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Acronyms and Defined Terms SEC Glossary	

SEC Panel Sub-Committee Report

1. Purpose and highlights

This paper provides the Panel with an update on recent activities from the Panel Sub-Committees, including key issues discussed, and details specific points the Sub-Committees would like to bring to the Panel's attention. The Panel is requested to note the updates and endorse the concerns raised by the Sub-Committees.

- At TABASC in December, The DCC provided an overview of the DSP Programme to members, including the Integrated Plan for the programme, and the next steps for the DSP rollout. DCC's service providers for the new DSP joined the meeting, where IBM presented an overview of the Build, Delivery and Approach of the DSP Solution Design and gave Members an opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions. Vodafone provided TABASC Members with an overview of how the SDWAN would be delivered through the DSP Programme. Netcompany provided a presentation on how Modular DUIS would be delivered through the DSP Programme.
- At TAG, The DCC provided the Future Service Management (FSM) Test Coverage Document (TCD) and Pre-Integration Testing (PIT) Coverage Traceability Document (CTD) for review, as well as testing to support MHHS-driven uplifts to its SMETS1 FOC capability. The DCC also shared an overview of the Virtual Wide Area Network (VWAN) programme for the introduction of VWAN Devices, and also brought its Test Automation Framework (TAF) Testing Approach Document (TAD) and Test Coverage Document (TCD), which were noted by the Group.
- At OPSG, SECCo noted that a full review of the OPSG risks and issues logs had been completed and this had resulted in a new draft RAID log, which was presented to members for review and comment. The DCC presented the impacts and root-causes of the four Category 2 Major Incidents that occurred during November 2024, as well as an update on

change-drive Service Outage, providing examples of technical approaches that could be considered and the combined 'Change Improvement Plan'. The DCC also provided updates on its Customer Improvement Plan for CSPN, its activities during the IPV phase of the CH&N programme, and an update on its plans for Future Connectivity in the North

- The CTG met once in December, with DCC CH&N updates featuring prominently on the agenda, including items on LSC2 Go-Live, Coverage Assurance, and feedback from IPV. At the meeting the DCC also provided an update on SMETS1 End-of-Life.
- At the Trust Centre Swap-Out (TCSO) Issues Resolution Group (TIRG), DESNZ provided the TIRG with an update on the TCSO obligation on large supplier parties, to undertake 40 TCSOs, which was put in place on the 6 November and will remain in place for 6 months. Three new issues were raised and added to the group's issues log. These were discussed alongside a number of existing issues.

2. Communications Transition Group (CTG)

The CTG has met once since the previous SEC Sub-Committee Report, on 09 December 2024.

DCC Update: 4G CH&N Programme Programme Update

The DCC presented an overview of the overall plan for the Communications Hub & Network (CH&N) Transition to 4G Communication Hubs (CHs) and provided updates on its programme risks and issues, noting an overall RAG status of Green. The 4G CH&N programme went live on 2 December 2024 with Initial Pallet Validation (IPV) and there have been no major causes for concern.

LSC2 Go-Live

The DCC indicated that the process for LSC2 will be similar to LSC1, but there will be lighter documentation as consideration will be focussed on DCC Services and the outcome of IPV. LSC2 will support the decision to start the mass manufacture and supply of 4G CHs. LSC2 will be presented to appropriate Sub-Committees, in advance of a SEC Panel recommendation due on 11 March 2025 and a DESNZ decision on 7 April 2025.

4G WAN Coverage Assurance

The DCC provided an update on the scope of work for 4G coverage enhancement and the DCC progress on developing a plan as requested by CTG. The DCC are considering critical items to close the coverage gap.

IPV Working Group playback

The DCC indicated that over 200 installs had been done in the first week of IPV and some of the customer journeys required for IPV exit criteria had been completed. The DCC will be providing weekly reporting to the IPV working group which will support the IPV exit report that feeds into LSC2, and the DCC intend to provide progress summaries to CTG.

4G Comms Hub OBC and Charging Review Update

The DCC presented an update on the DCC's 4G charging methodology review ahead of the mass rollout of 4G CHs; this covered an update on MP275 including consideration at the recent SEC Mod

Working Group. The DCC also provided an update on the CH OBC submission and ongoing engagement with DESNZ and SEC Panel to close out the process. The CTG noted the updates.

DCC Update: SMETS1 EoL

The DCC presented an update on SMETS1 End of Life (EoL) and highlighted the DCC's continued engagement with DESNZ, and the options being explored to compress the timelines of the Outline Business Case submission. The DCC indicated that they intend to share a plan at CTG in January regarding detail of significant dates for SMETS1 EoL. The DCC reiterated its commitment to provide the CTG requested reporting to DCC Users on assets mapped against Mobile Network Operators, and assets impacted by the VMO2 in-bound roaming shutdown. The CTG noted the update.

4G Media Handling Activities

DESNZ noted that its position on 4G media handling remains unchanged, and they are coordinating with SEGB, the DCC and Energy UK on reactive messaging. DESNZ are happy to share lines on 4G with any interested party. SEGB provided an update on ongoing bilaterals with Energy Suppliers. The CTG noted the update.

CTG OTP Update

The CTG Chair indicated that she would be presenting an updated OTP for re-baselining in January. The CTG noted the update.

CTG Risks and Issues Register Monthly Update

The CTG noted changes made to the CTG Risks and Issues Register by the CTG Chair and agreed to the baselining of the Risk and Issues Register draft as v21.0.

CTG Factsheets

SECAS presented an update on the Factsheets and a forward-look of upcoming changes. The CTG noted the changes made to the Amber and Green Factsheets to provide further clarity on CH and ESME seals (as part of the CH swap out process). The CTG agreed to the baselining of the Amber Factsheets as v4.5 and Green Factsheets as v2.5.

AOB

The Chair indicated that DCC will be looking to come to CTG in January to provide an update on Future Connectivity North and there would also be an update to the CTG Terms of Reference.

SECCo's Head of Industry Operations confirmed that CTG Chair responsibilities have been passed from Haz Elmamoun to Ashton Briggs, and thanked Haz and Mark Pitchford for their valuable support and contributions for CTG. The CTG noted the update.

3. Technical Operations

3.1 TABASC Highlights

The TABASC 108 meeting was held on 10 December 2024.

The following topics were discussed:

4G Coverage Enhancement Update (Plan)

The DCC presented an update on 4G Coverage Enhancement.

DSP: Programme Update

The DCC provided an overview of the DSP Programme which included the Integrated Plan and the next steps for the DSP rollout. IBM presented an overview of the Build, Delivery and Approach of the DSP Solution Design and gave Members an opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions. Vodafone provided TABASC Members with an overview of how the SDWAN would be delivered through the DSP Programme. Netcompany provided a presentation on how Modular DUIS would be delivered through the DSP Programme. The DCC then provided an overview of the six DSP Migration stages and agreed to attend a future TABASC meeting to provide more information and detail surrounding each of the six stages. The DCC and IBM gave further detail around innovation and the use of Artificial Intelligence throughout the new DSP. Netcompany then added to the update providing information around how the testing of each area would be completed.

3.2 TAG Highlights

The TAG met once during the last month to discuss the following topics in addition to the regular testing updates:

FSM TCD / PIT CTD Iteration 2

The DCC provided the Future Service Management (FSM) Test Coverage Document (TCD) and Pre-Integration Testing (PIT) Coverage Traceability Document (CTD) for review. The TAG noted the overview of the documents.

SMETS1 MHHS Functional Capacity Uplift FOC Approach to Testing

The DCC provided the Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specifications 1 (SMETS1) Market-wide Half Hourly Settlement (MHHS) Functional Capacity Uplift Final Operating Capability (FOC) approach to testing for review. The TAG approved the proposed approach to testing for MHHS Capacity Uplift for SMETS1 FOC.

SMETS1 MHHS Non-Functional Capacity Uplift FOC Approach to Testing

The DCC provided the SMETS1 MHHS Non-Functional Capacity Uplift FOC approach to testing for approval. The TAG approved the SMETS1 MHHS Non-Functional Capacity Uplift FOC approach to testing.

DSP Tooling

The DCC presented an update on test tooling as part of re-procurement of the Data Service Provider (DSP). The TAG noted the update.

TAG in PIT

The DCC presented its proposal for TAG involvement in PIT governance. TAG endorsed the proposal for the TAG's future involvement in PIT governance.

VWAN Overview

The DCC presented an overview of the Virtual Wide Area Network (VWAN) programme for the introduction of VWAN Devices, also known as Consumer Access Device-g (CADg) and Virtual WAN Devices (VWDs). The TAG noted the update.

PLMN11 Approach to Testing

The DCC provided the Public Land Mobile Network 11 (PLMN11) approach to testing to the TAG.

The TAG noted the update.

TAF TAD & TCD update

The DCC presented the Test Automation Framework (TAF) Testing Approach Document (TAD) and Test Coverage Document (TCD). The TAG noted the update.

MP277 Virtual Gateway Connection

SECAS presented MP277 'Virtual Gateway Connection' for review. The TAG noted the update.

TAG Risks Register Quarterly Review

SECAS presented the quarterly review of the TAG Risks Register. The TAG noted the update.

3.3 Operations Group Highlights

The Operations Group met once in December. The topics covered included the following:

Issues Review

SECCo noted that a full review of the OPSG risks and issues logs had been completed and this had resulted in a new draft RAID log. SECCo requested that members review the new draft RAID log and provide any feedback by 10 January 2025. The DCC provided an update on non-communicating devices and the OPSG discussed concerns regarding the raising of Incidents. The Chair noted that significant progress had been made and the DCC and the OPSG agreed that another workshop would be held in January 2025 to discuss the Incident process further.

DCC Operational Update

The DCC presented the impacts and root causes of the four Category 2 Major Incidents that occurred in November 2024. The DCC summarised that all of the Incidents were SMETS1 impacting, three of the four were linked to change activity, and two of the four were a result of human error. The DCC also noted that the Incidents had caused a decrease in performance in SMETS1 Pre-Payment to 97% and noted an increase of performance in SMETS2 Pre-Payment of 0.3%, to 98.2%. The DCC provided an update on the plans for the upcoming price event in January 2025, which included updated User guidance. The OPSG noted the update and expressed concern around human error continuing to cause Major Incidents.

CSPN Update

The DCC presented an update on the Customer Improvement Plan, noting that overall performance is currently sitting at 83.12%, with the milestone being 85%. The DCC discussed the CSPN 'Internal

WAN Audit Proposal' and the OPSG suggested that it should be trialled in different areas to determine success rates. The DCC stated it would provide guidance on the training documentation before the next meeting, on 18 December 2024 and the OPSG highlighted the importance of not increasing the amount of time an engineer is on site.

4G CH&N LSC 2

The DCC provided an update on Live Service Criteria (LSC) 2 approach & IPV Reporting, advising that there are five criteria to be met for volume manufacture. The OPSG raised concerns regarding the WAN coverage and how 99.25% will be achieved. The DCC noted that a plan would be put in place to achieve the required level of WAN coverage and committed to providing assurance to the OPSG. The DCC were also asked to consider how it can provide details of any penalties or sanctions that would apply to 4G Service Provider if the contracted coverage is not met based on the plan being put in place. The DCC stated that good progress had been made in terms of IPV and everything is on track to meet the exit criteria.

Change Related Service Outage Time

The DCC presented an update noting that it had a meeting with TABASC to discuss technical options to deploy change differently, with the aim of minimising change-related service outage time. The DCC presented examples of technical approaches that could be considered and the combined 'Change Improvement Plan'. The OPSG discussed the impact of planned outage time on Energy Consumers and the importance of keeping DCC Total System downtime to a minimum.

4G CH&N Maintenance Approach

The DCC provided a view of the required planned maintenance for 4G CHs, noting that the outage windows would be on Thursdays. The OPSG requested that the DCC explore including the 4G planned maintenance within the Planned Maintenance windows within the annual outage plan where possible, and the DCC confirmed that it would provide the feasibility of this to the OPSG.

Future Connectivity North

The DCC provided an update on its plans for Future Connectivity in the North. The OPSG highlighted that an update to the WAN coverage checker would need to be considered within the requirements and also noted that procedural documentation would need to be provided for engineers.

3.4 TCSO Issues Resolution Group

DESNZ TCSO IPV obligation – Large Suppliers Update

DESNZ provided the TIRG with an update on the TCSO obligation on large supplier parties to undertake 40 TCSO's in live, which was put in place on the 6 November and will remain in place for 6 months. DESNZ noted that some TCSO's take place as part of the 4G Comms hub Initial Pallet Validation (IPV) phase which commenced 2 December 2024 and will run until 7 February 2025. DESNZ will request a process plan from Large Suppliers to inform when they plan to undertake the 40 TCSO's, to help communicate progress and expected activity.

TABASC update on Issue 5

The Chair noted that Issue 5 was discussed at the TABASC 107 meeting, on 24 November. The issue relates to a lack of diagnostics information in live. The DCC has agreed to return to the TABASC with

proposed changes to the system, to allow more diagnostic information to be available. The DCC added that additional diagnostics have been added into the 4G Comms Hubs, over and above what is provided with 2G/3G and Long-Range Radio (LLR), which will help the DCC to validate diagnostics during the 4G IPV. The DCC noted that although Suppliers will not be able to independently interrogate the Comms Hubs to obtain information, the DCC is able to investigate issues and information relating to incidents and will be able to share information that was not available in the previous versions of the Comms Hubs.

Split site update

The DCC provided an update on the Business Process for the Split Fuel Comms Hub replacement by an Electricity Supplier. The DCC noted that the full explanatory document is contained in the Business Proposal Document (BPD).

TSIRs Update

SECAS provided the TIRG with an update from the Design Release forum in November. It was noted that the SRV8.12.1 “Restore HAN Device Log” is part of a TCSO and results in the GBCS CCS03 “Restore CHF Device Log” Command being send to the new CHF (Communications Hub Function). Upon receiving the CSS03 Response indicating success from the new CHF, the DSP associates the Metering Point information of the Devices with the new CHF. The issue is if the CCS03 Response is missing from the DSP perspective the TCSO hasn’t worked, and the DSP can’t update the data. The DCC will continue to use the Device data which will originate from the existing DSP copy of the old CHF Device Log. The DCC proposed three options as solutions.

New Issues Raised

The Chair presented the issue log for discussion and noted that there had been three new issues added. The Chair highlighted that both issues 15 & 16 related to User Integrated Testing (UIT).

Issue 15: TCSO Range Extenders

Issue 16: Gas Meter not connected to HAN after TCSO

Issue 17: Meter casing opening on 4GCH Installation

Issues log

The Chair provided the TIRG with an update to the TCSO Orchestration Guide and agreed the new version should be published on the SEC website.

Issue 3: GSME Battery Door Seals

The Chair noted that during CH exchange, Engineers may be required for to get behind the seals of the battery door. The seal would then need to be replaced, which will have to be obtained from the manufacture and this needs to be considered as part of a TCSO when roll out occurs at scale. The impact may be the unnecessary replacement of working meters in the event that a replacement seal is not available, as Devices cannot be left unsealed.

4. Security Sub-Committee, SCIRS and SMKI PMA

4.1 SSC Highlights

User Security Assessments

The SSC considered the findings from eight User Security Assessments and set the assurance and compliance status. The SSC reported the outcomes of the User Security Assessments to the SEC Panel, noting the instances where non-compliances have been reported and where SSC has requested a Remediation Plan to avoid the Panel considering an Event of Default.

DCC Service Provider Assessments

The SSC considered findings from one DCC CIO Security Assessment and set the assurance status. The SSC reported the outcomes of the DCC CIO Security Assessment to the SEC Panel, noting the instances where non-compliances have been reported and where SSC has requested a Remediation Plan.

DCC CIO Forward Look and Remediations

The DCC CIO provided the SSC with an update on upcoming DCC CIO Assessments. SECAS also provided an update on the status of outstanding remediations, noting the instances where non-compliances have been persistently delayed.

CPA Risk Review

The SSC were presented with an update on the CPA Risk Reviews. The SCC noted the update and had no further follow-up requirements.

CPA Matters

The SSC Chair presented an update on the CPA matters and the SSC were presented with the SCIRS agenda for the meeting due to held on 16 December 2024. The SSC approved the agenda.

Future CPA Scheme

The SSC presented an update on the Future CPA Scheme. The SSC were presented with the updated CPA Policies and Procedures part 1 and part 2. The SCC Chair further presented an outline of the CPA Transition Plan and proposed Live Service Criteria. The SCC noted the update.

Smart PEMS

The Gas Network Representative presented the SSC with the Smart Post Emergency Services (PEMs) issue. The representative asked for support and advice on the issue. The SCC noted the update and provided feedback.

Certificate Management Strategy (Part of DSP Recovery)

The DCC presented the SCC with a layout of the DSP recovery mitigation. The SSC were shown the two paths being considered. The members provided feedback on these paths.

SMETS1 FOC SMSO Decommissioning

The DCC presented the SCC with the Security Assurance around the Decommissioning process of the SMSO for a Large Supplier.

Risk Assessment 10 Final Documentation

The SCC were presented with the final documentation for Risk Assessment 10.

MP277: 'Virtual Gateway Connection'

The SSC were presented with an update on MP277 Virtual Gateway connection. The proposer provided an overview of the Physical DCC Gateway Connection Costs and confirmed the Business requirements of MP277. The proposer confirmed the DCC will produce a table of indicative costs for cloud connectivity to compare to the physical costs. The SSC noted the contents of the paper and provided feedback in relation to the proposed solution. The SSC further provided feedback that the Business Requirements appeared appropriate.

MP265 Implementing ADT changes in response to a Security Incident

SECAS presented the SSC with an update on MP265. The SSC reviewed the Preliminary Impact Assessment. The Proposed solution would allow the DCC (under the recommendation and governance of the SSC to amend User-set ADTs to help with the recovery process. Members raised queries regarding the timeline of the Mod. The SSC also requested for a change of the wording of the Modification Proposal. The Mod has been revised to 'amending ADTs' rather than 'suspending ADTs'. Members noted the updates.

MP268: Certificate rotation and expired Certificates

The SSC were presented with an overview of MP268. The Mod proposed to provide clear guidelines within the SEC mandating post-commissioning replacement of SMKI Organisation Certificates by the DCC. The proposer confirmed the inclusion of timelines for replacing SMKI Organisation Certificates which have a validity period longer than ten-years or are revoked or expired. It was confirmed discussions had taken place in TABASC and SMKI PMA. The SSC noted the update, and members provided a strong pushback against the modification.

DP278: MHHS SMETS1 Cache Solution Amendment

SECAS presented DP278 to SSC members. The Mod proposed MHHS SMETS1 cache solution to allow the cache to store half hourly consumption data for the period between the current days and up to 72 hours before commencement of the current day. Members expressed concern about the 72-hour period and considered that 48 hours of data would meet the business requirement. The SSC noted the update.

4.2 SSC CPA Issue Resolution Sub-Group (SCIRS) Quantum Computing Preparation

NIST published a draft report on 'Transition to Post-Quantum Cryptography Standards' in November 2024 <https://csrc.nist.gov/pubs/ir/8547/ipd>. It sets out NIST's expected transition to post-quantum digital signature algorithms and key-establishment schemes and indicates that ECDSA algorithms will be deprecated from 2030 and disallowed after 2035, most notably in the United. NCSC continues to advise DESNZ and SSC.

Use Case 005 (4G Comms Hub Refurbishment)

Whilst the draft SSC Guidance for Use Case 005 has been approved by SSC, as explained at SCIRS on 18 November 2024, it cannot be implemented until the SSC has reviewed and approved the 'DCC Use Case 005 Triage Specification Document' and the DCC Security Controls Framework (SCF) to include the assurance of the CHTFP. Once satisfied, the final version of the SSC Guidance document will be published. Until then, it is not possible to refurbish 4G Comms Hubs.

Future CPA Scheme – Scheme Operator Arrangements

The DESNZ consultation on the Transitional Approach Document v2.0 was published on 15 November 2024 with responses required by 10 January 2025.

- CPA Scheme Operator

Following the appointment of CyTAL UK Ltd as the CPA Scheme Operator, Knowledge Transfer has been regularly taking place to impart knowledge from NCSC to CyTAL.

- SSC/SECAS

SECAS have received the CPA-related documentation that NCSC considers appropriate to the needs of the CPA Scheme Operator. This is being placed into secure Egress folders able to be accessed by CyTAL.

Future CPA Scheme – CPA Policies & Procedures Part 1

SCIRS Members noted that the CPA Policies and Procedures Part 1 has been updated to include:

- Clarifying throughout previous references to 'CPA Certificate' now reflect the difference between "CPA Device Certificate" and "CPA Build Standard Certificate".
- A new Appendix 1 reflecting TLP classifications appropriate to the CPA Scheme.
- A new Appendix 2 describing the CPA Test Lab Operational Requirements that the SSC will apply to Test Labs (including new Test Labs) wishing to operate as CPA Test Labs.

Future CPA Scheme – CPA Policies & Procedures Part 2

SCIRS Members noted that the CPA Policies and Procedures Part 2 (CPA Build Standard) has been updated to include:

- The award of a CPA Build Standard Certificate as discussed as an SSC 'minded to' position at SCIRS on 18 November and subsequently agreed at SSC on 27 November 2024
- The relevant extracts from the CPA Agreed Interpretations (AIs)

Future CPA Scheme – Next Steps

SCIRS Members noted the Outline CPA Transition Plan. The initial next steps in the Transition Plan include the DESNZ consultation on the Transitional Approach Document V2 (SEC Appendix AV).

4.3 SMKI PMA

MP268 Reporting Requirements

The DCC provided an update that the reporting requirements to support the implementation of MP268 'Certificate rotation and expired Certificates', was not yet available but would be brought to the January SMKI PMA meeting.

DCC Key Custodians

The SMKI PMA confirmed that the DCC is entitled to nominate Key Custodians in the same way as any other Party as set out in SEC Appendix L 3.4.1 and the SMKI PMA shall approve them subject to SEC Appendix L 3.4.3.5.

SMKI Registration Authority Document Destruction

The SMKI PMA provided advice to the DCC that SMKI records should be stored and retained in line with SEC Appendix D 4.1.1, 5.5.1.7 and 6.1. Records for SROs and AROs who are still in those roles should not be destroyed.

DCCKI CPS Approval

The DCC advised that updates to the DCCKI Certification Practice Statement (CPS) will be provided for the next SMKI PMA meeting. The SMKI PMA Chair clarified that the CPS should reflect the recent changes to SEC Appendix S – DCCKI Certificate Policy allowing the use of One Time Password (OTP) tokens for authentication and personal identity verification, as introduced by MP272 'SMKI Document Set Changes 2024'.

Apex Recovery Exercise

The DCC provided a verbal update on the upcoming Apex Recovery Exercise, noting that an in-depth update will be provided at the February SMKI PMA meeting.

PKI-E Update

The DCC provided an update on progress, noting that the Full Business Case is due to be shared with DESNZ in January 2025 with contract signatures due in February 2025. The SMKI PMA noted the update.

Certificate Management Strategy

The DCC provided proposed options for migrating the SMKI Recovery Key to the new DSP and the SMKI PMA provided feedback.

SMETS 1 FOC Decommissioning

The DCC and DCC CIO provided an assurance report of the decommissioning process and recommended that an adequate level of technical decommissioning controls and due diligence has been achieved. The SMKI PMA noted the report.

4.4 Privacy Sub Committee

An ad-hoc Privacy Sub-Committee (PSC) was held on 5 December 2024 to address any urgent Assessment reviews, Modification updates and to capture the PSC members feedback on the AI Risk & Opportunities Report ahead of the presentations due at the SEC Panel and SSC December meetings respectively.

PSC also noted that decision from Ofgem regarding the Central Switching Obligations which will remain with the Data Communications Company (DCC) for the foreseeable following the outcome of Ofgem's CSS Consultation process.

MP235 'Enhanced Meter Data Access for Other Users' Update regarding ICO Opinion

The PSC Chair had sought advice from the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) in relation to the treatment of export data and whether it should be classed as personal data in line with Ofgem's approach. SECAS noted that the ICO had provided an initial response but would review in more detail and provide a further update in time for the January PSC meeting.

MP219 'Accessing Consumption Data on behalf of SEC Parties' Ofgem Send Back

SECAS highlighted that Ofgem have requested an amendment to the Legal Text and Privacy Controls Framework (PCF) which is now underway. The date likely implementation date then is pending Ofgem's review of the updates, SECAS change team will keep the PSC informed of progress.

MP234 'Addition of GDPR Principles of Public Task and Legitimate Interests into the SEC'

MP234 has been previously placed on hold pending the outcome of MP219, but due to increased interest in access to consumption data via public task and a new lawful basis for obtaining consumption data, this modification would now be progressed and an update is due for the January 2025 PSC meeting to see members views.

AI Risks and Opportunities Report

PSC members provided positive feedback on the AI Risks and Opportunities report and agreed with the recommendations and suggested next steps.

5. SMDA Sub Committee

The SMDA Sub-Committee (SMDASC) met on 10 December 2024.

The results of the SMDASC election were announced with all members being re-elected.

Preferred Bidder for Testing Service Procurement Announced

The SMDASC noted that its preferred bidder has been notified, and the contract is due to be signed early January 2025 for a three-year period with an option to extend.

Double Band Devices

The SMDASC requested the SO (Scheme Operator) investigate options to test Double Band devices on 4G Communication Hub Devices and ways to introduce 4G Communications Hub testing into SMDA device testing.

Emergency Credit

The SMDASC also discussed the potential to include a targeted set of Emergency Credit (EMC) tests into SMDA baselines following the successful execution of independent EMC testing requested by Large Suppliers and a Device Manufacturer with expected results that are considered to be agnostic of smart metering equipment. EMC testing is outside of the current SMDA scope of testing and the SMDASC requested Panel input on whether the scope of SMDA testing should be expanded to include functionality testing of this nature.

SMDA Baseline

The SMDA Scheme confirmed intentions to publish an SMDA Baseline variation to include specific Network Operator testing into earlier Baselines. SMDASC noted Devices already in testing or those that have assurance will not be impacted by these changes. The Baseline variations would in effect be new versions of the current applicable Baselines and that these inclusions are expected to be published in January 2025 following an update to the Guidance note.

Future Dated Service Requests

The SMDA test suites will include testing for Future Dated Service Requests (specifically Service Request (SR) 1.1.1 – Tariff Update). The SMDASC requested input from Large Supplier representatives on whether additional Future Dated Service Requests should be included within SMDA Testing.

DNO Voltage Accuracy testing

Network Operators are looking to explore the possibility of the SMDA providing independent testing of Voltage Accuracy on SMETS2 ESMEs to assist Network Operators in addressing the lack of visibility of power quality data on Low Voltage (LV) networks, as there are no mandatory voltage accuracy requirements within SMETS. The SMDASC raised potential options including independent SMDA testing, Network Operator on-site checks and a combined efforts with the installation of 4G Comms Hubs to allow on-site checks. The SO and Network Operator representatives will approach BEAMA for further feedback on these options.

6. Recommendations

The Panel is requested to **NOTE** the contents of this paper.

Rebecca Sawyer, SECAS Team, 21 January 2025

Attachments:

- **Appendix A:** User Security Assessments – Identified Non-Compliances (**RED**)
- **Appendix B:** DCC Security Non-Compliances (**RED**)
- **Appendix C:** Post Commissioning Report (**RED**)
- **Appendix D:** Privacy Non-Compliances (**RED**)