

This document is classified as **Green** in accordance with the Panel Information Policy. Information can be shared with other SEC Parties and SMIP stakeholders at large, but not published (including publication online).

Paper Reference:	TABASC_39_2102_23
Action:	For Information

Transitional Governance Update

1. Purpose

This paper is intended to inform the SEC Panel and SEC Parties of the activities occurring in the Smart Metering Implementation Programme (SMIP). The update covers a high-level overview of the following:

- **Transitional Work Group** (Section 2) – updates are provided regarding the meetings that were attended by the Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat (SECAS) and the Panel Chair, in the last month.
- **Publications** (Section 3) - Relevant publications, responses and consultations issued by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), the Data Communications Company (DCC) and Ofgem (the Authority) in relation to smart metering, whilst highlighting areas that may be of interest to the SEC Panel and/or SEC Parties.

The SEC Panel are invited to note the contents of the paper.

2. Transitional Work Group Updates

2.1 Smart Metering Delivery Group (SMDG)

The SMDG met on 17 January 2019. Matters discussed included:

There were updates on the Change of Supplier (CoS) process and the Select Committee hearing on the Smart Meter rollout. A DCC update included Dual Band Communications Hubs (DBCH) and SMETS1 enrolment and adoption progress, reporting that the Interim Operating Capability (IOC) was on target for 26 May 2019. There was a separate DCC operational update which covered plans for the 2019 Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery (BCDR) exercise. BEIS updated attendees on consultations and regulations to implement the SMETS1 enrolment and adoption (some are included in section 3.2 below), and a consultation on proposals to improve non-domestic consumers' smart metering awareness and data access – see section 3.3.

2.2 Technical Design and Execution Group (TDEG)

TDEG met on 15 January 2019. Items discussed included:

Communications Hub Updates

The DCC updates included Instrumented Test Communication Hubs (ITCH) availability and timescales on when they could be provided to customers. It was unclear if firmware updates were needed on delivery. There was a request that if firmware updates are needed that the release notes on the firmware version differences be provided. There was also an update on Release 1.3 of Communications Hub firmware. Meeting participants were concerned about governance and content of releases, particularly Suppliers as delays to required fixes could delay rollout. There were also updates on specific models and a roadmap showing what stage of testing (or completion) different models were at.

Release 2.0 Update

There was an update on the outstanding Release 2.0 (R2.0) Systems Integration Testing (SIT) defects, and progress with them. R2.0 Device Integration Testing (DIT) is expected to be complete in February/March.

User Interface Testing (UIT) Update

The DCC are planning a joint testing session to test Pre-Payment Functionality and it is anticipated the testing plan will be available the week following Panel. So far there has been little prepayment testing. There was also an update on UIT defects including that there remain problems with over-the-air firmware upgrades.

SMETS1 Update

Brief updates were given on the Pre-integration Testing (PIT) progress and Interim Operating Capability Systems Integration Testing – the latter was behind schedule. Concerns were raised that SIT would be used for Device Model Combination, even though it has no impact on SIT exit, delaying associated decisions. There was also an update on SMETS1 test lab which raised some concerns for TDEG members:

- SMETS1 changes to the User Testing Services Approach Document were still in post consultation draft, along with the SMETS1 updates to the Enduring Testing Approach Document and Common Test Scenarios Document.
- IOC User Testing Service (UTS) commencement was approximately seven weeks away, and it hasn't been designated into the SEC yet. Some Suppliers may choose to take action before being obligated to, conversely, they may not do anything until the SEC is updated to mandate them to do something.

An interim test lab is being set up in Cardiff for the purpose of SMETS1 testing.

2.3 Technical Specification Issue Resolution Subgroup (TSIRS)

TSIRS met on 10 January 2019 and the following issues were discussed:

Options to resolve SMETS2 Prepayment Meter (PPM) Emergency Credit (EC) anomalies

There is possible misalignment of the EC shown on the Prepayment Meter Interface Device (PPMID) and the Meter. Currently the specifications do not mandate what the meter displays except for the number of digits. Variations in the implementation are possible between Meter-to-Meter, PPMID-to-PPMID and Meter-to-PPMID resulting in different Explicit Charge (EC) values being displayed. A document with possible impacts and solution will be created and reviewed at the next meeting.

DCC top issues overview

There are issues with firmware updates of Devices. An example was given of upgrades being sent to 20 devices as part of the Service Request, but only the first seven Devices updated and there was no feedback to the DUIS user on the failed upgrades. This is not related to any particular region or any particular CH model/version.

PPMID devices show errors on data, the tariff or the balance is not shown correctly, and historic consumption data is not always shown. The point at which the week ends is not consistent across regions and occurs at Midnight on either Friday or Saturday depending on the region.

There are problems with CoS gain: customers are unable to get the certificates on the meter and the service request times out. There are also challenges around acquired devices which have been installed via the install and leave process. A SMETS2 device had been gained via CoS from a non-DCC user, the firmware is about to expire but the gaining DCC user cannot perform the firmware upgrade.

2.4 Technical and Business Design Group (TBDG)

TBDG met on 16 January 2019. The main topics discussed were:

SMETS1 Enrolment and Adoption

The DCC consultation on the Initial Enrolment Project Document (IEPD) and Service Request Procession Document (SRPD) was noted. The changes to the end user should be largely invisible, unless Service Requests are Quarantined. The consultation closed 1 Feb, with DCC planning to bring them for baselining to the February TBDG meeting. The meeting reviewed the Design Issues log, noting that it needs to be refreshed to focus on issues relating to Middle Operating Capability (MOC) and Final Operating Capability (FOC). Initial Operating Capability (IOC) suppliers have noted that the coverage of deployed Devices in SIT is reduced due to firmware updates but should be resolved by the additional SMETS1 test facility.

DCC SMETS1 Transition and Migration Update

There were concerns that the Migration Testing Approach Document (MTAD) still isn't ready and will not go out for consultation until end of February. The DCC indicated it wasn't needed by Users until late April/May due to DCC migration testing activities taking place during February-April. But TBDG felt that advance designation was needed to enable Users to prepare accordingly.

Home Area Network (HAN) and Wide Area Network WAN and TSIRS update

Sub-GHz HAN performance monitoring based on real installations may not be possible until later in 2019 (in line with first installs of sub-GHz equipment) and as such there may be alternatives that could be explored in addition and in advance, including using 2.4GHz and 868MHz range finders issued to meter readers. A manufacturer presented a proposed workaround whereby the Electric Smart Metering Equipment (ESME) dynamically moves any noise peak away from the 2.4GHz HAN channel the Communication Hub selects. Further derogations would be required to implement this. TSIRS update is included in section 2.3.

DCC Update

The DCC provided an update on the resolution of several design issues which were DCC defects. The DCC indicated that technical specification defects would not be actioned by the DCC alone, as they would need a Modification or be taken forward and designated by BEIS. The DCC also gave an update on Instrumented Test Communications Hub (ITCH) including wired ITCH. There was the same

Administered by

update as given to TDEG on R1.3 Communication Hub Firmware Status, around the content of and status of forthcoming Firmware versions.

AOB

TBDG attendees requested that transitional architectural matters should be raised at TBDG in the first instance (where the more detail focused experts are) and not at SMDG where the attendees are generally more senior.

2.5 Implementation Managers Forum (IMF)

The IMF met on 31 January 2019 and discussed:

IMF Dashboard Update

Over 340,000 SMETS2 Meters had been installed by 30 January 2019, but only 15,000 of these were in the North region where meter noise continues to be an issue. Incorrect Distribution Network Organisation (DNO) certificates are still causing DNO concerns, and this will be investigated at Operations Group.

Dual Band Comms Hub testing update:

A Severity 2 defect was discovered on 28 January 2019 with a manufacturers Communications Hub which will require a full three-week regression test to ensure it is fixed. The DCC are looking at ways to mitigate risks to manufacturing timelines resulting from this. The DCC declared an issue with orders for UIT devices for Toshiba, which will now not be available until mid-March.

Only one meter manufacturer has so far provided devices for testing. No other meter manufacturer has formally agreed to provide the kit needed to execute testing, and to then deliver volumes for production later this year, and the matter will go to the February 2019 SMDG meeting. The Fylingdales variant is dependent on the EDML hub issue being resolved and so will affect availability of Variant Communication Hubs for testing/production.

SMETS1 enrolment and adoption update

The response to the DCC Licence Condition 13 (LC13) consultation was expected on 1 February. A number of associated documents are yet to be published. The DCC will provide these to BEIS for consultation the week commencing 4 February 2019 prior to designation. The revised plan should include time for both TAG and Panel review, to sign off IOC SIT completion. Concern was expressed at the tight timescales if the consultation raises new issues or if issues should arise in the final test period.

The IOC is planned for the end of May 2019. The start of the Middle Operating Capability is now to begin at the end August/early September 2019 with Final Operating Capability now due December 2019. Secure Meters has not yet signed up to the plan, and this remains a large risk to the overall success of SMETS1 enrolment and adoption.

JIP Update Variant Meter Milestones

BEIS have been in discussion with Suppliers as to when the availability of meter variants is expected and are proposing that the Joint Industry Plan (JIP) be updated to reflect the latest position on Production volumes and first installations commencing. Availability of variants is not expected until Quarter 3 2019. Suppliers were concerned about when variant Devices will be available for testing

Administered by

and Production; they are needed to complete 100% rollout e.g. polyphase metering for larger sites with larger load, or special tariff configuration.

Operational issues DCC

Base station issues with Arqiva sites are affecting installations and an outage is needed to fix it. The DCC is awaiting a plan from Arqiva, specifying a basis of site by site outage rather than region wide.

2.6 January 2019 Transitional Group meetings

Transitional Group	Meeting date
Test Design and Execution Group (TDEG)	12 February 2019
Smart Metering Delivery Group (SMDG)	14 February 2019
Technical Specification Issue Resolution Subgroup (TSIRS)	14 February 2019
Technical and Business Design Group (TBDG)	16 January 2019
Implementation Managers Forum (IMF)	28 February 2019

3. Publications

3.1 Closed DCC consultations

Device Model Combination

The DCC consulted on the rationale used and the Device Model Combinations selected for SMETS1 Initial Operating Capability Systems Integration Testing. There are several hundred potential Device Model Combinations. Attached is the [link](#) to the consultation which closed on 18 January 2019.

DCC Production Platform Performance Monitoring - Consultation Conclusions

On 22 January the DCC published its conclusion to the consultation on Production Platform Performance monitoring which closed on 14 December 2018. The conclusions can be found [here](#) and the original consultation [here](#). There were only a few responses which were broadly supportive of DCC plans.

3.2 BEIS SEC consultations

BEIS has published several consultations and consultation conclusions in January:

BEIS Consultation on the New and Replacement Obligation (NRO) Activation Date

On 22 January 2019 BEIS issued a consultation on the activation date for New and Replacement Obligation (NRO), after which energy suppliers must take all reasonable steps to install a compliant smart meter where a meter is replaced or where a meter is installed for the first time (e.g. in new premises). The Government is proposing to activate the NRO on 31 March 2019 and is seeking views on that proposal. The consultation closes on **19 February 2019** and can be found [here](#).

BEIS consultation on DCC licence change regarding Enduring Change of Supplier

On 9 January 2019 BEIS issued a consultation on proposed changes to the DCC licence requiring the DCC to develop and implement plans to support Enduring Change of Supplier arrangements. The consultation documents can be found [here](#). The deadline is **21 February 2019**.

BEIS consultation on the incorporation of the Transition and Migration Approach Document (TMAD) into the Smart Energy Code (SEC)

On 14 January 2019 BEIS issued a consultation seeking views on the incorporation date of the Transition and Migration Approach Document (TMAD) into the Smart Energy Code (SEC). In July 2018 amendments to Section N of the SEC came into effect requiring the DCC to develop and consult on a draft TMAD. The DCC has consulted on the TMAD, and the responses received have shaped this consultation. The DCC submitted the draft TMAD to the Secretary of State on 11 January 2019. The consultation closed on 28 January and you can see the consultation [here](#).

BEIS consultation conclusion on SEC and licence conditions to allow SMETS1 service, and further consultation on CPL Requirements

On 21 January 2019, BEIS published its conclusion to the November consultation seeking stakeholder views on proposed changes to the Smart Energy Code (SEC) and energy supply licence conditions, to enable the provision of a SMETS1 Service by the Data Communications Company (DCC), and to streamline the management of the Commercial Product Assurance (CPA) and Central Products List (CPL). BEIS have now published its conclusions and has laid the regulatory changes to the main body of the SEC and the energy supply licence conditions before Parliament.

BEIS re-designated an amended version of the Inventory Enrolment and Decommissioning Procedures document (IEDP) as Appendix AC to the SEC to incorporate both SMETS1-related changes and a number of consequential amendments. BEIS response letter additionally consults on a proposal to re-designate the CPL Requirements Document on 11 March 2019. The consultation conclusion and all linked documents can be found [here](#).

3.3 BEIS Consultation on non-domestic consumers' smart metering awareness

BEIS published a consultation on proposals to improve non-domestic consumers' smart metering awareness and data access, seeking stakeholders' views on two non-domestic smart metering policy proposals:

- proposed changes to licence conditions intended to raise microbusinesses' awareness around the smart metering programme;
- possible changes to licence conditions on access to non-domestic consumers' energy consumption data.

This consultation can be found [here](#) and closes on **21 February 2019**.

4. Recommendations

The Panel is requested to:

- **NOTE** the contents of this paper

Stephen Blann

SECAS Team

08 February 2019