

# DCUSA Panel Meeting 235 (Open Session)

21 January 2026 at 10:00am

3rd Floor, Northumberland House, 303 306 High Holborn, London,  
WC1V 7JZ / MS Teams

Attendee	Role	Company
<b>Panel Members</b>		
Peter Waymont [PW]	Panel Member [CHAIR]	DCUSA Ltd
Donna Jamieson [DJ]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Kim-Marie Mortimer [KMM]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Urszula Thorpe [UT]	Alternate Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Clare Wagstaffe [CW]	Alternate Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Kevin Woollard [KW]	Alternate Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Simon Yeo [SY]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
<b>Observers</b>		
Mark Bellman [MB]	Observer	Scottish Power
Colin Berry [MB]	Observer	BSC
Caroline Freimuller [CF]	Observer	REC
Nadir Hafeez [NH]	Observer	Ofgem
Christopher Ibeh [CI]	Observer	NESO
<b>Code Administrator</b>		
Craig Booth [CB]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Richard Colwill [RC]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Angelo Fitzhenry [AF]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Andy Green [AG]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Melissa Kendall [MK]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
George Kestner [GK]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Hannah Proffit [HP]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Dylan Townsend [DT]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
<b>Apologies</b>		
Karl Marylon [KM]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Mark DeSouza Wilson [MDW]	Observer	BSC

## 1. Administration

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### Election of Chair for the meeting

- 1.1 The Panel RESOLVED that PETER WAYMONT would take the Chair for the meeting.

### Notice of recording of Meeting

- 1.2 The Panel NOTED that the meeting is being recorded purely to aid with the production of the minutes and that the recording will be deleted once the minutes for the meeting are approved.

### Welcomes and Introductions

- 1.3 The Chair welcomed all attendees to the meeting.

### Apologies

- 1.4 It was NOTED that 'Apologies' had been received from: MARK DESOUZA WILSON and KARL MARYLON. SIMON YEO was running late.

### Non-Confidential Minutes

- 1.5 The draft minutes of the last meeting had been circulated ahead of this meeting. No comments had been received. The Panel AGREED that these minutes were a true and fair representation of the meeting.

### Updated Actions

- 1.6 The Panel reviewed the new and open actions for the previous open session Panel meeting and updates on all actions are set out in Appendix A.

## 2. Updates from the Industry Working Groups/Codes

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### Balancing & Settlement Code (BSC)

- 2.1 CB provided the Panel with a verbal update on BSC related topics. Points raised included the following:
- CP 1627 'Amendment of Initial Market Segment for whole current Metering Systems' will allow LDSOs to amend the initial market segment for an MSID or MPAN. The consultation would run until Friday, 6 February.
  - MDD version 373 and ISD version 20 are due to be considered for approval at the SVG on 3 February. A 5pm deadline applied that day for responses to the impact assessment relating to MDD/ISD change requests (including new loss factor classes and charge codes).
  - Elexon's draft business plan for the BSC year commencing April 2026 remains open for feedback, with a deadline of 4 February.
- 2.2 The Panel NOTED the BSC update.

### Ofgem

- 2.3 NH provided the Panel with a verbal update on Ofgem related following topics:
- With respect to the Expected Decision Dates (EDD) for Change Proposals that are with the Authority for their decision:

- DCP 412 'Allocation of banding for TCR Charges for 'Peak' Final Demand Customers': due to the complexity of this modification and interaction with related and ongoing workstreams, no EDD was currently available.
- DCP 446 'Emergency Disconnections': some information gaps had been identified, and Ofgem now expect to issue a decision to 'send-back' DCP 446 for further work. The letter is due to be published towards the end of the month.
- There were no updates relating to Energy Codes reform this month.

2.4 The Panel NOTED the Ofgem update.

### Smart Energy Code (SEC)

2.5 There was no SEC update this month.

### Retail Energy Code (REC)

2.6 CF presented the REC change update paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel\_2026\_0121\_01). The paper was taken as read. CF highlighted key points, including the following:

- REC R0268 'Consequential Cross-Code Change for BSC P441 - Complex Site Classes Creation': which is linked to BSC P441 and DCP 424. The final votes had been delayed from January and were now expected to be in March 2026. The related DCUSA change was no longer going to be targeting the same vote so did not need to go live alongside the other two changes;
- R0216 'REC Changes to tie in with DCP419': An authority decision to REJECT had been received, which was in line with the recommendation from REC and the Expert Metering Panel recommendation; and
- R0270 'Clarification of SIP Qualification Requirements': The consultation had closed and this would be implemented in February 2026.

2.7 DT NOTED that with respect to R0216, Ofgem had advised that the issue that had been being addressed through DCP 419 'Pre-Notifications of Planned Supply De-Energisations' could be better be addressed through the amendments to the DNOs Regulatory Instructions and Guidance and therefore that DCP 419 may no longer be required. RC confirmed that he would speak to the proposer to understand their thoughts.

2.8 The Panel NOTED the REC update.

## 3. Matters Arising

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3.1 There were no Matters Arising.

## 4. Change Register

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4.1 RC presented the Change Register updates to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel\_2026\_0121\_02). The paper was taken as read. RC explained which changes had changed status since the last Panel meeting as well as any that had moved into a new status since the paper was published.

4.2 RC presented the Status change tab and highlighted the following changes since the previous month:

- DCP 452 'Correct application of Forward Cost Pricing EDCM charges to users connected directly to a Grid Supply Point': was undergoing POST CONSULTATION REFINEMENT.
- DCP 459 'DNO invoices to Embedded DNO': was undergoing POST CONSULTATION REFINEMENT and a RFI would likely be issued to further inform the development of this solution.
- DCP 461 'Reducing the Impact of Transmission Distribution Charges': was undergoing POST CONSULTATION REFINEMENT.
- DCP 463 'Charging non-consuming De-energised CT-Metered sites': was undergoing POST CONSULTATION REFINEMENT.
- DCP 464 'IDNO Connection Applications: Treatment of Existing Assets': had progressed to CONSULTATION.
- DCP 465 'NFD Generator and Battery Capacity Charges': had progressed to DEFINITION.
- DCP 466 'Tariff Band to Follow Capacity': had progressed to DEFINITION and its Change Report had been tabled for decision later in the meeting.
- DCP 467 'Online reporting tools for Category A and B defects': had progressed to DEFINITION and a RFI would likely be issued to further inform the development of this solution.
- DCP 458 'Amend DCP 414 process': had been APPROVED and was AWAITING IMPLEMENTATION.
- DCP 439 'Backdating Tariff Changes': had been REJECTED.

4.3 RC presented the timetable tab and highlighted the following changes:

- DCP 464 'IDNO Connection Applications: Treatment of Existing Assets': This was more complex than originally thought and a solution was being developed.
- DCP 463 'Charging non-consuming De-energised CT-Metered sites': Legal advice being sought.
- DCP 461 'Reducing the Impact of Transmission Distribution Charges': a RFI was required to develop the multiple possible solutions being raised. An item discussing this had been tabled later in this meeting. In answer to a question, RC advised that the plan was for this Change Report to be progressed at the February 2026 Panel Meeting.
- DCP 452 'Correct application of Forward Cost Pricing EDCM charges to users connected directly to a Grid Supply Point': the Consultation had concluded and responses were in the process of being reviewed.
- DCP 443 'Excess Capacity': This had been delayed because pricing work had taken precedence.

4.4 The Panel NOTED the Change Register updates.

## 5. Additional Alternative Solutions for DCP 461

- 5.1 RC presented the Additional Alternative Solutions for DCP 461 Paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel\_2026\_0121\_03). The paper outlined a revised method for advancing DCP 461, following a comprehensive review by the Working Group. The review revealed that the original DCP 461 encompassed two separate and distinct defects:
  - The “last connectee standing” issue: This relates to Distribution Network Operator (DNO) areas, where transmission-related connection costs are being passed through to the final customer connecting to the network.
  - The “postcode lottery” issue: This arises from discrepancies in the way costs are treated within the Connection and Use of System Code (CUSC) charging methodology, dependent on factors outside the control of customers or DNOs.
- 5.2 Additionally, the Working Group identified a further option that would maintain the current arrangements (the status quo), but with the introduction of additional clarity aimed at ensuring greater consistency across all DNOs.
- 5.3 It was noted that in sum total, the Working Group had identified a total of nine possible courses of action for addressing the defects associated with DCP 461.
- 5.4 The Panel discussed the governance permitted by the DCUSA, which allows the original proposal and up to three alternative solutions to be considered under a single DCP. However, since the Working Group had consulted on nine potential options—of which up to seven might be taken forward—the Secretariat recommended raising three related Change Proposals: DCP 461A, DCP 461B, and DCP 461C. This approach would enable each proposal to progress with up to three alternatives, remaining within the governance constraints.
- 5.5 It was clarified that these solutions would be mutually exclusive at the decision-making stage; in other words, the acceptance of any one solution would necessitate the rejection of the others.
- 5.6 The Panel considered the merits of retaining DCP 461 as an “umbrella” reference, seeing benefits in ensuring narrative continuity and continuity of the Working Group, even though this was not strictly required under governance rules. The Panel also recognised the importance of providing clear explanatory documentation within the Change Reports and voting guidance, to ensure that all Parties fully understand the interdependencies and consequences of voting across multiple related Change Proposals.
- 5.7 Overall, the Panel expressed its support for the proposed approach. Furthermore, the Panel indicated its willingness to approve the new DCPs via an ex-committee decision, should they be finalised before the next scheduled Panel meeting. This would help to avoid unnecessary delays to the consultation process and would ensure that narrative references remain clear and consistent within the consultation documentation.

**235/01 Additional Alternative Solutions for DCP 461:** The Secretariat to: (1) progress the development of Alternative Solutions for DCP 461, as agreed; and (2) once developed, to submit the worked up alternative solutions to the Panel for ex-Committee decision by email.

## 6. Initial Assessments

- 6.1 RC presented the Initial Assessment Cover Paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel\_2026\_0121\_04). The paper was taken as read. It was NOTED that THREE new Change Proposals had been tabled for Initial Assessment by the Panel this month.

### DCP 468 'Remove Redundant DataFlow from DTC/EMDS'

- 6.2 The Panel SCRUTINISED DCP 468. In answer to a question, DT explained that the intent of this Change Proposal was to review all data flows to see if there were any that had only ever been progressed as test flows, so could be removed. The Panel NOTED that an RFI would provide additional information about these.

- 6.3 The Panel AGREED to progress DCP 468 as a Standard Change and a Part 2 Matter.

### DCP 469 'Cross Code Standardisation of Charging Arrangement Notice Periods'

- 6.4 RC presented this this Change Proposal and NOTED that its progression would require cross-code collaboration, so would be raised at the next Cross-Code Steering Group Meeting.

- 6.5 The Panel NOTED concerns that the timeline was unrealistic and FURTHER NOTED that there was a risk that Ofgem may defer any decision until or as part of Energy Code Reform implementation.

- 6.6 The Secretariat agreed that that this was an ambitious proposal but NOTED that Ofgem had requested cross-code alignment in their decision to reject DCP 437 'To Shorten the DUoS Pricing Notice Periods'. The Panel AGREED that the Secretariat should explore the scope for cross-code progression, particularly with CUSC and the gas codes.

- 6.7 The Panel AGREED to progress DCP 469 as an Urgent Change and a Part 1 Matter.

### DCP 470 'Independent Credit Assessments'

- 6.8 The Panel SCRUTINISED this Change Proposal

- 6.9 The Panel AGREED to progress DCP 470 as a Standard Change and a Part 2 Matter.

**235/02 Initial Assessments:** The Secretariat to: (1) progress DCP 468 to the Definition phase and for a Working Group to be established to further refine the proposed solution, as agreed; (2) progress DCP 469 to the Definition phase as an URGENT CHANGE and for a Working Group to be established to further refine the proposed solution, as agreed; and (3) progress DCP 470 to the Definition phase and for a Working Group to be established to further refine the proposed solution, as agreed.

## 7. Change Reports

- 7.1 RC presented the Change Report Cover Paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel\_2026\_0121\_05). The paper was taken as read. It was NOTED that NO Change Reports had been tabled for approval by the Panel this month.

- 7.2 The Panel NOTED the Change Reports Cover Paper.



## 8. Housekeeping Log

- 8.1 RC presented the Housekeeping Log Summary Paper and Housekeeping Log to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel\_2026\_0121\_06). The paper was taken as read.
- 8.2 RC NOTED that between the previous Panel meeting and the drafting of this paper, no new housekeeping items had been identified by a Party or by the Secretariat.
- 8.3 The Panel NOTED the Housekeeping Log.

## 9. Accession Applications

- 9.1 GK presented the Accession Applications paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel\_2026\_0121\_06). The paper was taken as read.
- 9.2 The Secretariat confirmed that there were two new Accession Applications this month, from:
  - Evolve Home Energy Solutions Limited
  - 24-7 Electrical Services Yorkshire Limited
- 9.3 The Panel NOTED that 24-7 Electrical Services Yorkshire Limited had not yet completed REC's testing and qualification processes, but FURTHER NOTED that REC had advised that this was expected to be completed shortly.
- 9.4 The Panel SCRUTINISED the Accession Application and supporting evidence and AGREED to: (1) APPROVE Evolve Home Energy Solutions Limited's Accession to the DCUSA; and (2) to pre-approve 24-7 Electrical Services Yorkshire Limited's, so that their Accession to the DCUSA could be progressed as soon as the applicant had completed REC's Qualification and Testing Processes

**234/03 Accession Applications:** The Secretariat to progress the Accession Application for (1) Evolve Home Energy Solutions Limited, by drafting and sending the applicants an Accession Agreement and advising the DCUSA Board that the Panel have recommended that they countersign the Accession Agreement; and (2) 24-7 Electrical Services Yorkshire Limited, by, pending final confirmation that the applicant had completed the REC Code Managers' Qualification and Testing processes, drafting and sending the applicants an Accession Agreement and advising the DCUSA Board that the Panel have recommended that they countersign the Accession Agreement.

## 10. Embedded Capacity Register Change Request Notice

- 10.1 AG presented the Embedded Capacity Register Change Request Notice to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel\_2026\_0121\_08). The paper was taken as read.

### Amendment 1 – Unique project identifier (primary key) for ECR entries

- 10.2 The Panel noted the proposal to include a unique identifier for each project entry within the ECR (to reduce duplicates and improve data integrity and interoperability). It was noted that the proposal had received one response in support. The Panel discussed the distinction between "site" and "project" identifiers and agreed that clearer mock-ups should be provided in future ECR notices to aid understanding and scrutiny.
- 10.3 The Panel agreed to approve this component of the request.

## Amendment 2– GSP look-up table linking DNO GSP names to Elexon Network Mapping Statement IDs

- 10.4 The Panel discussed the second proposal to publish a GSP look-up table alongside the monthly ECR update to support interoperability between DNO naming conventions and standardised GSP identifiers. It was noted that one representation from a DNO had been received and that they had objected to the proposal on the basis of additional burdens and third-party dependencies.
- 10.5 CI explained that their view was that DNOs were best placed to map internal naming conventions to the standard identifiers.
- 10.6 The Panel noted that they given only one party had responded to the proposed amendment and given they objected, it would be hard for them to proceed on contrary basis but that they could see the argument for its inclusion and that it would likely be a one off exercise and so the potential additional burden isn't likely to be a limiting factor.
- 10.7 The Panel agreed to defer a decision on this component and requested the Secretariat engage with DNOs to obtain clearer written positions (support/objection) and to return with an updated recommendation at a future meeting.

**235/04 Embedded Capacity Register Change Request Notice:** The Secretariat to: (1) contact Parties and encourage them to provide feedback on the proposal related to a GSP look-up table linking DNO GSP names to Elexon Network Mapping Statement IDs; and (2) to table this proposal at the next available Panel Meeting, with additional comments in support or against this proposal, to allow the Panel to make an informed decision.

## 11. DCMDG Headline Report

- 11.1 RC presented the DCMDG Headline Report to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel\_2026\_0121\_09). The paper was taken as read.
- 11.2 RC NOTED that subsequent to the written paper, another DCMDG meeting had taken place on Thursday, 15 January 2026. This meeting had discussed the CP related to charging notice periods..
- 11.3 The Panel NOTED the DCMDG Headline Report.

## 12. IWG Headline Report

- 12.1 RC presented a verbal IWG Headline Report to the Panel. Key points included:
  - The IWG subgroup on restrictive access to metering had met. A leaflet and standard letters were being developed and would be sent out to contract managers shortly. This would outline a proposed standard approach and request feedback on the impacts that they were experiencing.
  - The IWG Subgroup had also discussed the issue of moving a meter more than 3m from a cutout. The subgroup had agreed not to progress this further via the subgroup but were looking at producing some guidance and producing a consultation or issuing a RFI on these different approaches. Various case senarios were being examined.
- 12.2 The Panel NOTED the IWG Headline Report.



### 13. DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan

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13.1 DT presented the DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel\_2026\_0121\_10). The paper was taken as read.

13.2 DT suggested the Panel agree to include the following developments:

- Ofgem consultation on enhancing asset visibility and DNO options (issued 12 December; closes 6 February), which the Panel noted may the publication of the DNOs Embedded Capacity Registers and should be monitored.
- Market Facilitator governance framework document (published 11 December), which the Panel considered may warrant a future keyword review for relevance to DCUSA/market facilitation interfaces.
- DESNZ consultation on smart, secure electricity systems – implementing the load control licensing regime (published 10 December; closes 18 February), which the Panel agreed can be monitored for any distribution-related implications.
- Ofgem statutory consultation on a debt relief scheme (issued 6 November; closed 19 December), which may lead to licence changes for a new revenue item and consequential impacts for the CDCM and potentially cost information reporting.

**235/05 Horizon Scan:** The Secretariat to add the additional items to the Horizon Scan: 1) Ofgem consultation on enhancing asset visibility and DNO options; 2) DESNZ consultation on smart, secure electricity systems; and 3) Ofgem statutory consultation on a debt relief scheme.

13.3 The Panel NOTED the DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan.

### 14. Any Other Business

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14.1 No items of 'Other Business' were raised.

### 15. Date of next meeting: 18 February 2026 at 10.00am

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15.1 The next meeting will be held in person at ElectraLink's offices, 3rd Floor, Northumberland House, 303-306 High Holborn, London, WC1V 7JZ and via Microsoft Teams.

## Appendix A: Summary of Actions

### New and Open Actions – Open Session

Ref No.	Action	Owner	Update
234/01	<b>Housekeeping Log:</b> The Secretariat to progress a Housekeeping Amendment to incorporate the open Housekeeping Items within the June 2026 DCUSA Release.	ElectraLink	Update 21 January 2026: This will be taken to SIG for approval ahead of a change being raised. No action until April/May 2026. KEEP OPEN
234/03	<b>Embedded Capacity Register Change Request Notice:</b> The Secretariat to progress the addition of a new field to the ECR to include a unique site identifier, to take effect alongside the February 2026 DCUSA Release.	ElectraLink	Update 21 January 2026: Template in process of being updated in line with the February deadline. KEEP OPEN
235/01	<b>Additional Alternative Solutions for DCP 461:</b> The Secretariat to: (1) progress the development of Alternative Solutions for DCP 461, as agreed; and (2) once developed, to submit the worked up alternative solutions to the Panel for ex-Committee decision by email.	ElectraLink	
235/02	<b>Initial Assessments:</b> The Secretariat to: (1) progress DCP 468 to the Definition phase and for a Working Group to be established to further refine the proposed solution, as agreed; (2) progress DCP 469 to the Definition phase as an URGENT CHANGE and for a Working Group to be established to further refine the proposed solution, as agreed; and (3) progress DCP 470 to the Definition phase and for a Working Group to be established to further refine the proposed solution, as agreed.	ElectraLink	
235/03	<b>Accession Applications:</b> The Secretariat to progress the Accession Application for (1) Evolve Home Energy Solutions Limited, by drafting and sending the applicants an Accession Agreement and advising the DCUSA Board that the Panel have recommended that they countersign the Accession Agreement; and (2) 24-7 Electrical Services Yorkshire Limited, by, pending final confirmation that the applicant had completed the REC Code Managers' Qualification and Testing processes, drafting and sending the applicants an Accession Agreement and advising the DCUSA Board that the Panel have recommended that they countersign the Accession Agreement.	ElectraLink	
235/04	<b>ECR Change Request Notice:</b> The Secretariat to: (1) contact Parties and encourage them to provide feedback on the proposal; and (2) to table this proposal at the next available Panel Meeting, with additional comments in support or against this proposal, to allow the Panel to make an informed decision.	ElectraLink	

235/05	<b>Horizon Scan:</b> The Secretariat to add the additional items to the Horizon Scan: 1) Ofgem consultation on enhancing asset visibility and DNO options; 2) DESNZ consultation on smart, secure electricity systems; and 3) Ofgem statutory consultation on a debt relief scheme.	ElectraLink	
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### Closed Actions – Open Session

Ref No.	Action	Owner	Update
232/03	<b>CACoP Headline Report:</b> The Secretariat to confirm what the current DIP and DCUSA Obligations are in respect of Data Flows.	ElectraLink	Update 17 December 2025: An update will be provided at a future meeting. KEEP OPEN  Update 21 January 2026: The Secretariat had investigated and had confirmed that because these were governed by the REC data specification, the processes that were required to be followed were as laid out by the REC. CLOSED
232/04	<b>DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan:</b> The Secretariat to continue to develop the revised format Horizon Scan, as agreed.	ElectraLink	Update 17 December 2025: An update will be provided at a future meeting. KEEP OPEN  Update 21 January 2026: The Panel AGREED to retain the Horizon Scan in its current format as arising priorities are more urgent and require time and resource. CLOSED
234/02	<b>Accession Applications:</b> The Secretariat to progress the Accession Application for (1) McVickers Limited, by drafting and sending the applicants an Accession Agreement and advising the DCUSA Board that the Panel have recommended that they countersign the Accession Agreement.	ElectraLink	Update 21 January 2026: Completed. CLOSED