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<b>Paper Reference:</b>	<b>SECPMA_80_2004_15</b>
<b>Action:</b>	<b>For Information</b>

## Transitional Governance Update

### 1. Purpose

The purpose of this paper is 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 Groups** (Section 2) - updates will cover the meetings attended by the Smart Energy Code Administrator and Secretariat (SECAS) and on behalf of 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.

### 2. Transitional Work Group Updates

#### 2.1 Smart Meter Delivery Group (SMDG)

The SMDG met on 11 March 2021 and discussed:

##### **BEIS policy incentive consumer research:**

BEIS will be undertaking a 2-year research programme to improve uptake from consumers in domestic and non-domestic sectors. The 3 main areas will be:

- Test potential policy incentives with consumers to find out their potential impact;
- Investigate how incentives can be adapted or presented to maximise their impact on Smart Meter uptake and minimise risks; and
- Continually test consumer attitudes through the next phase of Smart Meter rollout.

Phase 1 is currently in progress, which BEIS will review at the Consumer Reference Group (CRG). A third party is carrying out the research and reporting, which is expected to run until June 2021.

##### **Smart Energy GB Campaign Update:**

- Smart Energy GB is launching new long-term campaign, which will start as industry begins to transition out of the current lockdown restrictions, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Smart Energy GB has been collaborating with Suppliers, gathering input from their marketing

departments to help shape the campaign. There will be new branding, a new central character, and an updated message to 'join the energy revolution'.

#### DCC dashboard:

- During 2020, energy Suppliers installed 3.2 million Smart Devices. Installation numbers were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic with the greatest impact occurring during Q2 of 2020. Since then, however, data provided by Large Suppliers shows that installation numbers are rising at a rate of approximately 70k per week.

## 2.2 Test Design and Execution Group (TDEG)

The TDEG met on 9 March 2021 and discussed:

- **User testing update:**
  - Six Testing Participants are currently testing SMETS2 Dual Band Communications Hubs (DBCH) EDM1 2.13.3. There are 12 open Severity 3 Testing Issues and one Severity 4 issue, which is currently in triage.
  - User testing of SMETS2 Toshiba DBCHs started on 2 March 2021 as planned.
  - The EDM1 DBCH 2.13.3 Micro Pilot has successfully completed Over the Air (OTA) firmware updates and the firmware has been activated. Ongoing monitoring remains in place.
  - Testing Services are now available for the SMETS1 Secure Unique Transaction Reference Number (UTRN) functionality. One Test Participant is currently using these Services.
- **SMETS1 Testing Update:**
  - The SMETS1 Final Operating Capability (FOC) Primary Release went live on 28 February 2021 as planned.
  - FOC Release 2 test completion has been agreed by the DCC Testing Assurance Board (TAB). The expected go-live date for Release 2.1 is now July 2021.
- **DCC Communication Hub (CH) and Networks Update:** The DCC requested volunteers from the TDEG Members to become part of the working group to define the approach to testing in Pre-Integration Testing (PIT) and System Integration Testing (SIT). This was discussed and agreed with the Testing Advisory Group (TAG), and it is likely that some TAG Members who also attend the TDEG will volunteer to participate.

## 2.3 Technical Specification Issue Resolution Subgroup (TSIRS)

The TSIRS met on 11 March 2021 and discussed:

- **Release Update:** BEIS highlighted its upcoming consultation on the transition to the Enduring Change of Supplier (ECoS) model. [SEC changes for the Enduring Change of Supplier \(ECoS\) Arrangements and Certain Security Provisions](#) was subsequently published on 1 April. The proposed changes will amend the main body of the SEC, but not the Technical Specifications.
- **Home Area Network (HAN) stability:**
  - Data provided by the DCC shows a slight reduction in the number of stability issues occurring due to new firmware rolled out to CHs and electricity meters.

- The DCC is continuing to investigate the occurrence of Alert 8F84 (Failure to Deliver Remote Party Message to Electricity Smart Metering Equipment) in the Communication Service Provider (CSP) North Region.
- **Nuisance alerts:**
  - The total number of 8F3E Alerts (Unauthorised Communication Access) remains relatively constant with around 9.6 million Alerts issued daily.
  - The CSPs have issued guidance on time adjustment, which is expected to help reduce the number of 8F0C (Clock not adjusted) Alerts.
- **SEC Modification Proposal SECMP085** - This Modification Proposal (Synchronisation of Smart Meter voltage measurement periods) seeks to align measurement periods to each full hour and half-hour for all Electricity Smart Meters. This will enable Distribution Network Operators (DNOs) to better monitor the performance of the electricity distribution networks and identify issues.

- **Issue Resolution Proposals (IRP)**

The following IRPs were discussed:

IRP No.	Title	Status
IRP613	CRP535 clarification for binding on re-join	Open
CRP630	Provision for additional HAN data items for Auxiliary Proportional Controllers (APCs)	Open
IRP637	Query x-ref - GBCS v3.2 table 13.2.4.4	Closed
IRP639	Addressing ZCL Report Event Status other than 0x02 or 0xFE	Closed

- **Firmware updates CSP North** – To maximise the available radio network capacity, CSP North is exploring the combination of several firmware distribution requests for the same Device Model. To do this, all firmware update requests must use the same signature. Upon investigation the DCC found that 105 firmware distribution requests targeted at 17 Device Models all used a different signature, which indicates that combining multiple firmware distribution requests is not possible.

## 2.4 Technical and Business Design Group (TBDG)

The TBDG met on 17 March 2021 and discussed:

- **ECoS Business Delivery Principles** – The DCC provided an update on the approach to making the changes required to support the move from the Transitional Change of Supplier (TCoS) process to the Enduring Change of Supplier (ECoS) process. The DCC highlighted the delivery principles that need to be considered as part of the transition from TCoS to ECoS, along with the role that each Party may need to play for overall delivery:
  - The DCC will issue updated manufacturing packs containing ECoS certificates.
  - Users will start using new credentials for signing CoS requests either before or at the point of EcoS go-live.
  - Suppliers will not install Devices containing ECoS credentials until after the ECoS go-live date.

- Suppliers will ensure that Devices containing TCoS credentials are not installed after TCoS is switched-off.
- Suppliers will support Device testing and the resolution of any defects identified during testing.
- **HAN WAN Working Group Update** – BEIS provided an update from the HAN Wide Area Network (WAN) Working Group which took place on the 15 March 2021:
  - HAN Survey Tools Trial: BEIS and the DCC are waiting for ‘ProtectMyProperty’ to confirm the list of Multi-Dwelling Units (MDUs) that it plans to survey so that a survey methodology can be agreed.
  - Sub-GHz Device deployment: There are now 250 installations operating using a Sub-GHz HAN across all CSP Regions with no apparent issues. The DCC has no way of identifying whether these installations have been installed in environments which would present issues for higher frequency networks, and therefore cannot assess how effective Sub-GHz installations are at overcoming any issues. The DCC has asked Device manufacturers to add a note to the Plain English CPL to indicate whether a Device is Sub-GHz.

## 2.5 Implementation Managers Forum (IMF)

The IMF met on 25 March 2021 and discussed:

- **IMF Dashboard Overview** – Users have now installed over seven million SMETS2 Meters, with over 1.4 million installed in the CSP North Region. Average daily installation volumes during February and March 2021 have been between 12,000-13,000 following changes in Government regulations related to COVID-19.
- **SMETS1 update** –
  - Over 3.8 million SMETS1 meters have been migrated onto the DCC service, with approx. 2.9 million of these being operated as Smart Meters by energy Suppliers.
  - The DCC has started Device Model Combination Testing (DMCT) for the FOC SEAP-2000 and SEAP-2001 Device Model Combinations (DMCs).
  - The FOC Release 2.0 was planned for deployment on 23 March 2021 but has been postponed due to a Major Incident involving the SMETS1 Service. Subject to a Joint Industry Plan (JIP) consultation, the DCC is targeting July 2021 for Uplift 2.1 and October 2021 for Uplift 2.2.
- **Fylingdales Communication Hubs** – SIT is progressing well with currently no high-severity defects identified and test completion is expected during April 2021. The start date for User testing is now expected in August 2021, subject to a forthcoming Join Implementation Plan (JIP) consultation.
- **Dual Band Communication Hubs (DBCHs)** – Over 800 DBCH Devices have been installed since September 2020, with over 200 of these in the CSP North Region. Three issues have been identified with DBCH and Sub-GHz Devices:
  - A firmware fix is available for the first issue, which affects EDMI DBCHs.
  - A firmware fix for the second issue, which affects WNC DBCHs, has successfully completed PIT and is now undertaking SIT.
  - The third defect remains under investigation to identify the root cause.

## 2.6 April 2021 Transitional Group meetings

Transitional Group	Meeting date
Test Design and Execution Group (TDEG)	13 April 2021
Smart Metering Delivery Group (SMDG)	15 April 2021
Technical Specification Issue Resolution Subgroup (TSIRS)	8 April 2021
Technical and Business Design Group (TBDG)	21 April 2021
Implementation Managers Forum (IMF)	29 April 2021

**Table 2: Transitional Group meetings**

## 3. Publications

Please click the following links for current [BEIS](#), [DCC](#) and [Ofgem](#) consultations. Open Industry consultations can also be found on the SECAS [Open Industry Consultations webpage](#).

### 3.1 SECAS Publications

SECAS has published the following:

- [Fourth iteration of the TABASC Effectiveness Review Questionnaire](#) – SEC Parties are invited to take part in the Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC) Effectiveness Review Questionnaire to provide feedback on the effectiveness of the Technical Architecture, Business Architecture and Home Area Network (HAN) requirements. Responses are due by **5pm 26 April 2021**.

### 3.2 DCC Publications

The DCC has published the following:

- [Delivery plan for Communications Hubs and Networks](#) - The DCC is consulting on how to introduce new CHs which will use the newer 4G network. The DCC's CH and Network Programme will assess options and then implement the chosen solution. This consultation closes on **7 May 2021**.
- [Conclusion on Final Operating Capability \(FOC\) Uplift 2.0 and Uplift 2.1 SMETS1 Transition and Migration Approach Document \(TMAD\) Consultation](#) - The DCC has concluded on the FOC TMAD consultation for changes relating to FOC Uplift 2.0 and Uplift 2.1
- The responses to closed DCC consultations can be found [here](#).

### 3.3 Ofgem Publications

Ofgem has published the following:

- [Ofgem Forward Work Programme 2021-2022](#) – The Ofgem Forward Work Programme for 2021-2022 will focus its resources on five strategic change programmes to achieve the greatest impact and help deliver the transition to net-zero in the interests of consumers.
- [Smart Meter Rollout Open Letter and Decision on Operational Performance Regime \(OPR\) Guidance](#) - Ofgem has published an open letter on the Smart Meter rollout progress and its decision regarding OPR Guidance, setting out the performance levels and values for system performance penalty mechanisms.
- The responses to closed Ofgem consultations can be found [here](#).

### 3.4 BEIS Publications

BEIS has published the following:

- [SEC changes for the Enduring Change of Supplier \(ECoS\) Arrangements and Certain Security Provisions](#) - BEIS is consulting on changes related to the ECoS arrangements and security changes that will affect SEC Section G, Section L and the Smart Meter Key Infrastructure (SMKI) Interface Design Specification. This consultation closes on **20 May 2021**.

## 4. Recommendation

The Panel is requested to **NOTE** the contents of this paper.

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SECAS Team

9 April 2021