

Meeting Session	Panel (Open Session)
Paper Reference	Panel_2026_0121_03_Additional Alternative Solutions for DCP 461
Action	For Information

Additional Alternative Solutions for DCP 461

1. Synopsis

- 1.1 DCP 461 was raised in August 2025 and has been chaired by both Craig Booth and Richard Colwill, depending on resource availability. The Working Group meetings see a high attendance and high level of interest.
- 1.2 The Working Group identified that the original Change Proposal form identifies two separate defects that need to be addressed:
 - 1.2.1 the risk of a variable and unsustainable financial burden on individual customers in those DNO areas which pass through all transmission-related connections costs, leading to a “last connectee standing” issue, where if other projects drop out from quoted works, the cost is charged in full to the last customer; and
 - 1.2.2 the different treatment of costs in the CUSC charging methodology leading to a “post code lottery” issue, whereby the costs to the distribution connecting customer for transmission reinforcement works are dependent on decisions outside the customer’s or DNO’s control, and which may be made on the basis of efficiency for the transmission network, or where, for some DNO areas, costs are not passed onto the customer at all.
- 1.3 The Working Group identified **nine** options which were consulted on, **four** of which relate to each of the identified defects above, and **one** of which retains the status quo but with additional clarity placed within the existing legal text to bring consistency across DNOs.
- 1.4 The Working Group agreed to progress up to **seven** of these options (depending on further work.)

2. Proposed Approach

- 2.1 The DCUSA allows for a maximum of four options to be presented for voting under each Change Proposal (the original proposal and up to three alternatives).
- 2.2 The Working Group recognises this limitation and agreed that separate Change Proposals to address each of the defects should be progressed.

- 2.3 It is proposed to raise **three** Change Proposals, named DCPs 461A, 461B and 461C respectively, to progress the options as follows:
- 2.3.1 one Change Proposal to progress three options relating to the first identified defect;
 - 2.3.2 one Change Proposal to progress three options relating to the second identified defect; and
 - 2.3.3 one Change Proposal to progress the third option, maintaining the status quo with additional clarity within the legal text.
- 2.4 It is proposed that these Change Proposals each be progressed to the definition phase, however the work to refine these will continue under the existing DCP 461 Working Group, with DCP 461 acting as an “umbrella” Change Proposal.

3. Actions

- 3.1 The DCUSA Panel is invited to:
- **NOTE** the contents of this Paper in relation to the three new related Change Proposals that will be raised; and
 - **CONFIRM** that it is comfortable with the above approach.

Richard Colwill
Resource & Change Delivery Manager