

Meeting Session	Open
Meeting Date	16 November 2016
Paper Reference	DCUSA Panel 125 04 – Priority Services Register Group Update
Action	For Information

Priority Services Register

This paper has been prepared to inform the DCUSA Panel that a SPAA Working Group on sharing Priority Services data are considering a solution that may impact on DCUSA Parties.

1. Background

- 1.1 On 25 October 2016, Ofgem issued a decision paper regarding modifications to gas and electricity supply, electricity distribution and gas transporter licences for Priority Service Register (PSR) arrangements¹. This included a mandate for companies to share PSR data (i.e. new Needs Codes) via industry mechanisms within the parameters of data protection and privacy laws. The licence changes are due to take effect in June 2017.
- 1.2 A group was established under the Master Registration Agreement (MRA) to develop a relevant mechanism for use by electricity market participants. For the gas industry mechanism, a group was formed under the Supply Point Administration Agreement (SPAA).
- 1.3 This paper has been prepared to inform the DCUSA Panel that one of the solutions under consideration by the SPAA Priority Services (PSR) Group would have an impact on DCUSA Parties.

2. Sharing PSR Data

- 2.1 The solution currently being developed for electricity is focused on the current D0225² data flow which is already used by parties to transfer information about vulnerable consumers. It is proposed that this flow is amended to include the new Needs Codes and the reverse flow of data from Distribution Network Operator (DNO) to Supplier, thus facilitating the requirement to exchange these between Parties.

¹https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/system/files/docs/2016/10/decision_to_modify_gas_and_electricity_supply_electricity_distribution_and_gas_transporter_licences_for_psr_arrangements.pdf

² D0225 - Customer Priority Service Details

- 2.2 With regards to gas market participants, the SPAA PSR Group noted that some DNOs are currently undertaking a pilot exercise in which Gas Transporters send PSR data to them and this filters down to the Electricity Supplier. The Working Group's solutions all incorporate this communication. A summary of the solutions being considered by the PSR Group is provided as Appendix 1.
- 2.3 The PSR Group have issued an industry consultation seeking market participant's views on their proposed solutions. In addition to sending the consultation to SPAA Parties, UNC Parties, MRA Parties, Independent Gas Transporters (iGTs), the UK Link Panel and the Authority, the consultation has also been issued to DCUSA Parties in recognition that they may be impacted by the proposed solutions. The consultation was issued on 1 November, with responses requested by 22 November.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 The DCUSA Panel is invited to:

- **NOTE** the contents of this paper.

4. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Summary of Proposed Solutions

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Solution	Description	Advantages	Disadvantages
Solution 1a – Gas Transporter (GT)/DNO Sharing Information	Current Supplier to GT flow and manual GT to DNO flow	Uses existing mechanism to transfer data from Supplier to GT.	Timescale to introduce new Needs Codes into the S84 record, for Supplier to GT transfer, later than June 2017.
		GT to DNO transfer arrangements can be implemented by June 2017 as the solution relies on manual data transfer.	Unable to cost S84 amendments as post Nexus.
		Low cost for implementing GT to DNO transfer arrangements.	No mechanism for the GT to send data to the gas Supplier. Only works for dual fuel customers.
			Process required for GT to identify iDNO to ensure data not inadvertently sent to DNO.
			Current pilot scheme needs to be extended to include iGTs.
			Formal governance of GT – DNO process required.
Solution 1b - GT / DNO Sharing Information with GT to Supplier Flow	Current Supplier to GT flow, manual GT to DTN flow and GT to Supplier flow	Advantages as per option 1a, plus option 1b enables GT to pass PSR data to the DNO and gas Supplier.	Disadvantages as per option 1a except that there is a mechanism for the GT to send data to the gas Supplier.
Solution 2 - Introduce a new flow between Supplier and GT	New DTN flow between Supplier and GT	Secure solution with formal governance in place.	GTs need to accede to DTSA and utilise the DTN.
		Removes the dependency on Project Nexus.	GTs do not currently hold and maintain PSR.
		Central implementation costs low and implementation timescales enable June 2017 implementation date to be met.	Process required for Suppliers to identify the GT.

		Could enable GT to DNO communications via the same mechanism.	
		Avoids the need for Shippers and Xoserve to handle PSR data.	
	New non DTN flow between Supplier and GT	Removes dependency on Project Nexus	Formal governance of process required.
		Avoids the need for Shippers and Xoserve to handle PSR data.	Process for GT to DNOs flow still required.
Solution 3 - Reverse Current Supplier to GT Mechanism	Reverse current mechanism for transferring data from Supplier to GT via the Shipper and Xoserve	Secure solution based on current industry practice. Uses existing mechanism to transfer data from Supplier to GT.	Solution not yet defined so costs, timescales and governance arrangements to be assessed.
			Timescale to introduce new Needs Codes into the S84 record, and reverse flow later than June 2017.
			Unable to cost S84 amendment and reverse flow as post Nexus. Costs expected to be higher than option 1.
			Process for transferring PSR data to DNOs required – assumption that this will reflect the pilot scheme detailed in option 1.
			Process required for GT to identify iDNO to ensure data not inadvertently sent to DNO.
			Current pilot scheme needs to be extended to include iGTs.
			Formal governance of GT – DNO process required.