

Minutes of the Metering Committee Meeting 42

17 September 2024 | 09:30 – 12:00

Via MS Teams

Status of the Minutes: Final

MEMBERS PRESENT

Spencer Mattia	SM	Chair*	Christina Blackwell	CB	Customer Representative Member
Richard Barton	RB	Retailer Member	Michelle Thompson	MT	Wholesaler Member
Paul Heron	PH	Retailer Member	Kevin McCalliskey	KM	Wholesaler Member
Sindiso Bango-Dube	SBD	Retailer Member	Rosie Rand	RR	Wholesaler Member
Jordanna Lo	JL	Retailer Member Alternate	Mitchell Yeoman-Boldry	MYB	Wholesaler Member
Steve Formoy	SF	MOSL Affiliate Member*	Angela Brown	AB	Wholesaler Member

**Non-Voting Members of the Committee*

OTHER ATTENDEES

Carol Sgambaro	CSg	MOSL Secretariat	Chris Dawson	CD	MOSL Presenter
Simon Bennett	SB	MOSL Presenter	Liz D'arcy	LD	MOSL Presenter
Rasika Joshi	RJ	MOSL Presenter	Thomas Taylor	TT	Southern Water Observer
Olivia Bletsoe	OB	MOSL Presenter	Abu Rashid	AR	MOSL Observer

APOLOGIES

Mark Doherty	MD	Retailer Member	Claire Stanness	CS	Retailer Member
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1. Welcome, Apologies and Compliance

- 1.1. The Chair welcomed everyone to the Metering Committee (“Committee”) meeting and noted that apologies had been received from MD and CS. JL acted as alternate for MD. The Chair also welcomed TT to the meeting as observer.
- 1.2. The Chair 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 minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 20 August 2024 were circulated in advance of the meeting for comments. The Committee noted that the minutes would be deemed approved as an accurate record of the meeting, and published on the MOSL website, provided there were no comments by close of business on 19 September 2024.
- 2.2. An update was provided on Action A41_02. In light of the likely approval timeline for CPW142 (as the proposed solution may require a statutory consultation which would in turn, if approved, delay the implementation date) the Committee requested that an interim solution be considered by the MOSL team. This action would remain open and an update would be provided at the October Committee meeting.
- 2.3. The Committee noted the update on the future actions and confirmed that these would remain open for completion at subsequent meetings.

3. Quick Start Project (“QSP”) 8: Transfer Reads

- 3.1. FM provided an update following feedback from the Code Change Committee (“CCC”) at their meeting on 13 August 2024 in relation to the Post Implementation Review (“PIR”) for CPW120 [‘Final Meter Reads where no visual read is available’](#) and CPW130 [‘Transfer read estimated reason codes’](#).
- 3.2. FM confirmed the next steps and recommendations to be taken forward following the CCC meeting, which the relevant MOSL teams would address and report back to the CCC, as appropriate; these included:
 - 3.2.1. In relation to CPW130, to understand the reason why some reason codes had been used. It also highlighted the high use of the NTA (No Transfer Read Attempted), but did not tell the reasons behind this.
 - 3.2.2. The CCC requested that the MPF Reform Programme should assess how it could better incorporate this into the performance standards that were currently in design. FM noted that this point had already been fed back to the relevant MOSL team.
 - 3.2.2. Following the CPW120 PIR findings, for the Metering Committee will look at a future Quick Start Project 26 to look at, because of wholesaler reason codes for final reads.
- 3.3. FM further noted that, as part of QSP8, there was a code change proposal currently in drafting (PIP088: Review of Transfer Read Conditions) and this was related to the review of reason codes for transfer reads, which CS was currently leading on behalf of the Committee.
- 3.4. FM then introduced OB, who joined MOSL as a Market Design Analysts and would be leading on this change proposal.
- 3.5. OB provided a brief update on PIP088, noting that the relevant change proposal form was currently being drafted and an update would be tabled at the Metering Committee in October. The plan was to then go through the CCC in November for approval and prioritisation.
- 3.6. The Customer Representative Member noted that she had been involved in the QSP8 work in the past and would welcome being brought back to help with the work, including attending the relevant meetings. FM and OB thanked the Customer Representative Member for the support and confirmed that a meeting would be organised in due course. In the meantime, the Customer Representative Member would be sent the current draft form for feedback and input.

4. CPW128 Post-Implementation Review (“PIR”)

- 4.1. FM introduced RJ who would be leading on the [Post-implementation Plan Review \(“PIR”\) for CPW128: ‘Updating Volume Validations Tolerance’](#).
- 4.2. RJ noted that the relevant data was currently being analysed by the MOSL team. In addition, a validating process of the rules as a part of CPW142 was being undertaken.
- 4.3. RJ confirmed that the MOSL team would be able to provide a more detailed update to the Committee at the November meeting.

5. Granular Data Sharing Process Project Update

- 5.1. CD provided an update on the project for the Granular Data Sharing Process, including a reminder of the benefits for a common mechanism (and stakeholder support for this), progress to date (including gathering input), initial views on potential solution and the proposed next steps.
- 5.2. It was noted that the Strategic Panel had received an update on the project at its 9th September meeting and that the proposed direction of travel was well received.
- 5.3. CD noted that the [Artesia report](#) had identified three potential options for sharing granular consumption data, these included organic growth, a central data hub and a peer-to-peer sharing. It was further noted that further solutions were being explored and there was also an option for a hybrid or adapted version of the solutions identified in the Artesia report.
- 5.4. Since publication of the National metering strategy and the Artesia report, the programme teams have been working on gathering further information. These included the RFI, face to face meetings (e.g. with Anglian Thames) to understand, for example, their systems, processes and “pressure points”.
- 5.5. The increasing challenges to CMOS were also being reviewed and any proposed solution would need to consider the impact on CMOS and on settlement.
- 5.6. The Artesia report also identified a number of use cases which any data sharing solution would also need to take into account when designing the solution. The use cases were grouped into

two key themes, namely “billing and settlement” and “demand reduction and enhanced Services”.

- 5.7. A Committee member highlighted that there may be an opportunity to look to “future-proof” and improve efficiencies to the market in respect of reduction of settlement processing time, for instance as part of the use cases, and requested that this be considered by the MOSL team at the appropriate time.
- 5.8. CD confirmed that efficiencies to be considered as part of the settlement process would relate to the next phase on the project, when this would be considered in detail.
- 5.9. A Committee member asked, in terms of the future efficiencies and funding, whether there was a possibility to utilise some of the existing APIs that had been created as part of the solution.

ACTION MC42_02

- 5.10. Furthermore, the Committee noted the link to GDPR would also need to be explored and understood. CD noted that this point was in progress with the Legal team and it would be covered in the high-level business case.
- 5.11. A Committee member raised the potential challenge around getting an API directly linked into the end systems. CD noted the feedback, which would also be considered as part of the solution.
- 5.12. CD updated the Committee on the proposed timeline which included, at a high-level, engagement with Wholesalers and Retailers in September, drafting the outline business case and the requirement document by November and aiming to share the progress on those documents with the Committee and the Strategic Panel in November for feedback and endorsement.
- 5.13. It was noted that the high-level business case would set out, for instance, the problem statement, the possible solution (including its benefits), the high-level cost of the proposed solution and the delivery framework.
- 5.14. Once endorsement of the high-level business case was obtained, the plan was to consult with the wider industry in January 2025. It was expected that the full business case would be available in March 2025 for review and endorsement by the Metering Committee, and subsequent sign-off by the Strategic Panel before the end of the financial year.

- 5.15. A Committee member noted that it would be beneficial to consider the above timeline in light of the timeline for CPW142 for any interdependencies, in particular around consultation periods and key areas that may potentially cross-over.
- 5.16. The Chair noted that it may be beneficial to utilise the Trading Party meetings to obtain views in relation to the point raised above (in paragraph 5.9) around potentially utilising some of the existing APIs that had been created as part of the solution.

6. National Metering Strategy Follow on work update

- 6.1. CD provided an update on the 17 actions arising from the National Metering Strategy (“NMS”) follow on work, highlighting the following points:
- 6.2. **NMS Follow on work Action 2 (“NMS2”): Visualise smart meter implementation plans at three levels of detail** – It was noted that a more detailed update on the “Mapping the Smart AMI Meter Roll out” would be provided by LD under section 7 below.
- 6.3. **NMS4: Liaising with both RWG Planned and RWG Customer Contact Details Sub-groups, bilateral D1 - Notification of capital works & D2 – Short-term planned activities** – Work had progressed on enabling a better customer service through improvements in the D1 and D2 processes within the operational terms. It was noted that the RWG Steering Group had approved a new group related to this area and the intention was to look to standardise the communication methods through the Smart Metering Roll outs. The Customer Representative Member requested to be kept informed of when the first meeting of this new group would take place.

ACTION MC42_03

- 6.4. **NMS7: Remind the market of published standards and encourage uptake via for example stakeholder meetings, User Forum and Market Focus** – The MOSL team was continuing to communicate the message around the Granular Data Sharing specification and the importance of it as much as possible.
- 6.5. **NMS16: Interviews with Meter Read providers, discussions with Ofwat on REC, potential engagement with 3rd party for Final report** – CD provided an update to the Committee following the feedback received at the last meeting, where it was noted that there was currently no consideration on the impact of smart meter rollout on

allowances for reading traditional meters under the REC and that there would be a need to flag this to Ofwat for their consideration in their next review of the REC. CD reported that the MOSL team had contacted Ofwat since the last meeting and Ofwat had confirmed that they were aware of that potential impact and that it would be considered at their next REC Review.

SF joined the meeting

7. Mapping the Smart AMI Meter Roll out (NMS follow-on work)

- 7.1. LD provided an update on a proposed approach for developing a smart metering national map, noting that this was at very early stages, and sought to obtain the Metering Committee's views on the proposed approach for central visualisations showing smart meter implementation plans.
- 7.2. LD highlighted some of the advantages of the proposed approach including, for example, providing a central market oversight and an understanding of the impact of smart metering on the market. In addition, this would for example, provide Retailers with the information on smart meter roll out in order to inform their customers of their deployment plans. LD added how this initiative would also support the market's water efficiency strategy.
- 7.3. It was noted that this project was dependant on the Wholesalers providing the relevant data so that it could be mapped centrally. The proposed plan included different levels of granularity which would become increasingly available as the date of deployment was approaching; three levels were being proposed, including:
 - 7.4. Level one – This would provide a high-level of granularity, for example for the next five years, by Wholesaler region. LD noted that a significant portion of the required data for this level would already be available.
 - 7.5. Level two – This would include a water resource zone level view by year. This would typically become available either on the last month of the previous financial year, or at the start of the new financial year, when a view of what the plan would be for implementation would be available for that following year.
 - 7.6. Level three – a view would be provided in relation to the postal sectors to be implemented in the following month.

- 7.7. LD also confirmed the “Level one actual” data which had already been obtained from Wholesalers, included, for example, the numbers of Water SPIDS, the numbers of meters and the proportion of SPIDS that were metered, in addition to the current view of the AMI meter type.
- 7.8. In terms of “Level one planned”, it was noted that a significant portion of the required data had already been provided by most Wholesalers in their draft determinations, and that was called out in the National Metering Strategy as a percentage implementation ambitions. Therefore, using the percentages and the current data currently visible in CMOS, it was possible to obtain a view of the total numbers of smart meters planned for each Amp.
- 7.9. The Committee emphasised the importance of being clear about the purpose of the map and what Retailers would be expected to do with the information, noting that being clear from the outset on the objectives for the map would ensure that it could be designed in a way that it would meet its objectives. The Committee noted that it may be beneficial to make a standard guidance available so that Retailers could take this information and work with customers on what the plans would be.
- 7.10. The Committee highlighted some of the challenges that the MOSL Team may encounter when producing the standardised plan as each Wholesaler would have their own approach. Therefore, keeping the plan at a high-level and maintaining flexibility would be key, so that it could adapt to changes that may occur. The Committee also mentioned the importance of preventing duplication and ensuring alignment of this work with, for example, the bilateral hub implementations.
- 7.11. The Committee asked the MOSL team to keep the Metering Committee updated along that journey, and noted the importance of collaboration and providing clear and appropriate communications throughout the process.
- 7.12. The Customer Representative Member emphasised, in terms of the customer impact, that it would be key to ensure that the customer was kept informed of when to expect their meter to be changed and how they would be impacted.
- 7.13. The MOSL team noted the points raised by the Committee and suggested that it would be beneficial obtain feedback from the Wholesaler members of the Metering Committee on a proposed draft plan ahead of the October Metering Committee meeting. The proposed draft plan would then be brought to the October member for further discussion and comments.

8. Tabled Updates

8.1. The Committee noted the Tabled Updates paper detailing progress on the Committee's workstreams and metering-related projects. In addition, the following updates were noted:

8.2. **QSP15 – Sub Metering (Metering Committee Sponsor: PH)** – AR confirmed that the impact assessments in relation to deduction meters would be received from CGI soon and an update would be provided at the next Committee meeting.

8.1.1 **Continuous Flow (Metering Committee Sponsor: RR)** – RR was due to present on the Continuous Flow Guidance to the RWG at one of their upcoming meetings.

8.1.2 **QSP19 – Trade effluent meters (Metering Committee Sponsor: SBD)** –

- Following discussions with the relevant Trade Effluent practitioners, some complexities were revealed around the reading of meters due to the lack of distinction between a private and a regular type of meter. To address the complexity and to help to increase reads to the market, the subgroup decided to create a letter to relevant customers (e.g. to include those within the relevant legacy range) with the aim to express the importance of smart meter reading, including the proposed frequency of submission.

8.3. The initial proposal was to aim for a “dual” branded approach to the communications and not from trading parties, but following advice from the Customer Representative Member, it was agreed that it would be beneficial to approach the Wholesalers' Trade Effluent teams instead to share the template letter jointly with retailers.

8.1.4. **QSP23 – Operational Toolbox Talks (Metering Committee Sponsor: AB)** – AB updated that five Toolbox talks had been published and asked the Committee to let her know of any feedback that they may have, for example, whether it had been well received. AB also noted that one Toolbox kit had been produced on MPs and OPS charges. In addition, a toolbox talk had been shared for getting meter location details on self-lay sites with the Wholesale group and positive feedback had been received from the members of the group.

8.1.5. QSP24 – Improving XY Coordinate Data (Metering Committee Sponsor: RB) – The subgroup had reviewed the RWG Good practice guide for standardising meter location free descriptors to identify potential areas for improvement. The subgroup had proposed some changes which included, for example, reminding of the opportunity to check/re-check XY coordinates when smarts had been installed. The aim was to bring an update to the next Metering Committee meeting.

9. AOB incl. Reflections on the Meeting

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