

This document is classified as **White** in accordance with the Panel Information Policy. Information can be shared with the public, and any members may publish the information, subject to copyright.

Paper Reference:	TABASC_82_0610_04
Action:	For Information

MP208 Solution Development

1. Purpose

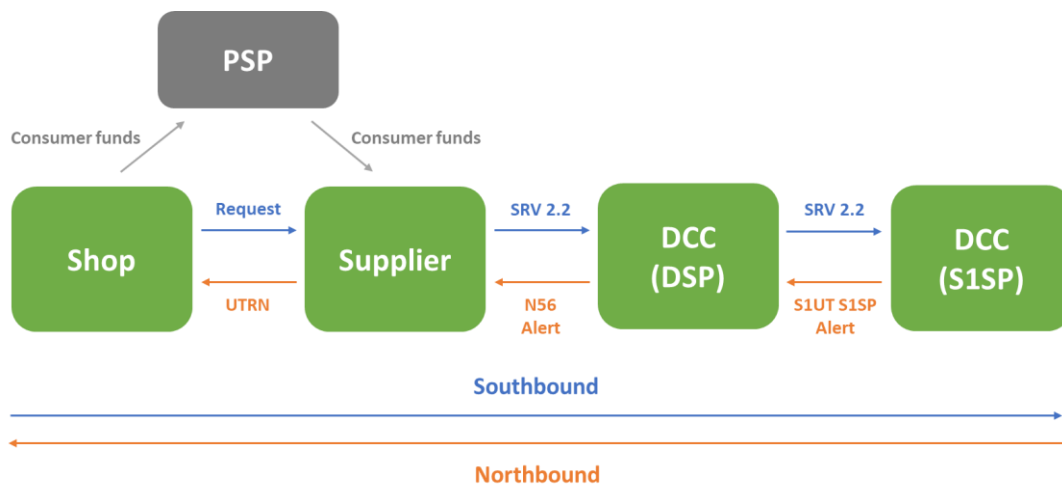
[MP208 'Northbound prioritisation of N56 Alerts'](#) is currently undergoing the Refinement Process. The purpose of this paper is to seek the Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee's (TABASC) input on the business requirements before requesting a Preliminary Assessment from the Data Communications Company (DCC).

This paper provides the high-level business requirements and the more detailed considerations within each of these requirements. Both can be found in full detail in Appendix A.

2. Summary of MP208

This section summarises the issue identified in MP208. More information is available in the Modification Report in Appendix B.

When a consumer attempts to purchase a Prepayment Meter top up, the process follows the below pathway:



When Service Reference Variant (SRV) 2.2 'Top Up Device' is generated, the Payment Service Provider (PSP), which is not a Smart Energy Code (SEC) Party, 'holds' the consumer funds in

preparation to transfer to the Supplier's bank account. The N56 Alert contains the Unique Transaction Reference Number (UTRN). Receipt of the UTRN by the shop till is the endpoint of the process and allows the PSP to transfer the consumer funds to the Supplier's bank account. If the entire process is not completed within 30 seconds, the transaction times out. The top up will not be successful and the funds used by the consumer in the attempt will be released back to the consumer by the PSP. However, this release may take several days to clear.

3. Business requirements

Below are the business requirements, developed with the Proposer, the DCC and the Working Group.

Business Requirements	
Ref.	Requirement
1	To ensure the N56 Alert is not delayed in the Northbound pathway from Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specification (SMETS)1 Service Provider (S1SP) to Supplier.

SEC Appendix E 'DCC User Interface Services Schedule' gives the Target Response Time (TRT) for SRV 2.2 'Top Up Device' as 16 seconds. If this TRT is met, the overall process should be completed within the 30 seconds necessary to succeed. This requirement seeks to ensure the time taken for the Northbound part of the process pathway allows the TRT to be met.

The DCC has an open internal Change Request (CR), CR4630, investigating the cause of delays in the process pathway. The Proposer has provided evidence which suggests that delays are occurring around the peak time for scheduled reads.

4. Questions for the TABASC

We seek the TABASC's view on the following questions to feed into the business requirements for the DCC's Preliminary Assessment.

- If CR4630 concludes that the delays are solely caused by queueing in the Supplier's message gateway, does allowing the N56 Alert to 'skip' the queue present any challenges?
- If CR4630 determines that the DCC is failing to meet its obligation to return N56 Alerts within the TRT, would the TABASC support this being addressed as a DCC 'defect'?

5. Next steps

SECAS will discuss the business requirements with the Working Group before requesting the DCC complete a Preliminary Assessment. Once the DCC has completed the Preliminary Assessment, the solution and costs will be presented to the Working Group for discussion prior to issuing for Refinement Consultation.

6. Recommendations

The TABASC is asked to:

- **CONFIRM** that the business requirements address the identified issue, and;
- **PROVIDE** views on whether any additional context should be provided to the DCC for its Preliminary Assessment.

Mike Fenn

SECAS Team

29 September 2022

Attachments:

- **Appendix A:** MP208 business requirements
- **Appendix B:** MP208 Modification Report