselines](#) available on the SMDA Website.

Upcoming Online Events

SEC Security & Privacy Assessment Drop-In Sessions

Who: SEC Parties

What: Join us as we introduce E&Y as the new delivery partner for Security and Privacy Assessments, share early transition and Assessment insights, and invite your input to help shape future processes and engagement.

How to Register for a Session:

Microsoft Teams. Please use the links below on the dates to register for one of the available sessions.

[07 November 2025; 14:00 – 15:00](#)

[17 November 2025; 10:00 – 11:00](#)

We encourage SEC Parties to submit any questions or feedback you may have before the sessions by emailing secas@gemserv.com.

Introduction to the SEC Webinar

Who: SEC Parties, especially new joiners, those transitioning into relevant roles, or recently acceded Parties.

What: An “Introduction to the SEC” webinar on Wednesday, 19 November 2025, from 10:00 to 12:00. The session will provide key insights into the SEC and include opportunities for Q&A and discussion with our subject experts.

How to Register for a Session:

- Microsoft Teams. Register [here](#).
- Submit any questions you'd like addressed to secas@gemserv.com by 17:00 on 05 November 2025.
- Feel free to share this invite with colleagues or industry peers who may benefit.

We look forward to welcoming you.

Industry News and Consultations

[4G Communications Hub only exchange site visits: proposed methodology for calculating a centralised price | Ofgem](#)

Ofgem is proposing a methodology to set a centralised reimbursement price for site visits to replace only the 2G/3G communications hubs in SMETS2 systems, ensuring cost recovery is consistent. You are invited to submit feedback by **04 November 2025**.



[Draft new Smart Meter Communication Licence | Ofgem](#)

Ofgem is consulting on a draft Smart Meter Communication Licence for the successor licensee, reflecting decisions from the DCC Review. The revised Licence reflects DCC Review decisions, introducing a not-for-profit model, ex-ante cost controls, and independent governance. You are invited to submit feedback by **07 November 2025**.

[4G WAN Coverage Improvement consultation on the delivery plan | Smart DCC](#)

This DCC consultation aims to gather your input on the proposed strategy for expanding and optimising 4G WAN coverage to meet DCC's 99.25% target. It also highlights further measures to improve coverage assurance and presents DCC's proposed plan for stakeholder engagement. You are invited to submit your views by **14 November 2025**.

[SMETS1 Consultation – Retention of Key Clauses Beyond TMAD Expiry and Proposed Updates to Supporting Requirements | Smart DCC](#)

The DCC is consulting on retaining key SMETS1 clauses and updating related requirements to ensure clear and enduring obligations after the TMAD expires in December 2025. You are invited to submit your views by **14 November 2025**.

[Financing arrangements for DCC1 and DCC2 during Business Handover | Ofgem](#)

Ofgem is consulting on establishing financial and cost-recovery arrangements to support the operational handover between Smart DCC Ltd (DCC1) and its successor (DCC2) during the business transition period. You are invited to submit your views by **24 November 2025**.

Upcoming Events and SEC Meetings

Date	Event	Who can attend?
03 November, 10:30	DCC2 Board Advisory Forum	Members
03 November, 13:30	TIRG Meeting 14	Members
04 November, 10:00	Customer Challenge Group 05	Members
05 November, 10:00	SEC Working Group Meeting	Members
05 November, 13:00	SEC Issues Group Meeting	Members
06, November, 09:30	TABSAC Meeting 119	Members
07 November, 14:00	SEC Security and Privacy Drop-in Session	Open to SEC Parties
11 November, 09:20	Operations Group Meeting 152	Members
12 November, 09:15	SMKI PMA Meeting 135	Members
12 November, 09:30	Performance Assurance Board 07	Members
12 November, 11:30	Security Sub-Committee Meeting 227	Members
17 November, 14:00	SEC Security and Privacy Drop-in Session	Open to SEC Parties
17 November, 13:00	Communications Transition Group 33	Members
18 November, 10:00	Change Sub-Committee Meeting 81	Members
18 November, 10:00	Customer Challenge Group 06	Members
19 November, 10:00	Introduction to the SEC Webinar	Open to SEC Parties
20 November, 09:30	TABASC Meeting 119X	Members
20 November, 10:00	Privacy and Sub-Committee Meeting 20	Members
21 November, 10:30	Other SEC Parties Issues Call	Open to Party Type
24 November, 10:30	Large Supplier Engagement Call	Open to Party Type
24 November, 12:20	Operations Group Meeting 153	Members
25 November, 09:30	SEC Panel 146	Members
25 November, 14:00	SECCo Board 146	Members
26 November, 09:45	Testing Advisory Group 132	Members
26 November, 10:00	Change Board Meeting 108	Members
27 November, 15:00	Small Supplier Engagement Call	Open to Party Type

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



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