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Smarter Markets Project Update

1. Purpose

The SEC and other Codes, are providing resource support for Ofgem's Faster Switching Programme, specifically the design team work areas under three Workstreams, as set out in Section 2 of this paper. This paper is provided as an overview of the key activities since the last reporting period to Panel's November meeting.

The design teams' work products are available to the Programme User Groups and the External Design Authority Group (EDAG) members.

2. Detailed Level Specification Phase (DLS) overview

2.1 Background

The DLS phase is proceeding based on the preferred reform package: 'RP2a'. This phase of the project is nearing completion and versions of various products are being baselined for stakeholder review sessions prior to submission to Ofgem's Technical Design Authority (TDA). The Workstream leads have been chiefly refining their final recommendations ready for TDA consideration in order for the Programme to move to the next phase – 'Enactment'.

Ofgem's conclusion to their consultation last year are expected to be issued at the end of January. The following sections provide an overview of the key activities of the three Workstreams that Panel-sponsored SECAS resource participates in, as well as any other items of note for the Panel from other Programme meetings. During the period, the DCC also held a webinar, the 'CSS Data Model and Interfaces, and a brief overview of this is also provided in section 2.5 of this paper.

2.2 E2E Design Team (E2EDT)

The business process design team met once in December to consider some of the comments made by industry stakeholders on the End to End Design Products that were issued in the 'Wave 3' outputs. SECAS consequently focussed the SME resources to support this activity and assist Ofgem in their review. In parallel, this Workstream has secured TDA support to baseline these products, subject to the incorporation of industry stakeholder feedback received via the user Design Forums.

Ofgem are now in the process of finalising the products prior to submission into the overall Ofgem Programme. SECAS will continue to engage, and Ofgem have signalled that the DT are due to reconvene over the coming weeks to support the further development of the CSS User Requirements Specification. It has also been indicated that the SME resources will be retained in the next phase, although the extent of effort expected is not yet known.

Ofgem also that held a Design Forum Meeting in December at which they confirmed a number of their design positions ahead of the official publishing date in January.

2.3 Regulatory Design Team (RDT)

The RDT effort is by far the utilising most of the SME resource effort. In particular, the review of the baseline 3 artefacts produced in the other Design Teams has enabled us to re-use that understanding to review the regulatory requirements. In parallel, we (the MRA and SEC Panel-sponsored resources) are jointly reviewing the coverage of the business process materials in ABACUS to test them for completeness and compatibility. Consequently, charges for the utilisation of this resource is being split between MRASCo and SECCo.

This work is ongoing, and will likely continue through January and possibly beyond. But we have already found some minor anomalies so it is to be hoped that the quality of the design will be improved through this exercise.

We are also reviewing the transition and migration outputs as a distinct part of the developing REC/regulatory design.

2.4 Delivery Strategy Design Team (DSDT)

Within the period, the DSD Workstream has been finalising the Delivery Strategy products based on the Design Forum review of the materials in December. As previously advised, this product set includes:

- Transition strategy (transition approach and approach to in-flight switch management);
- Data Improvement – address database remedy;
- Post-implementation strategy;
- Data Migration Plan; and
- DCC's latest draft of the design and build plan.

The Workstream lead also shared a draft version of the forward work plan for the next Phase: Enactment.

The DSDT sessions have consequently been reduced within the period, and the next is planned for early January and will recap on the baseline 3 outputs.

2.5 DCC Webinar on CSS

The DCC are leading on the drafting of the procurement documents and as part of this work will be holding weekly webinars through January and February to inform the Industry of their thinking. Where requested SECAS is continuing to support this work. The first was held at the end of December on the CSS Data Model and Interfaces.

Future events are planned as follows:

- 11th January: Registration & Switching, Premises Address
- 24th January: Security requirements
- 31st January: CSS delivery and data migration.

3. Working Support to Ofgem

The focus of effort over the last month has been commensurate with the anticipated change in the profile of resourcing effort required for each Design Team; namely:

- A reduction of the support activities for the E2EDT and DSDT; and
- An escalation of the support to the RDT to prepare substantive content for an early REC for stakeholder discussion.

In line with the increase in effort as set out above, a total of 27 days has been expended on the project by SECAS SMEs.

4. Recommendations

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

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5th January 2018