

March 2026 SEC Sub-Committee Report

The monthly Sub-Committee report provides the SEC Panel and Parties with an update on recent activities from the Panel's Sub-Committees, including key topics discussed, risks and issues, and change items.

All the information in this report has been classified as 'Clear' under the SEC [Panel Information Policy](#). This means that there is no limit on disclosure of the information provided in this report.

Section 1 of this report '[Key Sub-Committee topics](#)' provides an overview of the Sub-Committees' activities on the key topics which have been discussed across several Sub-Committees during the last month. This month's key topics are:

1. [Device Issues Management](#)
2. [Long Range Radion Committed Term \(LRR CT\)](#)
3. [Public Key Infrastructure – Enduring \(PKI-E\)](#)
4. [4G Communications Hubs and Networks \(4G CH&N\)](#)
5. [Data Services Provider \(DSP\)](#)
6. [Outage Management](#)
7. [Future Service Management \(FSM\)](#)
8. [SMETS1](#)
9. [Virtual Wide Area Network \(VWAN\)](#)

Section 2 '[SEC Change](#)' provides an update on the progress of SEC Modifications and the recent and upcoming decisions of the Change Board (CB) and Change Sub-Committee (CSC) under delegated authority from the Panel.

Section 3 '[Sub-Committee Activities](#)' provides details of any discussion held by the Sub-Committees that have met during the last month which are not included in the Section 1 Key Sub-Committee topics.

The Sub-Committees that have met during the last month are:

- [The Testing Advisory Group \(TAG\)](#)
- [The Operations Group \(OPSG\)](#)
- [Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee \(TABASC\)](#)
- [The Security Sub-Committee \(SSC\)](#)
- [Smart Metering Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority \(SMKI PMA\)](#)
- [Performance Assurance Board \(PAB\)](#)
- [Privacy Sub-Committee \(PSC\)](#)

1. Key Sub-Committee topics

Topic	Sub-Committee activities
Device Issues <i>Including any issues identified with installed Smart Metering Systems and Communication Hubs.</i>	SMKI PMA: DCC updated the SMKI PMA on the investigation into the incorrect National Grid Gas Certificates on Devices and addressed the related actions: ➤ Root cause analysis remains ongoing. OPSG: DCC presented an update on Non-Communicating Device volumes, age analysis, swap-out trends, and advised the OPSG of a series of planned dashboard improvements: ➤ There has been a slight increase in the number of Non-Communicating Devices, with the mean age of affected Devices rising steadily over the past eight months, along with persistence of older Devices in the data set. ➤ DCC outlined its plan to enhance Non-Communicating Devices dashboards, including merging meter and Communications Hub (CH) dashboards, adding exclusion buckets, improving self-service, and addressing Smart Metering Technical Specification version 1 (SMETS1) Final Operating Capability (FOC) data issues. ➤ DCC also shared a proposal for a new exclusion bucket to address instances where multiple CHs are associated with the same Meter Point Number where one CH is communicating while the other is not. The OPSG discussed the proposal did not raise any objections. ➤ SEC Industry Operations provided an update on the Non-Operating Device (NODI) group's processes for identifying and resolving non-communicating Device issues, described the collaborative approach to firmware and error code analysis, and highlighted ongoing work on certificate rotation and Device commissioning challenges.

Long Range Radio Committed Term (LRR CT)

The LRR CT project, initiated by DCC, was set up to ensure service continuity of the LRR solution for the required duration. The Project team first formally engaged with SEC (through CTG) in February 2025 and has been engaging via the DCC led LRR Customer Working Group (CWG) since May 2025.

Following final information on updated pricing and operational assurance, the CWG has made a recommendation that is being discussed across the SEC Sub-Committees.

SSC: DCC presented an overview of options to address LRR CT, along with a provisional risk assessment including a view of the impacts, risk assessment, timeline and cost estimates.

- The SSC noted the information provided.

TABASC: Members of the OPSG and the CTG were invited to attend the TABASC item on LRR CT due to the topic spanning all three Sub-Committees:

- DCC provided an overview of its proposal for LRR CT, outlining the strategic, technical and contractual considerations.
- SECCo presented the CWG Statement, along with an overview of supporting background work, and recommended the CWG Statement for endorsement to the Panel.
- The TABASC endorsed the CWG Statement

OPSG: The OPSG also held a joint session with Members of the TABSC and CTG Sub-Committees to discuss the statement provided by the LRR CWG:

- DCC provided an overview of the proposals, outlining the strategic, technical and contractual considerations.
- DCC and SEC Industry Operations invited questions from all attendees and provide clarifications and explanations.
- The OPSG endorsed the LRR CWG Statement, with several caveats raised around the need for visibility of contractual terms and conditions when they become available to allow a risk and impact assessment on behalf of Parties.

Public Key Infrastructure – Enduring (PKI-E)

The end-to-end smart metering network relies on Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) as a critical part of its Zero Trust security model, which enables, encryption, digital signing, and secure communication across the network.

The PKI-E Programme replaces the legacy Smart Metering Key Infrastructure (SMKI) and Infrastructure Key Infrastructure (IKI) with a cloud-based PKI service provided by BT and hosted on Microsoft Azure.

The continuity of service and system architecture is preserved by ensuring there are no functional changes.

SSC: DCC presented an update on the PKI-E Live Services Criteria (LSC) for LSC 3, with an overview of the core inputs and validation activities:

- LSC 3 requires DCC to demonstrate that the systems are adequately secure.
- The SSC agreed a recommendation to the Panel.

TAG: DCC presented the Trusted Service Provider (TSP) PKI-E LSC and supporting test evidence for LSC 2:

- LSC 2 requires DCC to demonstrate no detrimental impact to Users or consumers' consumers' experience.
- The TAG agreed to recommend to SEC Panel that Live Services Criteria 2 for TSP PKI-E had been met.

OPSG: DCC presented the OPSG with PKI-E LSC requirements LSC 1 and LSC 2:

- LSC 1 requires DCC to demonstrate that it is ready to provide Services required from the point of PKI-E go-live, including per the requirements in the SEC.
- DCC confirmed that Service Provider operational readiness was assured through operational acceptance activities, with an acceptance summary report on track for completion and no areas of concern.
- DCC confirmed that there were no outstanding issues or risks, and the OPSG provided unanimous support.
- The OPSG endorsed the PKI-E Live Service Criteria LSC 1 and LSC 2.

Communications Hubs and Networks (CH&N)

The DCC CH&N programme is aimed at delivering future-proof Communications Hubs (CHs) & Networks with an efficient supply chain by introducing new CHs which use the 4G network.

TABASC: DCC provided an update on the programme to deliver the final uplift in 4G coverage, and proposed establishing a Special Interest Group (SIG) to focus on the remaining coverage, with two potential technical options presented:

- DCC outlined its Licence Condition 13b (LC13b) Customer engagement plan, confirming that the schedule aligns with all Sub-Committee dates and includes a series of deep-dive sessions through Spring and early Summer 2026. The proposed SIG will provide a structured forum for Parties to examine the enhancement options in depth and develop a recommended way forward for Sub-Committees.
- DCC invited Suppliers to join the SIG, with expressions of interest requested by 12 March 2026.
- The TABASC acknowledged the value of coordinated customer input, including the need to consider strategic alignment with the '4G and Beyond' programme, and agreed to close the related actions.

OPSG: DCC presented the outcomes of the 4G roaming pilot, discussed recovery rates for non-communicating CHs and addressed technical challenges:

- DCC noted that the pilot programme targeted 163 non-communicating CHs, successfully recovering 34% of those targeted (56 Devices).
- Feedback from Users was generally positive, and DCC is pleased with successful firmware upgrades and industry engagement.
- The OPSG discussed the timing for updating the coverage database, agreeing to wait until all migration activity is complete (proposed for 10 April 2026) to avoid discrepancies between database status and actual Device readiness.
- The OPSG raised the potential for using roaming to address intermittent connectivity issues and agreed that roaming could be used to improve Service Request Variant (SRV) success rates for Devices with inconsistent performance.
- The OPSG was joined by colleagues from the CTG to discuss the 4G Coverage LC13b Engagement Plan:
- DCC shared the Customer Engagement Plan for 4G Coverage, highlighting the key milestones on the plan until September 2026, and noting that regular updates will be provided to the TABASC, OPSG and the CTG.
- DCC outlined its intention to form a SIG to explore deployment options for increasing 4G coverage and invited expressions of interest from Users.
- DCC noted that the group will comprise nine members, three each from the OPSG, TABASC and CTG.

DCC also provided a comprehensive update on the Maintenance Release 1 (MR1) (0.9.0.3) 4G Firmware rollout, highlighting the high success rate to date, and providing an update on the scope, risks and timelines for Maintenance Release 2 (MR2):

- DCC shared an update on the MR1 Over the Air (OTA) pilot which began in October 2025, noting a record number and the most diverse mix of customer and Device combinations during a pilot with a success rate which surpassed previous Firmware release rates.
- DCC confirmed that SRVs are not inhibited during Device roaming, as CHs only attempt to roam after a disconnection and reboot, therefore, as long as a Device remains connected, all SRVs, including Firmware upgrades, will proceed without issue.
- DCC confirmed that that Initial Pallet Validation (IPV) orders for MR2 will be placed at the end of March 2026, with deliveries in September 2026 and installations starting in October 2026.
- The IPV will use criteria similar to the IPV phase of the 4G CH & Network Programme.

TAG: DCC provided an update on the MR2 Test Approach Document (TAD), which the TAG noted.

Data Services Provider (DSP)

The DCC's Data Services Provider (DSP) system is a central facility that controls the flow of messages to and from smart metering equipment.

The contract for the current DSP solution is set to expire in 2028, and the DSP Programme will implement a range of replacement and new capabilities, along with the migration of Devices from the current DSP to the new DSP solution.

TABASC: DCC presented an overview of its new Design Integrity Team which is focused on strengthening design assurance across the full-service life cycle. The aim is to enhance traditional “fit for purpose” and “secure by design” measures with more explicit customer centric outcomes, such as reducing service disruption, improving availability, and capturing real operational pain points:

- The DSP Systems Integrator (SI) provided a live demonstration of the traceability model covering SEC obligations, design artefacts, testing and compliance evidence.
- The TABASC noted the need for early visibility of business and time-critical scenarios and highlighted the importance of capturing real-world experiences to help inform DSP2 requirements.
- DCC confirmed that operational experience will be embedded into requirements and design views for DSP2 and proposed to hold a dedicated Customer session before June 2026 to walk through the key Customer journeys and pain-points in more detail.

DCC also provided an update on the DSP Programme:

- DSP Release 1 (R1) is the first major step towards implementing the new DSP architecture, and will bring the Smart Routing Gateway, new platform infrastructure, updated Certificate Authorities and preparatory components needed for the migration of Service Users.
- DCC gave more detailed presentations on the new DSP platform architecture, the continuous integration / continuous deployment strategy, security enhancements and User impacts.
- The TABASC noted some terminology changes and asked that the DCC maintain consistency when using standard terminology to aid clarity and questioned the deployment behaviour during upgrades and stressed the need for clarity on what Users will experience during deployments.
- The TABASC highlighted the need to provide comprehensive technical materials quickly given R1's timelines, to ensure Users had time to carry out their own impact assessments and make any necessary preparations.
- DCC explained that the technical materials are expected to be available in a month.

TAG: DCC presented the updated DSP Release 2 (R2) Pre-Integration Testing (PIT) TAD v0.6, incorporating updates following TAG review:

- The TAG noted that the SEC Variation Test Approach Document (SVTAD) has not yet been designation by DESNZ, and the TAD cannot be approved until this happens.
- The TAG conditionally approved the TAD on the condition that the SVTAD is designated with no substantive changes.

Service outage management

Under the SEC service outages are categorised as either Planned Maintenance, Unplanned Maintenance, or BCDR testing.

The DCC publishes an [annual outage plan](#) to provide Users with advance notice.

TABASC: SECAS presented an update on [MP293 'Deferment of DCC Planned Maintenance during Adverse Weather'](#) which was raised to address the operational risks created when DCC planned maintenance overlaps with adverse weather events:

- The proposed solution was outlined, and benefits presented included avoidance of large volumes of unserved SRVs / Power Outage Alerts during storms, faster power restoration, reduced field risks, and protection of prepay consumers.
- The TABASC reviewed the indicative costs for implementing the proposed solution, and DCC highlighted that not all testing costs are included.
- The TABASC also noted that some optional components would require significantly longer lead times.
- The TABASC highlighted several points for refinement consultation, including clarity on timelines, long-term applicability into DSP2 and interactions with prepayment functionality.
- The TABASC also suggested that recent overlaps should be reflected and provided feedback on the proposed solution.

OPSG: DCC shared an update on three Category 2 Major Incidents (MIs), one impacting SMETS1 Middle Operating Capability (MOC) and two impacting the Communication Services Provider (CSP) in the North Region (CSPN), providing root cause analysis into the cause of the MIs, rectifying steps taken by the DCC and planned monitoring:

- DCC presented the plan for interim and enhanced diagnostic capabilities to improve Incident management and non-communication resolution, seeking OPSG support for the initiative, its costs, and the use of payload data.
- The OPSG provided broad agreement while requesting further detail on use cases and benefits.
- SECAS presented an update on MP293 'Deferment of DCC Planned Maintenance during Adverse Weather', outlining solution options, costs:
- SECAS confirmed that MP293 will proceed to a working group and a five-month consultation, during which parties are encouraged to provide detailed feedback on costs and benefits.
- The OPSG provided feedback on MP293.

DCC provided an update on the 2025–2026 Annual Outage Plan, noting the removal of Business Continuity Disaster Recovery (BCDR) failover and failback events following successful recent testing, and confirmed that Users were notified of these changes.

Future Service Management (FSM)

The support contract for the current Service Management solution, used to request DCC services, raise Incidents, and access reporting and diagnostics information, is due to expire in October 2025 and The Future Service Management (FSM) Programme will procure and implement a replacement solution.

The DCC provided the Sub-Committees with an update on the FSM programme, confirming that 21 March 2026 is no longer being pursued as the Go-Live date:

- DCC led workshops are being held to identify and prioritise issues that must be resolved before a new Go-Live date is set.
- DCC has confirmed that a comprehensive lessons learned process is planned and is expected to include a technical review, with input from TABASC and OPSG.
- The operational review will begin soon, focusing on both technical decisions and User testing experiences.

SMETS1

First-generation smart meters, also known as SMETS1 (Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specifications v 1).

Many SMETS1 meters have now been incorporated into the DCC ecosystem to increase the functionality they provide when a consumer changes their energy supplier.

SMKI PMA: DCC presented an update on FOC Certificate Policy (CP) and Certification Practice Statement (CPS) changes for SMKI PMA approval:

- Some of the proposed changes were agreed but further amendments were required.
- The SMKI PMA agreed further actions for DCC to progress prior to approving the changes and submitting the required SEC Modification Proposal for the CP.
- DCC's internal procedures in the CPS will then need to be aligned with the final approved CP.
- DCC also presented an update on the MOC CP and CPS changes for SMKI PMA approval.
- The SMKI PMA agreed further actions for DCC to progress prior to approving the changes and submitting the required SEC Modification Proposal for the CP.
- The DCC's internal procedures in the CPS will then need to be aligned with the final approved CP.

DCC presented an update on the proposed SEC Modification to address a change in DCC Service Provider for DCC's SMETS1 Application, Network, Security, and Operations (ANSO) and agreed to make a minor change requested by the SMKI PMA, noting that a further update will be provided at the next meeting.

OPSG: DCC reported on the stability of the SMETS1 FOC service, highlighting over 120 days of stability before a recent MI related to certificate renewal occurred, and outlined the post-incident review actions and lessons learned being shared with industry.

Virtual Wide Area Network (VWAN)

Some consumers' premises fall outside of cellular/radio WAN coverage provided by the DCC network. These are known as 'no WAN' premises.

The DCC has been DESNZ to develop the Virtual WAN (VWAN) solution to address this issue using a consumer's internet service to provide a connection to the DCC network.

SSC: DCC and DESNZ provided an update on the VWAN Trial Device noting the additional VWAN CH installations:

- The SSC agreed in principle to an increase in the Trial Device volumes and provided feedback.

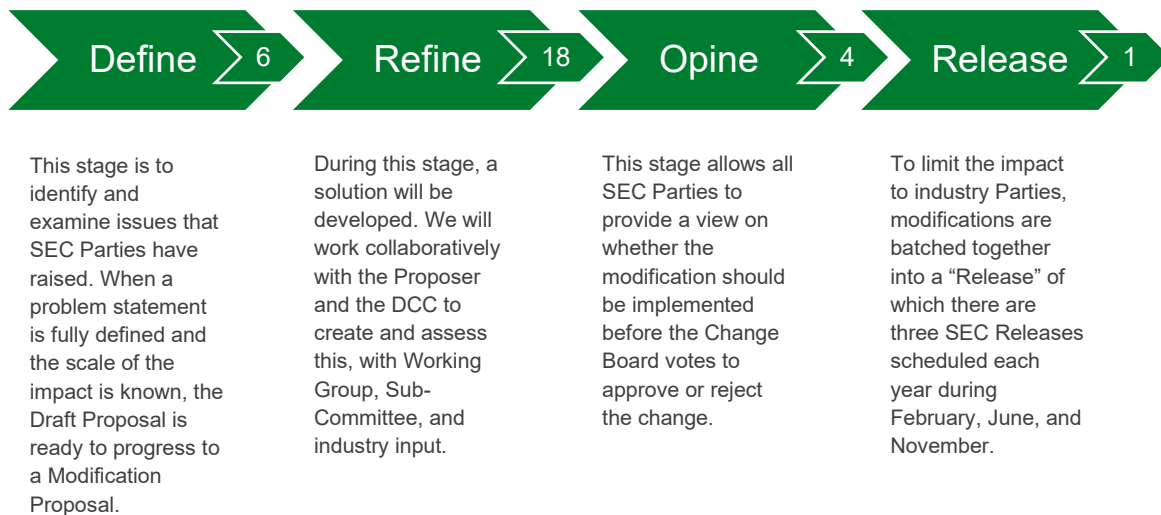
OPSG: The OPSG discussed discrepancies between test and production environments for VWAN, suggesting that a production install milestone be added to LSCs:

- SEC Industry Operations highlighted the need to balance production protection with effective testing and agreed to review the proposal as part of ongoing programme governance work.
- The OPSG also discussed the VWAN consultation and agreed that Parties should respond individually to the consultation if they would like to order additional CHs and noted that no coordinated OPSG response is required.

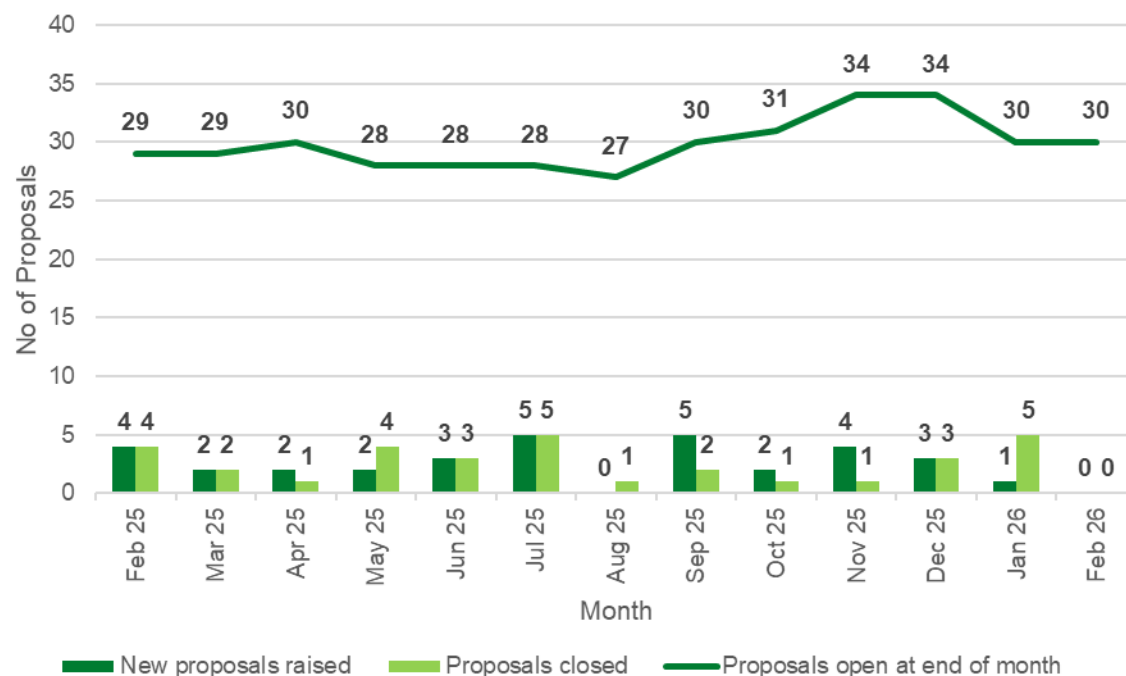
2. SEC Change

2.1 Overview

Number of proposals in each stage of the modification framework:



Volume of proposals going through the modification framework:



2.2 Modification updates and points to note

Modification	Priority	Update
MP169 'Managing the Consumers refusal of a Smart Meter'	HIGH	An RFI was issued to gather information about how this issue is dealt with currently. The responses are being considered by the Proposer. We are holding 1-2-1s with Parties, Ofgem, DESNZ, Citizens Advice and the Ombudsman to find a way forward. Expected to move to Report in January 2026 but now delayed to June 2026.
MP218 'Review of the SEC Charging Methodology'	HIGH	This is in the Refinement Process. SEC Change is working with the Proposer and the DCC on the next steps.
MP255 'WAN issues during Smart Meter installations'	HIGH	SEC Change working with the DCC to assess the develop the business requirements.
MP293 'Deferment of DCC Planned Maintenance during Adverse Weather'	HIGH	This modification is currently out for Refinement Consultation, closing at 5pm on Friday 27 March 2026.
MP300 'Additional Operational Metrics to Measure on Success'	HIGH	This is in the Refinement Process. SEC Change is working with the Proposer to refine the business requirements.
MP302 'Supplier Alerts for ENOs'	HIGH	This is in the Refinement Process. SEC Change is working with the Proposer to develop the business requirements before presenting to the TABASC and OPSG.
MP312 'Caching SRV 4.10 for SMETS1 devices'	VERY HIGH	This modification is currently undergoing Modification Report Consultation which closes on 10 March 2026. The Modification is classified as (GREEN) meaning you must be logged into the website to access the information. The modification and the consultation responses will then be presented to the Change Board in March for final vote.

2.3 Change Sub-Committee decisions – February 2026

Modifications moving to Report Phase:

- [MP234 'Addition of Public Task and Legitimate Interests into the SEC'](#)
- [MP289 'BCDR Engagement'](#)
- [MP312 'Caching SRV 4.10 for SMETS1 Devices'](#)

2.4 Change Board decisions – February 2026

The February Change Board was cancelled as there were no items to discuss.

2.5 SEC versions issued and designations:

SEC versions issued:

SEC v132.0 went live on 27 February 2026 to implement SEC Appendix BG 'SEC Variation Testing Approach Document for Changes required to support the Future DSP'

The Change Team implemented Designation to Appendix AU 'Network Evolution Transition and Migration Approach Document (NETMAD)' on 13 March 2026.

2.6 Cross-Code working

Code Administration Code of Practice (CACoP) Forum update

The latest CACoP forum meeting took place on 25 February 2026.

The CACoP Forum discussed ongoing actions, including uncertainty around the future of the Horizon Scanner and delays in publishing the 2024 CACoP Code Survey, which is now being finalised for member review.

Ofgem provided feedback on updates to the CACoP, including required changes to Principles 17 and 18 and the need to clarify terminology and references to Code Managers.

The Forum agreed to shift surveys to an every-other-year cycle and to increase meeting frequency to monthly, with cancellations if agendas are empty.

Members also noted missing entries on the CACoP website calendar and were encouraged to respond to Ofgem's newly published consultation before the April deadline.

The next meeting is scheduled for 17 March 2026.

3. Sub-Committee activities

Testing Advisory Group (TAG)

The TAG supports the Panel with obligations in relation to testing activities, including providing advice and making decisions on all aspects DCC SIT and User Testing Services (UTS).

The TAG has met once since the previous SEC Sub-Committee Report, on 25 February to discuss the following topics:

DCC Connect

The DCC presented an update on the DSP Programme – DCC Connect, including the indicative cutover timeline from Gamma to DCC Connect. The TAG enquired if the DCC had ensured adequate time in their plans for User connections to be set up.

The TAG agreed to close TAG Action TAG128/CONF07 and open a new action for the DCC to confirm if adequate time has been included in their plans for User connections to be set up.

Network Command Suite 2.2.2

The DCC presented the Approach to Testing (AtT) for the Network Command Suite (NCS) 2.2.2, planned to be delivered alongside the March 2026 Maintenance Release and requested TAG Members provide feedback.

Enduring Change of Supplier (ECoS)

The DCC presented the AtT for the Storing Registration Data in Enduring Change of Supplier (ECoS) change, planned for delivery with the April 2026 Maintenance Release. The DCC will seek to include additional information on User testing data before circulating the AtT for feedback.

GBCS 4.2

The DCC presented the Systems Integration Testing (SIT) Testing Issues (TI) position for Great Britain Companion Specification (GBCS) 4.2 CH Manufacturer 2, including proposed closures, discounts, and severity assessments. The TAG agreed the closure of TIs closed without retest, the proposed discounts, and the severity of the remaining open TIs.

Operations Group (OPSG)

The OPSG focuses on cross-industry matters that affect, or have the potential to affect, multiple SEC Parties. The OPSG has met twice since the previous SEC Sub-Committee Report, on 23 February and 10 March, and discussed the following topics:

Risk Management

SEC Industry Operations presented updates to the OPSG Risk and Issues and received no objections from OPSG Members to baselining the report.

The OPSG discussed opening a new risk to reflect the potential impact that unfolding global events pose to supply chains. SEC Industry Operations noted that it will consider this further. The OPSG approved the baselining of the RAID Log as baselined v15.0

Reporting

SEC Industry Operations provided an update on the SEC Panel Reports, including the Registration Data Provider (RDP) Monthly Incident Report V1.0 for January 2026 which was presented for approval without objection from the OPSG.

SEC Industry Operations presented the Performance Measurement Report (PMR) for December 2025 and the OPSG raised no objections.

The DCC presented an update on DCC User Journey Reporting, focusing on firmware performance trends, MIs, and the impact of reporting anomalies.

The DCC shared that January 2026 achieved the highest user journey success rate to date for Prepay at 98.48%, despite increased number of journeys across SMETS2 Devices and consistent volume across Electricity Smart Metering Equipment (ESME) and Gas Smart Metering Equipment (GSME).

The DCC presented a proposal to refine the logic for Install and Commissioning (I&C) reporting to improve clarity and focus on CH, ESME and GSME reporting, resulting in a more accurate reflection of meter-related performance. OPSG members supported this while providing feedback and requesting that reporting be separated by Device type.

The DCC outlined its plan to audit inventory reports distributed via SharePoint, analysing usage patterns, collecting feedback on value and frequency, and consolidating responses to inform potential changes such as reducing report frequency or merging reports. The DCC noted that recent technical improvements now allow identification of individual Users accessing or downloading reports, which will allow for more detailed engagement and feedback collection.

2G in the North Region

SEC Industry Operations provided an update on 2G North replacements, discussing the addition of 4G Coverage status to Out of Region CH reports and highlighting the need for improved reporting and stakeholder engagement to address coverage gaps.

SEC Industry Operations shared the latest data on the number of operational 2G CHs installed in the CSPN region and discussed the need to continue replacing these ahead of 1st June 2026. SEC

Industry Operations also reiterated the position that any newly installed 2G CHs will lose communication shortly after install.

3G Sunsetting

The DCC provided an update on the phased sunsetting of 3G for the CSP in the Central and South (C&S) Regions, reporting minimal service disruption, ongoing monitoring of Non-Communicating Devices, and plans for further analysis and Supplier support.

The DCC updated the OPSG on the progress of the phased approach to the 3G Sunsetting, noting that the final phase six had now been split into six and seven due to geographical considerations. The DCC confirmed that phases one through six have been completed and noting that phase seven which includes London will be commencing soon. The DCC confirmed that no significant service disruptions were reported, and contractual performance measures are being met.

GBCS 4.2

The DCC provided a comprehensive update on the GBCS 4.2 project, detailing the progress of the EDMI, WNC, and Toshiba releases. The DCC outlined the planned Go-Live dates for the three releases: EDMI in March 2026, WNC in July 2026, and Toshiba in March 2027. The DCC noted that the EDMI release is entering the pilot phase, WNC is concluding SIT, and Toshiba is midway through PIT testing. The DCC provided the results of the EDMI User Testing phase, noting it was completed on schedule with no outstanding defects.

The DCC confirmed that previous OPSG endorsed adjustments to the original plan, such as removing the Panel approval milestones and contingency periods, have resulted in time savings.

The OPSG raised no objections and endorsed the EDMI OTA pilot go-live, scheduled to begin on 19 March 2026.

DCC Device Manager

The DCC presented the rationale and approach for re-procuring the Device Manager (DM) solution, explained the options considered, outlined the timeline and addressed questions on cost-effectiveness and quantum compatibility.

The OPSG raised no objections to the DCC's approach, while emphasising the importance of maintaining core functionality and value for money.

DCC Connect

The DCC provided an update on the DCC Connect Go-Live plan, including the rescheduling of a High Impact Window (HIW) and the resulting delay to the DCC Connect Go-Live date. The DCC noted that this delay was required to protect live services and avoid negative impacts on service users.

The DCC committed to providing further updates to the OPSG after the completion of the HIW and as confidence in the revised Go-Live plan increases.

Trust Centre Swap Out (TCSO)

The Trust Centre Swap Out (TCSO) Issues Resolution Group (TIRG) Chair provided an update on 4G TCSO swap outs based on the latest DCC data and noted ongoing efforts with DCC to improve TCSO reporting, including adding firmware data and filters, and ensuring communication success is tracked before and after swap outs.

The OPSG raised concerns about the lack of visibility into failed TCSO attempts, dual fuel success rates, and the limitations of current reporting, with requests for more granular data to assess true performance.

Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC)

The TABASC provides advice and guidance to the Panel regarding the Technical Code Specifications, End-to-End Technical Architecture, and Business Architecture.

The TABASC has met once since the previous SEC Sub-Committee Report, on 5 March to discuss the following topics:

DCC Device Manager (DM)

The DCC provided an update on the DM re-procurement programme, which aims to ensure that the service remains cost-effective and fit for purpose ahead of its contractual breakpoint. The DCC noted that further detail on the requirements will return to the TABASC at a future meeting. The TABASC endorsed the DM re-procurement approach.

Security Sub-Committee (SSC)

The SSC reviews the outcome for User Security Assessments and sets an Assurance status for Initial Full User Security Assessments (FUSAs) or a Compliance status for Verification User Security Assessments (VUSAs), and subsequent FUSAs. The SSC also reviews outstanding actions, monitors the risks to the Commercial Product Assurance (CPA) certification of Devices, considers available updates from the DCC on the security implications of proposed changes and Anomaly Detection and any reported changes in Shared Resource Providers by Users and reported Security Incidents and vulnerabilities.

The SSC has met twice since the previous SEC Sub-Committee Report on 25 February and 11 March, and discussed the following topics:

DCC CIO Assessments, Forward Look and Remediations

The DCC Competent Independent Organisation (CIO) presented members with one DCC CIO assessment. The SSC noted the assessment and set a compliance status.

The DCC also provided information on the proposed DCC CIO Assessment schedule for the remainder of 2026.

Anomaly Detection

The DCC presented its six-monthly rolling Anomaly Detection Report and provided the SSC with a view of Anomaly Detection Threshold, Volume Observations and the setting of Global Thresholds. The SSC provided feedback.

Post Commissioning Report

The DCC presented the monthly Post- Commissioning Report and gave an overview of Post Commissioning Obligations (PCO) failures and Certificate rotation activity, which the SSC noted.

Elective Communication Services (ECS)

The DCC presented the ECS report with the usage dashboard and volume of requests which the SSC noted.

Certified Products Assurance (CPA) scheme

The SSC Chair presented updates on CPA Matters. The SSC provided feedback and agreed the outcomes. The SSC also approved the agenda for the SSC CPA Issue Resolution Sub-Group (SCIRS) meeting on 16 March 2026.

DCC Device Manager (DM)

The DCC presented an outline of the DM Re-procurement project noting the timelines and the approach. The DCC confirmed their intention to re-procure only the service manager as a single procurement lot, aiming to maintain cost-effective operation of the DM, maximise value for money, and deliver operational efficiencies and futureproofing where it is cost-effective to do so. The SSC noted the update and confirmed that there are no security objections to the proposals.

Security Assessments and User Testing

The SSC Chair noted that one Other SEC Party, one Large Supplier and one Small Supplier completed their SMKI Repository Entry Process Testing (SREPT), User Entry Process Testing (UEPT) and the User Entry Process (UEP) since the last SEC Panel meeting.

Incident and vulnerability management

The SSC Chair noted that there were no Security Incidents and Vulnerabilities reported since the last SSC Meeting.

The SSC was provided with the amendments to the Joint Industry Cyber Security Incident Management Plan (JICSIMP) following the feedback from the previous SSC Meeting 232. The SSC approved JICSIMP V1.5 subject to members feedback and updates required on the web documents.

SMKI Policy Management Authority (PMA)

The SMKI PMA receives updates from the DCC, DESNZ and other Sub-Committees on matters of relevance to the SMKI arrangements. The SMKI PMA has met once since the previous SEC Sub-Committee Report, on 11 March, and discussed the following topics:

Apex Recovery Exercise

The DCC presented a further update on the progress of the planning for the next Apex Recovery Exercise due later in the year. DCC will continue to provide regular updates at SMKI PMA meetings.

T-Scheme Reports

The DCC presented the t-Scheme reports relating to Compliance for SMETS1 FOC and MOC conducted in November 2025, for SMKI PMA review and approval. The SMKI PMA confirmed there are minor non-compliances that do not affect the DCC from continuing to provide SMETS1 Public Key Infrastructure (S1SPKI) Services, but a Remediation Action Plan is required. The SMKI PMA noted that the documentation proposals from the DCC will remediate the minor non-compliances subject to some clarifications. The SMKI PMA set an 'approved subject to caveats' assurance status in relation to the S1SPKI Services as required under SEC Appendix AO Section 5.2.

Performance Assurance Board (PAB)

The main duties of the PAB are to effectively manage and mitigate risks, ensure compliance, and maintain confidence among all Parties involved.

The PAB met once on 11 March to discuss the following topics:

Non-Compliance Incidents

The Chair provided an update on the recent non-compliance incident, outlining the progress of the investigation and the next steps.

Performance Assurance mobilisation

SEC Performance Assurance updated the PAB on the mobilisation progress across the three workstreams – service set-up, assurance and tools and technology. SEC Performance Assurance noted that overall mobilisation remains on track, with steady progress made since the previous month.

Stakeholder Engagement Plan

SEC Performance Assurance provided an update on the Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Approach, explaining that the vision is to build relationships, channels and mechanisms that enable clear engagement with SEC Parties. SEC Performance Assurance outlined how different communication channels can be tailored to the differing needs of SEC Parties, and Members highlighted the importance of contacting the right individuals within organisations. The PAB noted the update.

Risk Evaluation Methodology

SEC Performance Assurance presented the draft Risk Evaluation Methodology (REM), the core document that defined how the PAB will identify, assess and manage risks within the SEC framework. The PAB provided feedback on the document and discussed the proposed consultation window. The PAB approved the REM for consultation subject to an amended consultation timeline

Performance Assurance Operating Plan

SEC Performance Assurance gave an overview of the Performance Assurance Operating Plan (PAOP) developed for the Proof of Concept (PoC) phase. SEC PA explained that the PAOP translates the outputs of the REM and Performance Assurance Risk Register (PARR) into a forward-looking schedule of assurance activity. The PAB approved the PAOP for consultation, subject to the amended consultation timeline previously discussed

PAF Proof of Concept

SEC Performance Assurance presented the proposed scope for the Proof of Concept (PoC) which will test the new SEC Performance Assurance Framework on a single defined issue. SEC Performance Assurance also presented the list of Parties selected for inclusion in the PoC and gave a detailed explanation of the selection process. The PAB approved both the PoC Scope and the Party selection.

Privacy Sub-Committee (PSC)

The Privacy Sub-Committee (PSC) and Panel has delegated relevant SEC Section I Obligations. Duties follow a similar remit to the SSC but also cover data ethics, emerging technologies, a privacy statement of objectives and a consent strategy.

The PSC met once this month on 19 February, and discussed the following topics:

In-Flight Assessments, Remediation Plans, Change Notifications and Forward Look

The PSC noted an update on current in-flight assessments, ongoing Privacy Change Notifications and the Assessment Forward Look.

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

SECAS presented the Agentic AI Stakeholder Map to members and invited feedback to inform the next stage of development, with Members suggesting additional stakeholders for inclusion. SECAS confirmed the updated map will be brought to a future PSC meeting to confirm next steps.

Privacy Controls Framework (PCF)

The PSC was presented with the both the draft PCF for the Legal Text review of [MP234 'Addition of Public Task and Legitimate Interests into the SEC'](#) and the Targeted Review V2.16 to address V2.15 consultation feedback including Breach Reporting guidance and some other house-keeping changes. Members provided further feedback. The MP234 drafting was approved to progress subject to addressing a query from Members regarding the appeals process for SEC Parties who disagree with a Sub-Committee Assurance/Compliance decision.

V2.16 required further amends to address some additional SEC Party feedback and guidance requests and will return to the March PSC for approval.

Information Commissioners Office (ICO) Statement

Privacy Experts provided an updated version of the draft statement on Houses of Multiple Occupancy (HMO) accounting for the feedback provided by PSC members at meeting 22 and requesting approval from the PSC to issue to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) to request their views. The PSC approved the statement for issue to the ICO.