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Paper Reference:	**SECP_63_1412_13**
Action:	**For Decision**

New Modification Proposal SECMP0067

1. Purpose

New Modification Proposal SECMP0067 'Service Request Traffic Management' has been raised by the DCC. This paper sets out our proposed approach for progressing this modification for the Panel's approval. We are recommending that this modification be progressed to the Refinement Process for assessment by a Working Group, and that the Panel agrees the progression timetable and the terms of reference and additional questions for the Working Group.

This paper provides a high-level summary of the key points. Full details can be found in the Proposal Form submitted by the Proposer in Appendix A.

2. Summary of the proposal

What is the issue?

The DCC System has a finite capacity. Even with communication with Service Users to meet forecasted demand and making the most efficient use of the System's current capacity, it may be unable to cover accidental or unanticipated large bursts of Service Requests. This current mechanism therefore doesn't act in favour of the Service Users who have not been responsible for the overload, and penalises them equally.

What has the Proposer proposed as a solution?

The proposed solution is to define a maximum system capacity, operating threshold and appropriate Service User allocations. When the DCC System reaches this operating threshold, traffic management of the Service Requests will become active. Service Users who are exceeding their allocation will then have their requests throttled down to either their stated allocation or the operating threshold (whichever is greater). This should prevent Service Users crowding out others who are using the System by adhering to the allocations.

3. Proposed progression

We believe that this modification should be progressed to the Refinement Process for assessment by a Working Group.

Timetable

We recommend that the Panel sets a nine-month timetable for the Refinement Process. Our proposed timetable of activities is summarised in the table below.

We have allowed for several meetings to be held in the early stages to help the Proposer fully develop the solution before a Preliminary Assessment is subsequently requested.

Activity	Date
Panel considers Modification Proposal	14 Dec 18
Working Group Meeting	w/c 31 Dec 18
Working Group Meeting	w/c 14 Jan 19
Working Group Meeting	w/c 28 Jan 19
Preliminary Assessment	11 Feb 19 – 11 Mar 19
Working Group Meeting	w/c 25 Mar 19
Working Group Consultation	02 Apr 19 – 23 Apr 19
Impact Assessment	06 May 19 – 01 Aug 19
Panel considers Modification Report	13 Sep 19

Self-Governance

We and the Proposer believe this modification should be progressed as an Authority Determined modification. This is due to the material impacts the proposed solution would have on Service Users as set out in SEC Section D2.6(a).

We note that this is an initial determination, and that the Panel can revise its decision when it considers the Modification Report.

4. Working Group

We believe that the Working Group should be formed of experts in DCC Traffic Management and DCC Service Users as well as any other interested parties.

We do not believe any variations to the standard Working Group Terms of Reference document are needed.

As part of its considerations, we believe the Working Group should answer the following questions in addition to the standard assessment areas:

How will Service User capacity allocations be determined?

The modification looks to provide individual allocations to Service Users of the DCC System as part of its solution to better manage Service request traffic. The Working Group should therefore consider how the Service User allocation will be determined and what is needed to ensure a fair and representative measure for each allocation. An ‘agreed algorithm’ was mentioned in the proposal

form, but clearly defined details are needed and the Working Group should support the Proposer in fully developing this.

How and when will Service User capacity allocations be updated in future?

After the method for determining each individual Service User allocation has been established, the Working Group should consider the way in which this will be updated in future. With market share and the customer bases of Suppliers certain to change over time, the allocations will need to be amended to reflect these changes. The Working Group should therefore come to an agreement as to how amendments to the allocations take place and how often these will occur to provide accurate representations of each Service User's allocation in accordance with their forecasted Service Requests.

How will priority messages arising from system problems be handled?

In the modification's proposed solution, it specifies how non-priority Service Request traffic will be managed until the system falls back below the Operating Threshold, but it doesn't account for Requests that are marked as priority. In the event of a problem with the system, there are circumstances where a large quantity of these priority messages could be sent, which this solution does not specify a way to deal with. The Working Group should therefore consider how the modification's solution should be defined to counter this scenario.

5. Recommendations

The Panel is requested to:

- **AGREE** that SECMP0067 should be progressed to the Refinement Process;
- **AGREE** the progression timetable;
- **AGREE** the terms of reference and the additional questions for the Working Group; and
- **AGREE** that SECMP0067 should be initially progressed as an Authority Determined Modification.

Harry Jones

SECAS Team

7 December 2018

Attachments:

- **Appendix A:** SECMP0067 Proposal Form