Smart Energy Code

SEC End of Regulatory Year Report

2017 - 2018

Version 1.0

Contents

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1.   Introduction

The End of Regulatory Year Report provides highlights of activities undertaken by the SEC Panel in delivering the operation of the Smart Energy Code (SEC). This report is separated into the key services areas of Party Support, Security, Technical Operations and Change & Releases. Section 7 also provides an overview of the Alternative Home Area Network (Alt HAN) arrangements that were introduced in the last Regulatory Year.

The Panel are also required, as part of the Report, to set out their evaluation of whether the SEC continues to meet the SEC Objectives. These views can be found in section 8.

2.   Summary

This End of Regulatory Year Report covers the period from 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018. This period has seen the first major steps from the transitional arrangements and development of the SEC to an enduring governance regime.

During this time the Panel have proactively sought to resolve challenges and issues that have arisen, or might yet arise, from the increased utilisation of the DCC systems and SEC requirements. The establishment of the Operations Group, a new Panel Sub-Committee designed to allow DCC Users to contribute to operational decisions, reflects not only the maturing of the DCC systems but the steps being taken to ensure a smooth transition to the enduring regime.

This year has also seen the undertaking of DCC User mandates for Suppliers and Distribution Network Operators. A large part of the Panel's focus has been to support Parties through this process, with particular effort to ensure the Security Assessment process is as efficient as possible. With the first use of a shared service provider in this period, the Panel have continued to review the processes and regulation to attempt to keep this complex framework fit for purpose.

Whilst BEIS have continued to shape the content of the SEC through consultation and designation letters, the levels of change continue to be high for Modification Proposals. In order to ensure that the SEC requirements are not creating barriers to change, the Panel have launched a review of the changes processes in SEC Section D and have continued to challenge DCC timescales and costs for progressing and delivering change. To help provide greater certainty and transparency over delivering change, the Panel have also developed a Release Management Policy. This framework intends to support Parties in understanding when change will be implemented and the impacts of those changes.

During this period of change and transition the Panel are aware of how important engagement is. In addition to driving better engagement with Parties through education sessions and SECAS Party Support, a new website was introduced. This new website has received good feedback, as it makes searching for information more intuitive for users.

3.   Party Status

3.1   Market Entry and Exit

The SEC Panel are required under SEC Section C2.3 to oversee applications to become a SEC Party and to manage the exit of Parties. At the time that the SEC was designated, some 76 Original Parties had signed up to the SEC, representing 38 organisations (Voting Groups).

Between April 2017 and March 2018, 59 new Parties have joined the SEC, with 5 Parties leaving; either through withdrawal (3) or expulsion (2).

	Apr 17	May 17	Jun 17	Jul 17	Aug 17	Sep 17	Oct 17	Nov 17	Dec 17	Jan 18	Feb 18	Mar 18
Accessions	3	13	9	3	7	8	6	3	3	1	3	0
Withdrawals	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Expulsions	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

The Party count now stands at 287, representing 227 Voting Groups. The number and type of each Party is set out below, alongside a breakdown of Voting Groups:

Party Type	No. Parties 2016/17	No. Parties 2017/18
Electricity Networks	22	24
Gas Networks	18	19
Large Suppliers	22	24
Small Suppliers	70	136
Others	100	83
DCC	1	1
Total	**233**	**287**

Voting Groups

- Large Suppliers: 12
- Others: 80
- Gas Networks: 12
- Electricity Networks: 15
- Small Suppliers: 108
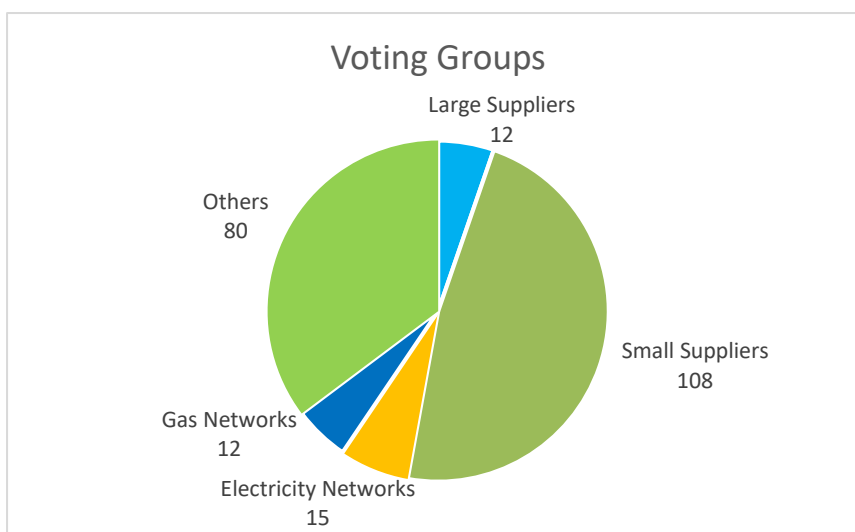
3.2   User Entry Process

Section H1 sets out the User Entry Process that must be completed by Parties prior to them being able to access DCC Services as a DCC User.

With the introduction of DCC User mandates for Suppliers and Distribution Network Operators at the end of 2016, this Regulatory Year has seen a significant increase in Parties commencing the User Entry Process in order to meet the mandates set out within their Licence Conditions.

The Panel, SECAS, Ofgem and BEIS worked closely to monitor and support Parties going through the User Entry Process, with several large engagement activities taking place. This included SECAS contacting all Supplier Parties on multiple occasions to specifically offer advice and support about identifying the mandates they were required to meet.

Of particular focus to the Panel and its Sub-Committees was the Security Assessment requirement of the User Entry Process. The Panel has sought to ensure appropriate arrangements are in place to enable Parties to undertake their assessments in a timely manner.

The Panel also made sure that the User CIO was appropriately involved in delivering direct engagement with Parties undertaking the Security and Privacy assessments. This engagement has directly benefitted all Parties as key documents, such as the Security Control Framework, evolved based on feedback received and questions raised.

The following table sets out the number of each Party Category that have successfully completed the User Entry Process over the last year:

Party Type	No. Parties 2017/18
Electricity Networks	14
Gas Networks	0
Large Suppliers	12
Small Suppliers	23
Others	0
Total	**49**

3.3   Defaults and Disputes

During the last Regulatory Year no disputes were raised, and one Party was subject to the default provisions (in May 2017). The defaulting Party was subsequently expelled from the SEC.

As noted above, 2017/18 has been the first year where many of the SEC provisions have been used in a real life operational situation. The Panel are keen to ensure that the processes which were originally drafted into the SEC are robust and efficient when dealing with the reality of issues raised in the operational world. As such, the Panel have requested that SECAS review both the disputes process and the event of default process to see where improvements and efficiencies can be made. This work is expected to be completed in 2018/19.

3.4 Party Engagement

With the central DCC systems becoming more mature and utilised by Parties, the Panel have been very aware of the importance of proper and proactive engagement with the wider industry.

With over 280 Parties to the SEC, with varying levels of experience in the market, the Party Support Analysts within SECAS have been on the forefront of this engagement strategy. They have worked closely with the DCC, BEIS and Ofgem to ensure a joined-up approach in supporting Parties by providing guidance and highlighting key policy decisions. This has proved particularly essential in supporting Parties through their User Entry Process.

The frequency of engagement events has increased, with greater focus on tailoring the different events to specific audiences. This ensures that Parties are getting the level of information they need, when they need it.

One example of this increased engagement is the Network Roundtable Engagement session that ran in February 2018. Following positive feedback from attendees, this will become a biannual event that provides Gas and Electricity Network Operators a forum to receive relevant updates and to share and discuss information and experiences.

SECAS conducted its first event outside of London, with the Spotlight on the SEC Seminar held in Sheffield in May 2018. This was a well-attended event, with many in the room commenting that the location made it possible for them to attend. SECAS has committed to ensure that at least one Spotlight on the SEC Seminar will be held outside of London each year, to provide as much opportunity as possible for SEC Parties to attend.

The Panel and SECAS have also continued to support the Transition Governance arrangements by attending transition workgroups and continuing to report key discussion topics and outputs in the monthly Transition Governance Update paper presented to the Panel.

3.4.1 Customer Satisfaction Survey

The SECAS customer satisfaction survey was due to be issued in Q4 of 2017/18. However, Ofgem was also due to issue an independent third-party cross-code survey to assess the performance of each of the Code Administrators. The SEC Board discussed the situation and agreed that they did not wish to place further cost or burden on industry members by responding to two feedback consultations in quick succession. As such, the annual survey was moved back to the summer of 2018.

4. Security Provisions

As noted in the section above, a priority of the Panel, its Sub-Committees and SECAS has been to ensure that the required Security Assessments are undertaken by Parties in the most efficient and cost-effective manner; all whilst meeting the relevant mandates.

As the Security Assessment process has bedded in, lessons have been learnt. Working with the User CIO and the SSC, the Panel and SECAS have been able to make process improvements and ensure Parties are engaged and understand what is expected throughout the process. It is recognised that there is still room for improvement and the Panel are proactively seeking to make the upcoming cycle of Year 2 assessments and privacy assessments as efficient as possible.

The Panel have also maintained close scrutiny of the User CIO costs. Following concerns from Parties that costs were too high, the Panel have sought to reduce the costs and get the User CIO to provide more transparent quotes to Parties undertaking assessments. Working with the SSC, a Modification has also been raised to ensure that where possible efficiencies of using shared resources can be utilised to the maximum.

4.1 Security Sub Committee

The Security Sub-Committee (SSC) was established in August 2015, developing and managing the associated User Security Assessment documentation that SEC Parties and DCC Users would require, as well as the wider requirements associated with SEC Section G 'Security'.

The SSC have met over 60 times during the last year. The main focus of the SSC's work has been on progressing as many Parties as possible through the Security Assessment process as a result of the User mandates.

During this busy time the SSC have recommended to the Panel a number of improvements to the Assessment process, most notably on the timing of assessments and the more efficient use of requirements on shared services. They have also discussed with the Panel ways in which to streamline the governance of approving assessments, resulting in the Panel delegating powers relating to the setting of a Party's security status.

The SSC have continued to have regular engagement with the User CIO, assisting the Panel in ensuring any improvements can be made swiftly to the process and that costs continue to be driven down. The SSC have also worked with SECAS on developing a questionnaire to help identify any feedback from Parties' User CIO experiences.

Over the last year the SSC have continued to review and develop the Security Controls Framework and the Security Architecture Document, most recently for Release 2.0, in order to provide further clarity to SEC Parties. They have also undertaken work to procure a service provider who will complete the Annual Security Assessment of the end to end security architecture.

SMETS1 Enrolment and Adoption has also been at the forefront of SSC business. The SSC have been reviewing and challenging the DCC over the updated security architecture design and risk assessment for Enrolment and Adoption. They have met a number of times to discuss the matter specifically and have highlighted concerns about the risk assessments of individual cohort groups, not all of which have been completed, and about the amount of security related work required to meet the Enrolment and Adoption timeline.

4.2   SMKI PMA

The Smart Metering Key Infrastructure Policy Management Authority (SMKI PMA) was established in July 2014 following the designation of SEC 3.0 and the introduction of SEC Section L 'Smart Metering Key Infrastructure'.

The SMKI PMA have continued to oversee the effectiveness of the SMKI Document Set and the SMKI Services. They will continue to support the SEC Panel in the operational elements of SMKI, including monitoring of various performance measures and issues in relation to the SMKI arrangements.

During 2017/18 SECMP0022 'Expanding SMKI PMA membership and removing Alternate restrictions' was implemented, which saw a fresh approach to how the SMKI PMA conducted business, increased the number of Large Supplier seats from two to three and split the Networks Member Seat into a Gas Networks Member Seat and an Electricity Networks Member Seat.

The SMKI PMA have spent much of the Regulatory Year in pushing forward the SMKI recovery process and have worked closely with the DCC to agree appropriate testing to achieve the best outcome for the industry. They have also been working on a robust process for the destruction of keys.

5. Technical Operations

5.1 TABASC

The Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC) met 12 times during the regularity year. The TABASC have been focussing on developing and maintaining the Business Architecture Document (BAD) and Business Architecture Model (BAM). Both the BAD and BAM have ben created during the last year, and were recently updated alongside the Technical Architecture Document (TAD) to capture the changes being implemented as part of Release 2.0.

5.1.1 Effectiveness Review

As part of the TABASC requirement to review the effectiveness of the end to end Technical Architecture, Business Architecture and the Home Area Network, a survey was issued to all SEC Parties. The survey sought DCC Users' views on the experience of live operations to date. The data and feedback received will then inform the next stages of the effectiveness review.

In advance of issuing the questionnaire the TABASC engaged with the newly established Operations Group to ensure that questions that went beyond the specific architecture and HAN requirements areas were fit for purpose so that relevant information could be shared with them to consider.

Going forward, the output of the initial run of the questionnaire will help inform what the TABASC does next, including any improvements and enhancements to the questions issued, to enable the more effective probing of information and issues as required.

A subsequent re-issue of the survey will occur later in 2018/19 when the volume of SMETS2 metering systems installed is anticipated to have increased.

5.2 TAG

During 2017/18 the Testing Advisory Group (TAG) met 13 times. The first half of the year was focused on outstanding matters relating to DCC Live and the Release 1.x sequence, with a focus on recommendations on whether Release 1.3 System Integration testing (SIT) had been completed and exited.

In September 2017 the Panel took the decision to refresh the TAG Terms of Reference to change the TAG from an interim Sub-Committee that provided advisory support of testing matters relation to DCC Live and the Release 1.x sequence of releases to an enduring Sub-Committee. The revised purpose of the TAG was to give support to both transitional releases and enduring releases on testing related matters.

The Panel decision to make the TAG an enduring Sub-Committee is in recognition of the important support and knowledge it provides in relation to any testing related decisions on which the Panel needs to make a determination.

Since the refresh of the TAG Terms of Reference, the TAG has supported the Panel by reviewing Testing Approach Documents associated with Release 2.0 and the SMETS1 Service release.

For Release 2.0, the TAG has reviewed and made recommendations to the Panel on testing content and associated test phase entry/exit criteria contained within the Release 2.0 SIT, Device Integration Testing (DIT), User Interface Testing (UIT) and overarching SEC Variation Testing Approach Documents (SVTAD). The TAG has also thoroughly reviewed and provided support to the Panel on certain testing approaches including the application of obligations on Supplier testing participants to undertake mandated regression testing.

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For the SMETS1 Service release, the TAG has also supported the Panel with reviews of the testing approach to SIT, Interface Testing (IT) and User Testing Services (UTS). The TAG continues to support the Panel with reviews of the forthcoming SMETS1 services testing documents, including the Migration Testing Approach document (MTAD) and System Capacity Testing Approach Document (SCTAD).

In addition to reviewing testing documentation, the TAG has supported the Panel through its engagement with the DCC regarding how and when testing evidence is provided to support test phase entry or exit criteria. These process improvements have been informed by the lessons learnt from the Release 1.x sequence, to help improve the efficiency and thoroughness of the testing assurance processes and associated decisions.

Finally, the TAG has begun looking forward to aiding the development of the structure and content of testing documentation that will support the successful testing of enduring releases, with the first enduring release being June 2019.

5.3   Operations Group

In July 2017 the Panel established a new sub-committee, the Operations Group (OPSG). The establishment of this Group reflected the move from a transitional governance to an enduring regime where DCC provides operational services to Users. The purpose of the group was to allow DCC Users to contribute to and be informed of the rationale for operational decisions and actions.

Since its establishment, the OPSG have met six times. Whilst establishing their own working practices, the Group have also assisted the Panel in a number of decisions and worked closely with the TABASC.

One of the main areas of focus for the Operations Group is the review of DCC reporting. The Group undertake a full review of each of the mandated DCC reports to identify any issues and raise any concerns to the Panel. The Group also assist the Panel in reviewing Major Incident reports; helping to identify where the reports may be improved and highlighting any critical information to the Panel and the industry. In total the group have reviewed 5 major incidents since October ad seek to ensure the DCC remain complaint and transparent.

5.4   CPL

Since the Certified Product List (CPL) was first put into effect in October 2016, SECAS (on behalf of the Panel) has processed submissions resulting in 51 versions of the CPL. 40 of these version updates have occurred in the 2017/18 regularity year as the first electivity smart meters were added.

During the past year the process around the CPL has been tried and tested. As a result, the Panel, with support from SECAS, has had to consider procedural improvements to how the CPL is maintained, particularly in addressing issues relating to DCC validation of CPL submissions and more efficient matching of Zigbee certificates.

6.   Change and Releases

6.1   Modification Proposals

During the 2016/17 regulatory year 23 Modification Proposals were raised. This significant level of change was added to with the addition of 14 new Modification Proposals raised in 2017/18. In total there were 40 open Modifications at any one time during the regulatory year.

The following table sets out the number of modifications raised, progressed and closed:

Modification Status	No.
Open Modifications at start of regulatory year	25
Modifications Raised	14
Modifications Approved	7
Modifications Rejected	3
Modifications Withdrawn	1
Open Modifications at end of regulatory year	28

Six Modifications Proposals were implemented over the course of the regulatory year. All were documentation-only changes and did not impact the DCC systems.

6.2   Section D Review

The Panel sets the progression timetables for Modification Proposals and closely monitors the development of modifications through the process. Approximately 18 months after the Modification processes were enabled within the SEC, the Panel raised concerns that modifications were taking too long to be assessed by the DCC and that change was proving too costly; both to assess and to implement. The Panel requested that SECAS undertake a review of Section D 'Modification Process' to see where improvements could be made to streamline the process, add efficiencies and ensure that nugatory costs were not incurred.

SECAS undertook the review and engaged closely with Ofgem, the DCC and Parties to highlight issues and find solutions. The Section D review concluded at the end of this regulatory year, resulting in three modifications being raised to address the issues identified.

6.3   Enduring Release Framework

As part of the movement from transitional arrangements to an enduring regime, the Panel have begun to assemble the requirements needed to create a robust Release Management framework. The Panel, SECAS and the DCC have worked closely together to develop a Release Management Policy which sets out how enduring Releases will be delivered.

The Release Management Policy captures the framework for what the frequency and types of release as well as the procedural steps need to be undertaken. It also sets out a clear engagement strategy for releases to ensure Parties are kept up to date. The Panel have also created a Release Implementation Document (RID), which captures all of the detail for a release, including impacts, costs, testing reequipments and timescales. Each release will have its own RID, which will be published on the SEC Website and constantly reviewed to ensure Parties have a transparent view of what changes are to be implemented and when.

6.4 Transitional Governance

In addition to Modification Proposals, other changes to the SEC arise from the Programme through the ongoing SEC development under Transitional Governance. Throughout 2017/18, four SEC designations were led by BEIS, with configuration management support from SECAS.

The Secretary of State can also direct Variations, which alter the timings of obligations laid out in the SEC. The following variations were directed during 2017/18:

Date	Variation	SEC Section
11 Apr 17	The specified date for the DNO User Mandate, and the Supplier Advanced Meter Exception End Date set as12th November 2017.	Appendix R and Section X
29 Jun 17	The end-date for the active transitional variations to SEC Section H8.16 (Self-Service Interface) extended until 2nd November 2017.	Section H
21 Jul 17	Removal of existing Transitional variations to: • Section L3 (The SMKI Services) • The DCC User Interface Specification & Service Request Processing Document • Section H3.24 • The Inventory, Enrolment and Withdrawal Procedures • The User Interface Services Schedule Activation of Transitional Variation to: • Section H8.16 • Section H8.17	Appendix AD and AC
06 Nov 17	Variations to Section H8.16 (Self-Service Interface) and Sections H1.5 and H1.6 (User IDs) extended to 5th November 2017. Variations to the SMKI Recovery Procedure extended to will cease to apply on 29th April 2018.	Section H and SMKI Recovery Procedure
06 Nov 17	Incorporated Schedule 8 into version 1.1 of the GB Companion Specification. The TS Applicability Tables previously designated and incorporated into the SEC as Schedule 11 re-designated.	Schedule 8 and Schedule 11
01 Feb 18	DUIS V2.0 and MMC V2.0 have been designated and incorporated into the SEC, but no SEC Party shall be entitled to exercise the rights set out, nor be obliged to comply with the obligations set out in the documents. DCC obligations regarding Dual Band Communications Hubs (DBCH) are not fully enforced. Whilst the DCC is required to make a limited number of CHs available, in the event of delays a Party may request a reduction in the number of DBCH forecast or re-ordered. The DCC shall take reasonable steps to accommodate the requested reduction	Appendix AD, Appendix AF, Appendix H, Appendix I, Schedule 10

7. Alt HAN Activities

The Eighth General SEC Objective relates to activities of the Alternative HAN Forum (the "Forum") on the establishment and operation of Alternative HAN Arrangements. Section Z1.3 sets out the objectives of the Forum and provides the framework within which all Alt HAN activities must operate.

The 2017/18 Regulatory Year saw the continued operation of the Forum and a steady increase in the pace of activities. Membership of the Forum continued to grow with further stakeholder engagement planned throughout the year to further engage with all Relevant Suppliers. The Alt HAN Forum have made significant progress this year towards the Alt HAN arrangements, and the table below outlines the key activities taken during 2017/18:

April - June	July - September	October - December	January - March
• Business Support and Project Support functions procurement concluded with contracts awarded • New Commercial Strategy implemented to support technology and operational delivery • Mobilisation of Alt HAN Business Support Function (Procurement, Contract Management, Secretariat, Finance and Legal Services) • Mobilisation of the Initiation Project to deliver the Procurements of Technology and Operations • Work begins on the technology procurement requirements	• Alt HAN Procurement Team launches Communication Strategy for Technology Services and the related Vendor Engagement Event • Alt HAN Co/Supplier Contract framework created • Alt HAN proceeds to the initial stage of Technology Services procurement • Board member elections held with three additional Board members joining Alt HAN Co to increase Board capacity • A data pilot to establish a capability to identify Alt HAN Candidate buildings was initiated • The approach to developing the EPL under the auspices of the Forum was agreed	• Technology Services Procurement Approach is developed with the document set released to vendors • Alt HAN Co website launched providing information on Alt HAN Co and its activities • Technology Services ITT submissions received and evaluation period started • The Alt HAN Budget 2018-19 issued for formal consultation before being approved by the Forum • Enduring Alt HAN Co Board Chair Appointed • Data Strategy design developed • The Forum directed the Project to accelerate the move to Programme to create capacity to deliver Alt HAN activities	• Technology Services evaluation continued with presentations and extended clarification meetings • Commercial Approach developed and approved for Operational Services • Alt HAN Procurement Team launches the communication strategy for Operational Services and the related Vendor Engagement Event • Alt HAN Target Operating Model is modified to support procurement • Data proof of concept informs the future strategy for Alt HAN Data Operations • The Alt HAN Delivery Programme is mobilised in preparation for standing up the ALT HAN Service Provision

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8.   SEC Objectives

SEC Section C2.2(b) describes that the Panel shall always act in a manner designed to ensure that the Code is operated to facilitate achievement of the SEC Objectives. These Objectives are depicted as the General SEC Objectives, the Transition Objective and the Charging Objectives. This section sets out the Panel's view on how the SEC continues to meet the SEC Objectives.

Objective	Status	Notes
First General SEC Objective - to facilitate the efficient provision, installation, and operation, as well as interoperability, of Smart Metering Systems at Energy Consumers' premises within Great Britain.	✔	This General SEC Objective continues to be met through activities that the Panel and the Sub-Committees undertake, including: • Supporting DCC Release activities through the Panel and the TAG decision-making activities; • Supporting Modification Proposals through the process, with oversight from the Panel and continuous process improvement; and • SECAS and the Panel Chair attending the Transition Working Groups and keeping the Panel and Parties apprised of the developments through the monthly Transition Governance Update paper. Consultation responses have also been submitted where appropriate from the SEC Panel or Sub-Committees.
Second General SEC Objective - to enable the DCC to comply at all times with the General Objectives of the DCC (as defined in the DCC Licence), and to efficiently discharge the other obligations imposed upon it by the DCC Licence.	✔	Where there is a dependency on the SEC operations for the DCC to comply with its Licence, the Panel has acted promptly and proactively to ensure that it achieves its responsibilities in a consultative manner whilst not frustrating the process for the DCC to meet its obligations. Examples include the development of the SEC budget to meet the timescales in the DCC Licence and the review process undertaken by the TAG to support the Panel's review and approval of the Testing Approach Documents and Testing Decisions. DCC progress in delivering its solution is monitored through an update from the DCC Panel Member provided at SEC Panel meetings, regular meetings with the DCC and monitoring of consultations, activities and updates at Transition Working Groups.

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Third General SEC Objective - to facilitate Energy Consumers' management of their use of electricity and gas through the provision to them of appropriate information by means of Smart Metering Systems.	✓	The ongoing design, development and release activities are facilitating this Objective so that Energy Consumers will have access to the appropriate information during initial live operations and mass rollout.
Fourth General SEC Objective - to facilitate effective competition between persons engaged in, or in Commercial Activities connected with, the Supply of Energy.	✓	The development of the overall market design and DCC Services under the SEC together with the technical and security framework support the aim to facilitate effective competition under this objective.
		The SEC Website provides interested participants with access to the SEC as well as SEC Subsidiary Documents and supporting information.
		The number of SEC Parties has seen a steady growth within the period, in a range of categories (and this trend is continuing).
Fifth General SEC Objective - to facilitate such innovation in the design and operation of Energy Networks (as defined in the DCC Licence) as will best contribute to the delivery of a secure and sustainable Supply of Energy.	✓	Network Operators' participation is integrated into the SEC governance entities as well as their rights as SEC Parties.
		Continued involvement of Network Operators in the achievement of the Transition Objective and the evolution of the SEC ensures the SEC, alongside liaison with other Industry Codes, supports this objective.
		SECAS continue to engage with the Network Operators ensuring that they are fully appraised of new SEC content and their implications.
		Modification Pathways now enable Network Parties to raise Modification Proposals in support of this SEC Objective.
Sixth General SEC Objective - to ensure the protection of Data and the security of Data and Systems in the operation of this Code.	✓	This SEC Objective continues to be met, with the SEC security requirements and architecture ensuring appropriate protections, responses and remediations are in place.
		The SSC have continued to develop relevant processes and procedures throughout the year to support the requirements set out within the SEC.
		User Security Assessments have been undertaken throughout this year to ensure Parties meet the relevant security requirements prior to being able to access DCC Services.

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		SECAS have built a relationship with and will work alongside the Information Commissioner for data protection activities.The Panel have retained the obligation for data protection rather than delegating to a Sub-Committee, and have set up a Memorandum of Understanding with the Information Commissioner to enable information sharing.
Seventh General SEC Objective - to facilitate the efficient and transparent administration and implementation of this Code.	✓	The SEC Panel and SECCo Board have been established and have demonstrated their commitment to this objective through undertaking the Panel Duties in accordance with the Panel Objectives as laid out in the SEC. SECAS support this General Objective through issuing communications to SEC Parties, including providing udpates on Sub-Committee activities and Modification Proposals going through the process.
Eighth General SEC Objective – to facilitate the establishment and operation of the Alt HAN Arrangements	✓	The Alt HAN arrangements are detailed in SEC Secton Z. The Alt HAN Forum is now in its second year of operation and continues to work towards its objectives laid out in the SEC. Four Sub-Groups are also in operation to support Alt HAN activities at the direction of the Forum. The Forum has established a Delivery Programme, a Business Support function and Programme and Project Delivery capability; these roles support and facilitate the delivery of Alt HAN Activities and Services. The Forum has directed moving to Programme Governance and as such the operational arrangements will continue to evolve as the work progresses. The Alt HAN Co Board provides governance and fiduciary oversight necessary for Alt HAN Co operation, and the Board's objectives are detailed within the SEC. The Board is elected from any Relevant Suppliers and currently made up of five members. The Alt HAN arrangements continue to progress at a steady rate with the Forum and Board reviewing roles and responsibilities in recognition of the increasing challenges ahead, as the Programme mobilises into delivery mode, implementation and, eventually, an enduring service. The upcoming year will also see considerable developments within the Alt HAN Programme to ensure its readiness for the increasingly challenging cost environment, and the Forum are preparing to balance these considerations in the most economic and efficient manner.
Transition Objective - the efficient, economical, co-ordinated, timely, and secure process of transition to the Completion of Implementation.	✓	SEC Section X outlines the transitional arrangements. Progress and outputs of the Transition Working Groups are monitored on a monthly basis and Panel and SECAS operations have been fully prepared to receive updated Code content and SEC Subsidary Documents upon designation.

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Charging Objectives - First Relevant Policy Objective.		The first Charging Methodology in SEC Section K meets the aim of the objective by applying uniform charges to Domestic Premises.
Charging Objectives - Second Relevant Policy Objective.		The Charging Methodology has been implemented within the SEC and the Charges applicable within the reporting period facilitate the implementation of the DCC Services reflective to the DCC costs.
Charging Objectives – Third Relevant Policy Objective.		The first Charging Methodology has been implemented within the SEC and the Charges applicable within this reporting period facilitate the implementation of the DCC Services reflective to the DCC costs.

 Continues to meet Objective

 Will be met subject to services becoming available