

Minutes of the Metering Committee Meeting 17

09 August 2022 | 09:30 – 11:30 | Via MS Teams

Status of Minutes: **APPROVED**

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Davies	JD	Alternate Chair*	Joanne Barnes	JB	Alternate Wholesaler Member
Christina Blackwell	CB	Customer Representative Member	Angela Brown	AB	Wholesaler Member
Lisa Clark	LC	Alternate Retailer Member	Sam Byrom	SB	Alternate Wholesaler Member
Mark Doherty	MD	Retailer Member	Kevin McCalliskey	KM	Wholesaler Member

**Non-Voting Members of the Committee*

OTHER ATTENDEES

Martin Hall	MH	MOSL Presenter	Alex Cowie	AC	MOSL Secretariat
Simon Bennett	SPB	MOSL Presenter	Ivy Mandinyenya	IM	MOSL Observer
Adrian Smith	AS	MOSL Presenter	Rosie Rand	RR	Thames Water Observer
Dean Marshallsay	DM	Artesia Presenter	Dave Gough	DG	Artesia Presenter

APOLOGIES

Steve Formoy	SF	Chair*	Shaun Kent	SK	Ofwat Representative*
Ben Kershaw	BK	Retailer Member	Michelle Thompson	MT	Wholesaler Member
Claire Stanness	CS	Retailer Member	Mitchell Yeoman-Boldry	MYB	Wholesaler Member
Paul Heron	PH	Retailer Member			

1. Welcome and Apologies

- 1.1. The Chair welcomed everyone to the Metering Committee (“Committee”) meeting noting that apologies for absence had been received from SF, SK, MT, BK, MYB, PH and CS and that JB, SB and LC were standing in as alternates for MT, MYB and CS respectively. The Chair and the Committee also welcomed RR who was attending as an observer and was shortly expected to join the Committee as a Wholesaler Member.
- 1.2. The Chair drew attendees’ attention to the MOSL recording policy and reminded members that, in line with section 5.7 of the Market Arrangements Code (“MAC”), they were to act impartially and not in the interest or as a representative of any organisation or individual.
- 1.3. It was confirmed that the meeting was quorate.

2. Minutes and Actions from Previous Meetings

- 2.1. The Committee agreed to approve the minutes of the Metering Committee meeting held on 12 July as an accurate record of the meeting.
- 2.2. It was agreed that the following actions would remain open: A11_03; A11_04; A16_03; and A16_04.

3. Strategic Panel Update

- 3.1. The Committee noted a brief verbal update from MH and JD on their recent presentation to the Strategic Panel on the metering programme, including plans to establish a Strategic Panel Metering and Data Subset.

4. Roles and Responsibilities Phase 2

CB joined the meeting

- 4.1. The Committee noted an update from MH and AS on the feedback from the initial engagement with trading parties that followed the launch of the Roles and Responsibilities report and some potential options for how to take the work forward including running a formal consultation.
- 4.2. It was noted that there was clear feedback from trading parties that the options to introduce competition in metering non-primary services, integrated/independent meter ownership and data service and where retailers would own and be responsible for metering assets should not be taken forward.
- 4.3. Trading party feedback resulted in the following reordering of the options that had been presented as part of the PA Consulting report:
 - Priorities:
 - Asset data improvement programme;
 - Full non-household smart metering / technology roll out (assuming smart metering related options are delivered through PR24);
 - Data platform; and
 - Targeted smart metering / technology roll out (assuming smart metering related options are delivered through PR24).
 - Optional:
 - Wholesaler reads (defined circumstances only);
 - Wholesaler smart(er) replacement services offering;
 - Wholesalers responsible for all market meter reads;
 - Wholesaler reads and data service (for smart meters only); and
 - Retailer / customer installation of additional metering technology.
 - Do not progress:
 - Competition in metering non-primary services;

- Integrated / independent meter ownership and data service; and
- Retailers own and are responsible for metering assets.

4.4. The Committee discussed the trading party feedback and reordered options, noting the following key points.

- The quality of feedback was very good and the way in which it had been analysed and presented by AS allowed the Committee to make sense of it and apply its learnings on how to take the work forward.
- The reordering of the options was sensible but missed a potential build where there might be a sequencing to the options (for instance a full smart meter roll out would move some other options, such as wholesaler reads, up the order of prioritisation). A roadmap that picked up on the sequencing element would form part of the next phase of the project. The roadmap would also build in other workstreams such as the quick start and MIF projects and would the Committee to establish the order in which issues were addressed and the pace that projects were progressed.
- Following this discussion and further ex-Committee feedback on how to take the work forward, feedback would be provided to the trading parties who had responded on what would be progressed and allow them further opportunity to comment.

4.5. MH presented three potential options for taking the work forward. These were:

- A considered approach that included all of the options (with the exception of third party meter ownership and data service and the retailer to own meter assets).
- A balanced approach that took forward the following options for further review and the development of a detailed business case and implementation plan: an asset data improvement programme; data platform; wholesaler reads in defined circumstances; wholesalers responsible for all market meter reads; wholesaler reads and data service (smart meters only); and, retailer / customer implementation of additional metering technology.
- A fast-track approach that focussed on what could be achieved in PR24 timescales and only considered the following options: wholesaler reads in defined circumstances; wholesalers responsible for all market meter reads; wholesaler reads and data service (smart meters only).

4.6. The Committee briefly discussed the approach to the next steps in Roles and Responsibilities work, noting the following key points:

- That the potential fast-track approach was not aligned with market feedback and was driven by PR24 and what would need to align with it.
- The link between this work and the data sharing standardisation workstream was recognised.
- It might be possible to develop some elements of the balanced approach (such as data-related options) in a more fast-track way.

4.7. JD thanked Committee members for their feedback and noted that an email would shortly be circulated asking for Committee members to indicate their preferred option for taking the work

forward. Access to the full anonymised feedback would be provided alongside this request. Committee members were also encouraged to feedback any potential variations on the options that they would like to see.

ACTION MC17_01

5. Data Standardisation

- 5.1. The Committee received an update from DM on Artesia's planned programme of work to define a data standard that enables trading parties to effectively share meter reading and granular consumption data within the market (and potentially beyond).
- 5.2. The Committee briefly discussed Artesia's plans, noting the following:
 - It would be beneficial for the work to develop standards for bulk reads and individual reads.
 - Third party stakeholders, such as organisations that provide meter reading services should be added to the list of parties to be consulted.
 - How the interface between the wholesaler, retailer and customer would work where a continuous flow was detected was suggested as a case study for inclusion in the Artesia report.
 - Potential gaps between the data that would be collected and shared with the retailer and the data that would be entered into CMOS were noted along with potential issues around how the data would be made available to customers and how and whether it would interface with billing systems.
 - The end goal was not to use data gathered by new systems with existing processes as this would not improve the customer experience. However, it was agreed that the focus of this work was to develop a common data standard and that the mechanism for sharing data between wholesaler, retailer and customer was out of scope and would need to be picked up by the Committee in further work. It was noted that the findings of Project AMIDST could act as a potential start point for this additional work.
- 5.3. JD thanked DM for his presentation and noted that the aim was for this work to be completed before the end of the calendar year.

6. Tabled Updates

- 6.1. The Committee noted the Tabled Updates paper circulated in advance of the meeting detailing progress on the Committee's workstreams and metering-related Market Improvement Fund projects.
- 6.2. The Committee noted that the next steps for the meters that had not be found by Project Looking Glass would be for the information to be passed to the relevant retailer to discuss with the corresponding wholesaler. A Committee member commented that the process for locating some long unread meters would require wholesalers to work through legacy systems used by meter installers to log meter location.

7. AOB, including reflections from the meeting

- 7.1. The Committee briefly discussed a proposal to add a quick start project on submeters to the Committee's programme. The complexity of the issue was noted, along with the potential impact of misalignment of read timing. It was agreed that additional analysis undertaken by MOSL would be circulated to the Committee ahead of further discussion at a future meeting.

ACTION MC17_02

- 7.2. The Committee reflected on the meeting.
- 7.3. There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting.