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Action:	For Decision
<u>Acronyms and Defined Terms SEC Glossary</u>	

Consultations Update – May 2026

1. Purpose

This paper outlines the key messages that will be used for the response to the following open consultations:

- DESNZ consultation on Minded to position for Project Activity 2 (customer engagement) of the DCC Baseline Margin Project Performance Adjustment (BMPPA) scheme for the 4G Communications Hubs and Networks (CH&N) programme; and
- DESNZ consultation on SEC changes required for enduring Virtual WAN arrangements.

The Panel is requested to discuss the messages outlined for each consultation and delegate approval of the final responses to the Panel Chair.

2. BMPPA Scheme for the 4G CH&N programme

DESNZ published this [consultation](#) on 30 April, with responses invited by 15 June. This consultation seeks views on DESNZ's minded-to position for project activity 2 (customer engagement) of the DCC BMPPA scheme for the 4G CH&N programme.

The key messages we propose the SEC Panel response focuses on are:

- **Timing and frequency of engagement (DESNZ minded-to score: 2.7)** – The SEC Panel agrees with DESNZ's minded-to position that the DCC's engagement was generally timely, regular, and well structured, notwithstanding specific weaknesses around the handling of 4G WAN coverage and engagement after IPV go-live. While the Panel's score of 2 reflected those concerns, we understand and accept DESNZ's rationale that delays in some communications were justified by the need for assurance in this specific context.
- **Quality of information provided by DCC (DESNZ minded-to score: 2.3)** – The SEC Panel agrees with DESNZ's minded-to position to align with the Panel's original assessment, reflecting material concerns about the quality and completeness of information on 4G WAN coverage and the 4G CH financing model. In line with the initial SEC Panel assessment, DESNZ's rationale recognises that late identification of issues and the omission of cost implications outweighed otherwise clear and audience-tailored communications.

- **Taking account of customer views (DESNZ minded-to score: 2.5)** – The SEC Panel agrees with DESNZ’s minded-to position that the DCC responded constructively to customer feedback in many areas, but that a material shortcoming remained in how prolonged industry concerns on 4G WAN coverage were addressed. Compared with the Panel’s initial score of 2.3, the Panel accepts DESNZ’s rationale for a modest uplift, reflecting a single significant issue rather than a broader failure to take customer views into account.

3. SEC changes for enduring VWAN arrangements

DESNZ published this [consultation](#) on 13 May, with responses invited by 19 June. This consultation sets out, and invites views on, a number of proposed SEC changes relating to the enduring Virtual WAN Arrangements.

We are currently seeking views from relevant SEC Sub-Committees including the Operations Group (OPSG) and the Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC). Further updates will be provided at the Panel meeting.

4. Recommendations

The Panel is requested to:

- **DISCUSS and COMMENT** on the key messages for the consultations detailed in the paper; and
- **AGREE** to delegate approval of the final responses to the SEC Panel Chair.

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