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Paper Reference:	TABASC_33_1608_07
Action:	For Discussion

TABASC input during the Modifications Process

1. Purpose

The Technical Architecture and Business Architecture Sub-Committee (TABASC) has raised queries over what involvement it has in the development and assessment of a Modification Proposal and at what points in its lifecycle it is involved. This paper summarises what input we believe the TABASC should have and at what points these inputs should be sought.

2. TABASC input on Modification Proposals

The TABASC's area of expertise is on the Business Architecture and the Technical Architecture arrangements. As such, we believe that views should be sought from the TABASC on any modifications that have an impact on these areas. These views can then be flagged to the relevant Working Group to consider when developing the solution(s) and determining the case for change.

The SEC requires that Working Groups should always consult the TABASC over any modification that would impact on the Technical Code Specifications (SEC Section D6.8(f)), which the SEC lists as the following documents:

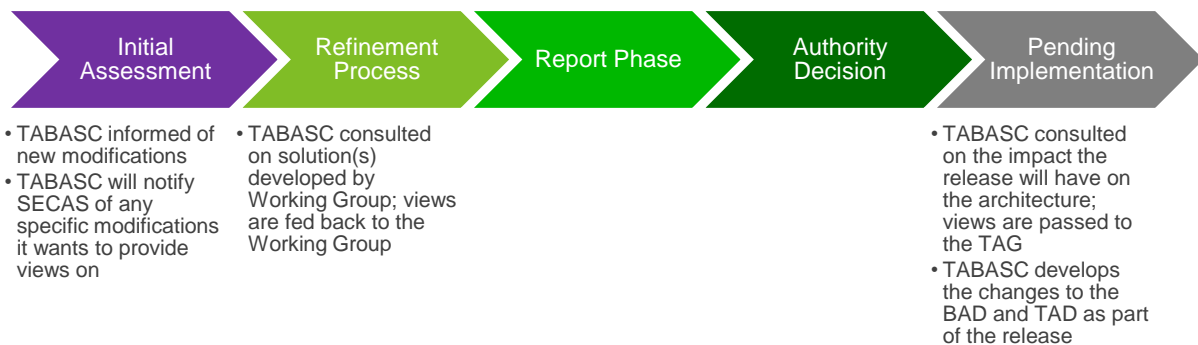
- Schedule 8 'GB Companion Specification'
- Schedule 9 'SME Technical Specifications'
- Schedule 10 'CH Technical Specifications'
- Appendix G 'DCC Gateway Connection Code of Connection'
- Appendix M 'SMKI Interface Design Specification'
- Appendix N 'SMKI Code of Connection'
- Appendix O 'SMKI Repository Interface Design Specification'
- Appendix P 'SMKI Repository Code of Connection'
- Appendix X 'Registration Data Interface Specification'
- Appendix Y 'Registration Data Interface Code of Connection'
- Appendix AD 'DCC User Interface Specification'
- Appendix AE 'DCC User Interface Code of Connection'

- Appendix AF 'Message Mapping Catalogue'
- Appendix AG 'Incident Management Policy'
- Appendix AH 'Self-Service Interface Design Specification'
- Appendix AI 'Self-Service Interface Code of Connection'
- SMETS1 Supporting Requirements
- DCC Release Management Policy
- Panel Release Management Policy

In addition, we would seek the TABASC's views on any change that would impact DCC Systems or Smart Metering Systems. The TABASC can also provide a view on any other Modification Proposal if it so wishes.

3. Points of input

The diagram below summarises the key points at which we believe the TABASC should input into a Modification Proposal. The sections below provide more detail on each point.



Modification raised

The TABASC is currently informed of all raised Modification Proposals. We propose that, where a modification does not impact on one of the areas or documents listed above, the TABASC should notify us if it believes it would want to provide a view during the Refinement Process.

Please note that if [SECMP0049 'Section D Review: Amendments to the Modification Process'](#) is approved and the Development Stage is introduced, the Change Board may seek an early view from the TABASC on the potential impact of any new proposal raised. However, at that stage the solution may not be fully (or even partially) developed, and any view sought on the potential impacts would be advisory for assisting in the modification's subsequent progression.

Refinement Process

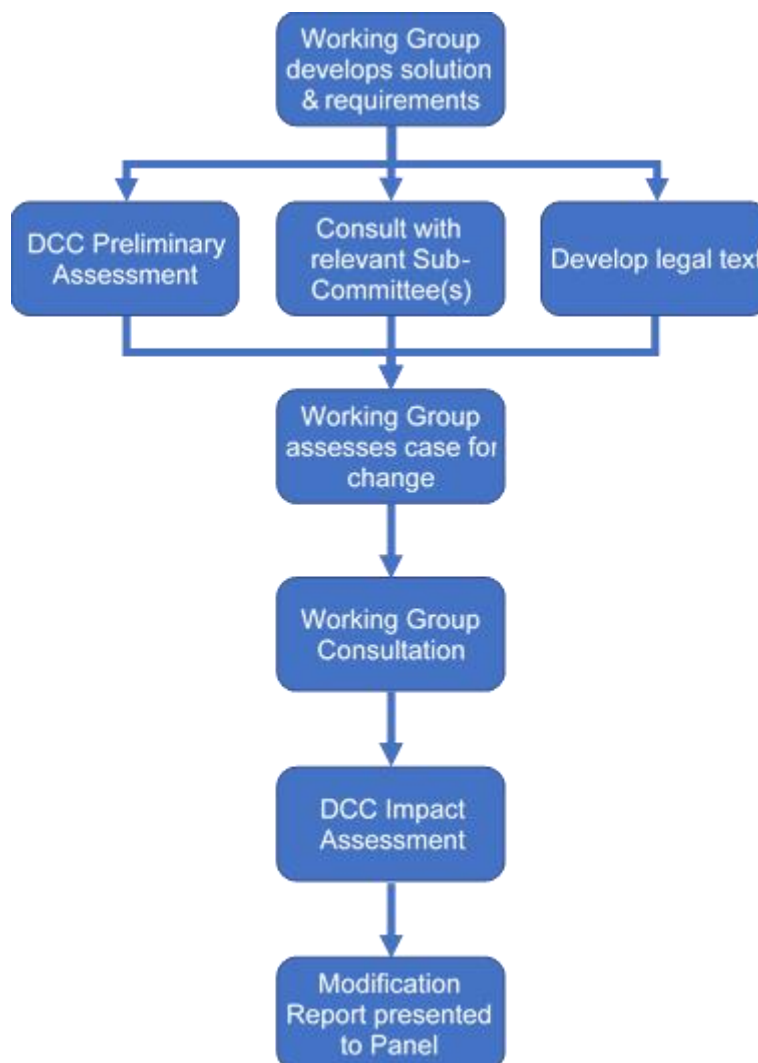
The point at which we would seek the TABASC's view on any Modification Proposal would be during the Refinement Process, while the Working Group is still developing the solution. This will allow the TABASC to comment on the solution(s) developed by the Working Group and for the Working Group to consider these comments before it finalises the solution(s). We also intend to include the TABASC's comments and any subsequent Working Group response in the Modification Report.

We believe that the most appropriate point for the TABASC (or any other affected Sub-Committee) to provide views is following the production of the business requirements. It will be at this stage that the solution(s) will be sufficiently developed to allow the TABASC to provide a view on what impacts there may be on architectural arrangements.

We would present the TABASC with a summary of the Modification Proposal and the Working Group's key discussions and would provide the business requirements developed by the Working Group. The general questions we would ask the TABASC at this stage are:

- What impacts will the proposed solution(s) have on the Business and Technical Architecture?
- Would any unintended consequences on the architecture arise from this modification?
- Are there any other changes to the architecture that the modification would complement or conflict with? (This will better enable modifications to be allocated to appropriate releases.)

The diagram below summarises the key steps in the Refinement Process and shows the point where we intend to gather Sub-Committee views and feedback. To improve efficiency with progression timelines, we intend to gather these views while DCC is performing its Preliminary Assessment.



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During implementation

We believe it would be beneficial to seek the view of the TABASC on the overall impact of a SEC Release on the architecture, once the scope of the release is known. This view will help inform the level of testing that would be required for the release, which would be fed back to the Testing Advisory Group (TAG) to consider when it reviews DCC's Testing Approach Document. We would anticipate this discussion taking place around three months prior to the Panel baselining the Release Implementation Document, which would take place 12 months ahead of the release's implementation date.

The TABASC's main involvement during the implementation stage will be to update the Business Architecture Document (BAD) and the Technical Architecture Document (TAD) as part of the implementation of the release. This would be managed as a workstream in the release project, with the changes being led by the TABASC.

4. Recommendations

The TABASC is requested to:

- **PROVIDE** any views and comments on the intended approach to seeking the TABASC's views on Modification Proposals.

David Kemp

SECAS Team

9th August 2018