

SECTION K: CHARGING METHODOLOGY

K7 DETERMINING EXPLICIT CHARGES

Introduction

- K7.1 The Explicit Charges for each Regulatory Year are payable in respect of the Explicit Charging Metrics for that Regulatory Year.
- K7.2 The Explicit Charging Metrics from time to time are as set out in this Section K7.
- K7.3 Part of the rationale for Explicit Charging Metrics is to allow the DCC to closely reflect the charges it pays to the DCC Service Providers in respect of certain services, to SECCo in respect of certain Recoverable Costs, and to AltHANCo in respect of the Alt HAN Costs, so as to minimise the risks for the DCC associated with uncertainty regarding the frequency with which such services are to be provided or such Alt HAN Costs are incurred. The Explicit Charging Metrics may comprise any or all of the Core Communication Services and of the Enabling Services (so they are a sub-set of all Services other than the Elective Communication Services) and of the Alt HAN Costs. The Explicit Charging Metrics represent those Core Communication Services, Enabling Services and Alt HAN Costs that are to be charged for separately from the Fixed Charges, Fixed CH Charges and Fixed Alt HAN Charges.
- K7.4 The DCC will determine the Explicit Charges for each Regulatory Year in accordance with this Section K7.

Explicit Charging Metrics

- K7.5 The Explicit Charging Metrics for each Party and the Charging Period for each month are as follows:
- (a) (*'security assessments'*) an obligation to pay arising during that Charging Period in respect of that Party pursuant to Section G8.51 (Users: Obligation to Pay Charges) in relation to User Security Assessments, Follow-up Security Assessments, User Security Assessment Reports or the activities of the Independent Security Assurance Service Provider;
 - (b) (*'privacy assessments'*) an obligation to pay arising during that Charging

Period in respect of that Party pursuant to Section I2.40 (Users: Obligation to Pay Charges) in relation to Full Privacy Assessments, Random Sample Privacy Assessments, Privacy Assessment Reports or the activities of the Independent Privacy Auditor;

- (c) ('*LV gateway connection*') an obligation to pay arising during that Charging Period in accordance with an offer for a DCC Gateway LV Connection accepted by that Party pursuant to Section H15 (DCC Gateway Connections), including where the obligation to pay is preserved under Section H15.19(b) (Ongoing Provision of a DCC Gateway Connection);
- (d) ('*HV gateway connection*') an obligation to pay arising during that Charging Period in accordance with an offer for a DCC Gateway HV Connection accepted by that Party pursuant to Section H15 (DCC Gateway Connections), including where the obligation to pay is preserved under Section H15.19(b) (Ongoing Provision of a DCC Gateway Connection);
- (e) ('*gateway equipment relocation*') an obligation to pay arising during that Charging Period as a result of a request by that Party to relocate DCC Gateway Equipment under Section H15.27 (DCC Gateway Equipment);
- (f) ('*elective service evaluations*') an obligation to pay arising during that Charging Period under the terms and conditions accepted by that Party for a Detailed Evaluation in respect of potential Elective Communication Services pursuant to Section H7.8 (Detailed Evaluations of Elective Communication Services);
- (g) ('*P&C support*') an obligation to pay arising during that Charging Period under the terms and conditions accepted by that Party in relation to that Party's use or implementation of the Parse and Correlate Software pursuant to Section H11.12 (Provision of Support & Assistance to Users);
- (h) ('*SM WAN for testing*') an obligation to pay arising during that Charging Period from the acceptance by that Party of the charges offered by the DCC to provide a connection to a simulation of the SM WAN pursuant to Section H14.31 (Device and User System Testing);

- (i) ('*additional testing support*') an obligation to pay arising during that Charging Period from the acceptance by that Party of the charges offered by the DCC to provide additional testing support to that Party pursuant to Section H14.33 (Device and User System Testing);
- (j) ('*communication services*') the number of each of the Services identified in the DCC User Interface Services Schedule which have been provided to that Party during that Charging Period;
- (k) ('*CH non-standard delivery*') an obligation to pay arising during that Charging Period as a result of the request by that Party for non-standard Communications Hub Product delivery requirements pursuant to Section F6.17 (Non-Standard Delivery Options);
- (l) ('*CH stock level charge*') the number (to be measured at the end of that Charging Period) of Communications Hubs that have been delivered to that Party under Section F6 (Delivery and Acceptance of Communications Hubs) and for which none of the following has yet occurred: (i) identification on the Smart Metering Inventory as 'installed not commissioned' or 'commissioned'; (ii) rejection in accordance with Section F6.10 (Confirmation of Delivery); (iii) delivery to the DCC in accordance with Section F8 (Removal and Return of Communications Hubs); or (iv) notification to the DCC in accordance with Section F8 (Removal and Return of Communications Hubs) that the Communications Hub has been lost or destroyed;
- (m) [not used];
- (n) ('*CH auxiliary equipment*') the number of each of the types of Communications Hub Auxiliary Equipment which have been delivered to that Party during that Charging Period under Section F6 (Delivery and Acceptance of Communications Hubs), and which have not been (and are not) rejected in accordance with Section F6.10 (Rejected Communications Hub Products) or (in the case of the Communications Hub Auxiliary Equipment to which Section 7.8 applies (Ownership of and Responsibility for Communications Hub Auxiliary Equipment)) returned, or notified as lost or destroyed, for a reason which is a CH Pre-Installation DCC Responsibility;

- (o) ('CH returned and redeployed') the number of Communications Hubs which have been returned by that Party during that Charging Period for a reason which is a CH User Responsibility, and which have been (or are intended to be) reconditioned for redeployment pursuant to Section F8 (Removal and Return of Communications Hubs);
- (p) ('CH returned not redeployed') the number of Communications Hubs which have been returned, or notified as lost or destroyed, by that Party during that Charging Period for a reason which is a CH User Responsibility, and which have not been (and are not intended to be) reconditioned for redeployment pursuant to Section F8 (Removal and Return of Communications Hubs);
- (q) ('CH wrong returns location') an obligation to pay arising during that Charging Period as a result of the return by that Party of Communications Hubs to the wrong returns location as referred to in Section F8.9 (Return of Communications Hubs);
- (r) ('test comms hubs') the number of Test Communications Hubs delivered to that Party during that Charging Period, and which have not been (and are not) returned to the DCC in accordance with Section F10.8 (Ordering, Delivery, Rejection and Returns);
- (s) ('additional CH Order Management System accounts') the number of additional CH Order Management System accounts made available to that Party during that Charging Period in accordance with Section F5.23 (CH Order Management System Accounts);
- (t) ('shared solution Alt HAN Equipment') the number (as measured at the end of that Charging Period) of ~~Smart Metering Systems associated with an~~ MPANs ~~at associated with~~ premises supplied with electricity by that Party; ~~or with~~ ~~an~~ and of MPRNs ~~at associated with~~ premises supplied with gas by that Party, ~~that are using or in respect of each of which premises~~ (except where the Alt HAN Inventory records that Party as having elected to use Opted-out Alt HAN Equipment at that time) ~~capable of using installed~~ Central Shared Solution Alt HAN Equipment is installed;

- (u) ('point-to-point Alt HAN Equipment') the number ~~of Smart Metering Systems~~ (as measured at the end of that Charging Period) ~~associated with an of~~ MPANs ~~at associated with~~ premises supplied with electricity by that Party; ~~or with~~ ~~an and of~~ MPRNs ~~at associated with~~ premises supplied with gas by that Party, ~~that are using or in respect of each of which premises~~ (except where the Alt HAN Inventory records that Party as having elected to use Opted-out Alt HAN Equipment at that time) ~~capable of using installed~~ Central Point-to-Point Alt HAN Equipment is installed; and
- (v) ('stock level point-to-point Alt HAN Equipment') the number of items of Central Point-to-Point Alt HAN Equipment (as measured at the end of that Charging Period) delivered to that Party but not installed.

Explicit Charges

K7.6 The DCC will determine the Explicit Charges for each Explicit Charging Metric and each Regulatory Year:

- (a) in the case of the Explicit Charging Metrics referred to in Section K7.5(a) and (b) ('security assessments' and 'privacy assessments'), so as to pass-through to each Party the relevant expenditure incurred by the Panel in respect of the Explicit Charging Metric as notified by the Panel to the DCC for the purpose of establishing such Charges;
- (b) (subject to Section K7.6(a)) in a manner consistent with the Charging Objectives referred to in Sections C1.4, C1.5 and C1.6(a), (b), and (c);
- (c) (subject to Section K7.6(a) and the Charging Objective referred to in Section C1.4) on a non-discriminatory and cost reflective basis so as to recover the incremental cost to the DCC (including under the DCC Service Provider Contracts) associated with the occurrence of that Explicit Charging Metric (and disregarding any costs and expenses that would be incurred whether or not that Explicit Charging Metric occurred);
- (d) in the case of the Explicit Charging Metrics referred to in Section K7.5(c) and (d) ('LV gateway connection' and 'HV gateway connection'), the Explicit Charges may comprise an initial connection charge and an ongoing annual

charge (which annual charge may be payable monthly or less frequently);

- (e) in the case of the Explicit Charging Metrics referred to in Section K7.5(j) ('communication services'), in accordance with (c) above; save that (where the cost of implementing an Explicit Charge for one or more of the Services referred to in that Section would be disproportionate to the cost-reflective incremental cost) the Explicit Charge for those Services may be set at zero;
- (f) in the case of the Explicit Charging Metrics referred to in Sections K7.5(l), (n), (o) and (p) ('CH stock level charge', 'CH auxiliary equipment', 'CH returned and redeployed', and 'CH returned not redeployed'), so as to ensure they are uniform across each month of a Regulatory Year and across each Region and do not make any distinction linked to use at Domestic Premises or Non-Domestic Premises;
- (g) in the case of the Explicit Charging Metric referred to in Sections K7.5(l), (o) and (p) ('CH stock level charge', 'CH returned and redeployed' and 'CH returned not redeployed'), on the basis that there can be different charges for each HAN Variant;
- (h) so that the Explicit Charging Metric referred to in Section K7.5(o) ('CH returned and redeployed') for each HAN Variant is not more than the Explicit Charging Metric for that HAN Variant referred to in Section K7.5(p) ('CH returned not redeployed');
- (i) in the case of the Explicit Charging Metric referred to in Section K7.5(p) ('CH returned not redeployed'), in accordance with (c) above, for which purpose the incremental cost to DCC shall include any early termination fee payable in relation to the Communications Hub, or (if applicable) the net present value of the ongoing costs likely to be incurred by the DCC notwithstanding the fact that the Communications Hub has been removed, lost or destroyed;
- (ia) in the case of the Explicit Charging Metric referred to in Sections K7.5(r) ('test comms hubs'), on the basis that there can be different charges for different types of Test Communications Hubs (including by reference to the HAN Variant to which they correspond); and

- (j) in the case of the Explicit Charging Metrics referred to in Section K7.5(t), (u) and (v) ('shared solution Alt HAN Equipment', 'point-to-point Alt HAN Equipment' and 'stock level point-to-point Alt HAN Equipment'), so as to pass-through to each Party the relevant costs of AltHANCo in respect of the Explicit Charging Metric as notified by AltHANCo to the DCC for the purpose of establishing such Charges.

K7.7 This Section K7.7 applies only in respect of the Explicit Charging Metrics referred to in Sections K7.5(f) and (g) ('elective service evaluation' and 'P&C support'). Where the DCC is simultaneously considering requests for an Explicit Charging Metric from two or more Parties, and where it would be advantageous to all such Parties for the DCC to do so, the DCC shall offer the Explicit Charging Metrics both conditionally on all the Parties taking up the Explicit Charging Metric and without such condition. In respect of the Explicit Charges to apply in respect of the conditional offer, the DCC shall calculate the Explicit Charges for each Party on the assumption that the other Parties accept the offers, and shall accordingly apportion any common costs between the Parties on a non-discriminatory and cost-reflective basis.

Second-Comer Contributions

K7.8 This Section K7.8 applies only in respect of the Explicit Charging Metrics referred to in Sections K7.5(f) and (g) ('elective service evaluation' and 'P&C support'). Subject to Section K7.10, where:

- (a) the DCC makes an offer in respect of any proposed Explicit Charging Metric to a person (the “**subsequent person**”); and
- (b) prior to such offer being made to the subsequent person, another person (the “**initial contributor**”) was obliged to pay Explicit Charges designed to recover any costs (the “**relevant costs**”) that would otherwise (in accordance with this Charging Methodology) have been recoverable from the subsequent person,

then the DCC shall make an offer to the subsequent person that requires that subsequent person to pay by way of Explicit Charges such a contribution to the relevant costs as may be reasonable in all the circumstances.

K7.9 Subject to Section K7.10, where an offer made by the DCC that includes an element of relevant costs is accepted by the subsequent person, the DCC shall (following payment by the subsequent person) offer such rebate to the initial contributor as may be reasonable in all the circumstances.

K7.10 Sections K7.8 and K7.9 shall not apply:

- (a) where the relevant costs are less than £20,000;
- (b) where the relevant costs are between £20,000 and £500,000 (inclusive), and the initial contributor's offer for the Explicit Charging Metric was accepted more than 5 years before the offer to the subsequent contributor is made;
- (c) where the relevant costs are more than £500,000, and the initial contributor's offer for the Explicit Charging Metric was accepted more than 10 years before the offer to the subsequent contributor is made; and/or
- (d) where the initial contributor no longer exists or cannot be contacted by the DCC following reasonable enquiry.

K7.11 All references to an initial contributor in this Section K7 shall, in respect of any subsequent person, be interpreted so as to include any person that was previously a subsequent person in respect of the relevant costs in question and that paid Explicit Charges designed to recover an element of those relevant costs.