

Minutes of the Metering Committee Meeting 47

18 February 2025 | 09:30 – 13:00

Via MS Teams

Status of the Minutes: Approved

MEMBERS PRESENT

Spencer Mattia	SM	Chair*	Angela Brown	AB	Wholesaler Member
Mark Doherty	MD	Retailer Member	Michelle Thompson	MT	Wholesaler Member
Paul Heron	PH	Retailer Member	Mike Wigmore	KM	Wholesaler Member Alternate
Christina Blackwell	CB	Customer Representative Member	Rosie Rand	RR	Wholesaler Member
Mitchell Yeoman-Boldry	MYB	Wholesaler Member			

**Non-Voting Members of the Committee*

OTHER ATTENDEES

Chris Dawson	CD	MOSL Presenter	Adrian Smith	AS	MOSL Presenter
Simon Bennett	SB	MOSL Presenter	Olivia Bletsoe	OB	MOSL Presenter
Abu Rashid	AR	MOSL Presenter	Toks Talabi	TT	MOSL Secretariat
Martin Hall	MH	MOSL Presenter	Dene Marshallsay	DM	Artesia Presenter
Liz D’Arcy	LDa	MOSL Presenter	Dave Gough	DG	Artesia Presenter

APOLOGIES

Kevin McCalliskey	KM	Wholesaler Member	Richard Barton	RB	Retail Member
Jordanna Lo	JL	Retailer Member Alternate	Sindiso Bango-Dube	SBD	Retailer Member

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 KM, RB, JL and SBD. The Committee also noted that Claire Stanness had left the Committee with immediate effect. The chair acknowledged that it was CB's last meeting and thanked CB for her support and contributions to the Committee over the years.
- 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 23 January 2025 as an accurate record of the meeting.
- 2.2. The Committee agreed that the following actions may be closed: A44_08, A44_06 and A45_02. The Committee was informed that A44_08 has been placed on hold following discussions with MPF. This action will be reviewed again in 12 months.
- 2.3. The Committee noted an update on the following actions A46_01.

3. Granular Data Sharing Process Project Update

- 3.1. MH provided the Committee with an update on the outline business case for granular data sharing, including feedback from the February panel meeting.
- 3.2. MH reminded the Committee of the panel's questions from the November meeting, which were previously shared and discussed with Metering Committee members in January for

feedback. It was noted that issues with third-party access and direct customer access had been resolved and incorporated into the draft outline business case. Further, the Committee reviewed feedback from the February panel meeting, in which MH highlighted that the panel wanted the data solution to be mandatory, particularly for wholesalers. SF also indicated that the panel preferred to advance with the solution without awaiting a Code Change at this stage. Furthermore, it was advised that making the data sharing solution mandatory should be communicated to the market, as this will impact the overall business case. The Committee was informed that the panel prefers to develop the data sharing solution sooner rather than later due to the market urgency. It was noted that the Code Change will proceed at a later stage, providing clarity on what aspects of the solution are mandatory.

- 3.3. MT inquired if the Code Change Committee would need retailers to submit monthly reads into CMOS for settlement. MH and SF clarified that a separate Code Change is needed, as the Metering strategy proposes switching from biannual to monthly meter reads. SF advised that mandating retailers to deliver monthly reads could be part of an overall Code Change but combining too many changes into a single Code Change diminishes its likelihood of approval.
- 3.4. The Committee noted the slight timeline revisions. The draft Outline business case will be provided by 21st February, with feedback due by 26th February. The final Outline business case will be shared by 27th February, and the ad hoc Panel meeting is set for 5th March. A wider market consultation will occur from 10th to 28th March. These adjustments do not affect the overall schedule for issuing the RFP or completing the full business case, which remains planned for May.
- 3.5. MH informed the Committee that he intended to incorporate panel requirements from November and February meetings into the CPW142 decision, transferring meter reading obligations to wholesalers. This would improve both the economic and commercial case. The Outline business case would include Artesia's governance and requirements, as well as MOSL's legal team's high-level perspective on the on the initial design considerations. Lastly, lessons learned from the request for information from potential suppliers for the commercial section will also be included.
- 3.6. The Committee reviewed the cost-benefit analysis and received responses through shared questionnaires. It was be noted that the questions were designed to compare the costs and benefits of doing nothing versus organic growth Compared with the central data sharing mechanism. MH reported that five wholesalers and two retailers responded, and individual

discussions with trading parties were held to clarify the request. MH presented the cost-benefit analysis, comparing the costs of the do-nothing approach (14.5 million) to those of the data-sharing mechanism (8.9 million) over five years. MH also noted the cost reductions for wholesalers (from 8.6 million to 5.6 million) and retailers (from 4.9 million to 1.2 million), while pointing out an increase in costs for MOSL (from 1.1 million to 2.1 million). MD suggested adding non-financial benefits like risk mitigation and data quality improvement. MH agreed to include these elements in the business case outline. RR inquired whether the solution is comprehensive or if wholesalers would incur additional costs for services beyond the data sharing hub. It was noted that while the centralised system will establish a standard, it may not cover all data sharing expenses. RR highlighted that wholesalers would still face extra costs for supplementary services. MH specified that these issues will be addressed in a subsequent phase.

3.7. The Committee received an update on the RFI request and noted its success. Several suppliers were contacted, and a key observation from the responses is that these potential suppliers offer two different types of solutions. One solution involves suppliers providing a partially pre-existing software as a service solution. This solution includes the functionality to centrally capture information, maintain it in a central data-sharing mechanism, and allow other parties to access the data. The alternative is for suppliers to develop a custom solution from scratch. MH discussed the pros and cons of two approaches. A software solution would be faster and enable data sharing earlier, but it requires CMOS integration, governance, and validations. It was observed that there is a risk of the solution not meeting all requirements, which could result in compromises. A custom solution, although slower and more expensive, can be tailored to address both current and future needs more effectively. MH mentioned that despite multiple discussions regarding the development of the solution, it had not impacted the business case, and the supplier had been supportive. Members were informed that nine suppliers participated in discussions. One was not selected due to poor RFI quality, and another dropped out due to differing views. Seven potential suppliers have advanced to the RFI stage.

3.8. DG and DM from Artesia provided an update on the user requirements and governance considerations for the data sharing mechanism. The Committee was informed that user requirements had been defined for each use case, which included wholesalers, the data sharing mechanism, and retailers. Noted that these requirements were in draft form and were open for feedback from the Committee. DG emphasised the necessity of governance in

limiting liability and mitigating risks. He further emphasised the importance of a governance approach for exchanging granular data, which includes data protection and technical infrastructure. It was noted that further discussions were planned with various stakeholders such as Thames water and Wave to refine the use cases and governance considerations.

3.9. The Committee was briefed on the next steps, which involve sharing the outline business case for feedback, with the deadline set for Wednesday 26th February and conducting a comprehensive market consultation to define and validate the requirements with the market by the end of March.

3.10. The chair thanked MH, DM and DG for the update.

4. National Metering Strategy Follow on work update

4.1. The Committee received an update on the National Metering Strategy follow on work, and went on to discuss the following key points:

- **NMS13** is complete. AR noted that RR had scheduled a meeting to gain more insights on customer interactions.
- **NMS16** will be reviewed in the next financial year to determine any additional support required for Ofwat in considering the costs of reading traditional meters.
- **NMS17**- Learnings and opportunities from the energy sector- Noted that the Ofwat delivery governance group will be holding a second meeting with updates to follow.
- **Four workstreams are in progress:**
 - NMS 2: developing the process and format for reporting smart metering plans (dashboard updates will be addressed under item 6 by LDA),
 - NMS4: central messaging for the smart metering consultation is complete, and a good practice guide will be sought to be published by year-end.
 - NMS11: AR mentioned that wholesale charging schemes are currently under review and several have been compiled. AR advised that this topic will be discussed at the next Committee meeting.
 - NMS 14: discussion on leakage allowances for customers with smart meters has been delayed due to challenges in coordinating with the RWG policy subgroup. CB from CCW is involved and informed of the situation.

4.2. The chair thanked AR for his presentation.

5. 2025/2026 Program Plan

- 5.1. The Committee was presented with the 2025/26 programme plan for the upcoming year, focusing on key areas such as optimising smart metering, enhancing traditional metering systems, and evaluating meter reading obligations.
- 5.2. CD identified the Must-do projects: delivering the final business case for the data sharing mechanism, reviewing the national metering standard, and continuing the smart meter roll-out dashboard. CD also mentioned the Should-do projects: reviewing meter read obligations, supporting RWG on meter-related groups, and monitoring the smart meter roll-out impact on long unread meters. Additionally, the Could-do projects included reviewing existing guidance documents and demonstrating the benefits of the data sharing mechanism delivery.
- 5.3. The Committee discussed this and raised the following key points:
- Providing end customer smart data should be a priority. RR mentioned that retailers should offer a method for end customers to access their smart meter data, either directly or through third parties. CB also noted that the prioritisation should reflect the customer's needs clearly and be included in the Must-have list, not as a code. CB stressed that smart metering is essential to deliver benefits such as enabling customers to save money and detect leaks. Furthermore, it is crucial that customers receive data from the smart meters, making it a necessity rather than optional. CD acknowledged this point and informed the Committee that this prioritisation has been classified under Could-haves as it depends on the resolution of the data sharing mechanism. Priorities are likely to shift once the benefits of the solution are recognised.
 - RR suggested to categorising "demonstrate benefit" as a "Could have" and separating customer prioritisation under "Must haves." This would provide a clear distinction between how customers can access granular and smart data directly to the end user. Noting that the Committee and Strategic Panel should request this specific commitment.
 - MD noted that the availability of smart meter data should encourage innovation in the services offered by retailers, providing actionable insights to customers.
 - AB and CD deliberated on the prioritisation of asset maintenance, addressing communication expectations and policies for wholesalers, and emphasised the importance of incorporating these elements into the annual plan.

5.4. SF and CD stated that the slides will be sent to Committee members for feedback.

ACTION:47_01

The chair thanked CD for his presentation.

6. RWG Smart Meter Roll out Consultation / Roll out Mapping update

6.1. LDA provided an update on the RWG-led smart metering consultation, which was scheduled to end on the same day. AS encouraged Committee members to send any comments by the end of business, emphasising that all responses would be reviewed during the week by AR and LG. It was noted that AS and LG would consider how to allocate activities to the RWG sub-team leaders based on the feedback received. Members were advised that the guidance document would be published in April.

6.2. No further comments were added.

6.3. LDA provided an update on NMS two, which has involved collating a national view of wholesaler plans for smart meter implementation. LDA noted that the pilot phase had now been completed, noting that the map and dashboard had been demonstrated at the previous meeting and shared with other trading parties for feedback, observations and improvements. Members were informed of the next steps with LDA noting that the next step is to get data from wholesalers in addition to the five wholesalers included in the pilot to achieve a complete national view. LDA advised that requests have been sent out to all wholesalers for one-to-one meetings to explain the solution and how to use the template for data submission.

6.4. Noted that the public map is expected to be released at the start of April. LDA stated that the public map would first be released on the MOSL website and then relocated to the RWG website once it was complete. LDA noted that even without complete data from all wholesalers, the map will be released with gaps to encourage engagement and data submission. This strategy aims to ensure the map is available and useful even if the national picture is not fully complete.

6.5. MT queried adding the three-month plans to the national map. LDA stated that the dashboard will be consistent with the three-month plan process by offering SPID-level views, either based on area dates or SPID-level dates as available. LDA further stated that trading parties will use a second template, designed exclusively for SPID-level data, to enter data into the dashboard. This strategy is preferred over uploading the D1 and D2 forms to SharePoint.

6.6. RR highlighted that the slides sent by LDA were beneficial and plans to share them with the retailer forum. RR believes the dashboard will be beneficial for retailers to have visibility on the smart meter rollout and will save them from creating a similar tool.

6.7. The chair thanked LDA and AS for the update.

7. CPW159

7.1. The Committee were asked to select a new proposer and request a new sponsor.

7.2. MD recommended OB contact JL, who is familiar with the details and may be able to take on the sponsorship. Also, OB advised members that MOSL can progress the change in the interim if no sponsor is found immediately.

7.3. The chair thanked OB for her presentation.

8. QSP23 Operational Meter Related Toolbox Talks

8.1. TBT9 Estimated Wholesaler Final Reads were shared with the Committee for comment/feedback before publication and they received a final call for any other Meter related TBT to produce.

8.2. The Committee were asked to share feedback with AB offline.

8.3. The chair thanked AB for her presentation.

9. Tabled Updates

9.1. The Committee noted the Tabled Updates paper circulated in advance of the meeting detailing progress on the Committee's workstreams and metering-related projects.

9.2. SB indicated that sponsorship is required for three quick start projects following Claire's departure: the NoFloW, the x10 meter project, and the CPW 120 outputs.

9.3. AB volunteered to sponsor the NoFloW project.

10. AOB incl. Reflections on the Meeting

10.1. The Committee reflected on the meeting.

- 10.2. Members were informed that the committee is recruiting three new retailer members from 24th February to 17th March.
- 10.3. RR highlighted the significant progress made in the smart metering rollout and the importance of reflecting on the achievements so far. RR emphasized the critical role of wholesalers in the next phase and the need for strong input from them, despite the next few months being extremely busy due to the smart meter roll out.
- 10.4. There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting.