

RWG Wholesale Tariff Simplification Subgroup Meeting Minutes – 08.01.26

Name of group: Wholesale Tariff Simplification

Meeting number: 13

Time and date: 08 January 2026, 15:00 – 16:00

Attendees

Meeting Chair: James Lancaster (JL, Thames Water)

Members: Dale Kenwright (DK, Severn Trent Water) Emma Cooper (EC, United Utilities) Glen Hamilton (GH, Wessex Water) Ingrid Bell (IG, Scottish Water) Joe Wahla (JW, Affinity Water) Lynnette Cross (LC, Welsh Water) Mike Gostelow (MG, United Utilities) Nick Butt (NB, ConservAqua) Stanislav Petrov (SP, Ofwat) Steve Hogarth (SH, Pennon Water Services) Wendy Monk (WMO, Wave Utilities) Will Chivers (WC, Wessex Water) William Mair (WMA, Business Stream)

Secretariat: Lili Hearn (LH, MOSL), Toks Talabi (TT, MOSL)

Apologies: Andrew Beaver (AB, Northumbrian Water) Stuart Mason (SM, Water Plus) Lucy Byrnes (LB, CCWater) Neil Manning (NL, Anglian Water)

Agenda

Item no.	Agenda item	Meeting minutes
1.	Introductions and Welcome	<p>JL welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p>Apologies were noted from Stuart Mason and Andrew Beaver.</p> <p>Focus of the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Assessed and RV charges and consultation – next steps • Annual review of existing Good Practice Guides (GPG) • Scope and actions for working subgroups
2.	Compliance Statement	<p>JL displayed the compliance statement on screen to remind members of the need to comply with competition law.</p>
3.	Minutes of last meeting and actions	<p>The minutes from the meeting held on 4 December 2025 had been circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>JL reminded the members that comments needed to be sent by 16 January, following which the minutes would be approved and published on the RWG website.</p> <p>Actions</p> <p>08_01 LH to add to agenda in Q1 2026-27 an item on water efficiency to discuss impact of price rises on customer behaviour. Ongoing</p> <p>08_02 NB to produce a draft Trade Effluent (TE) RFI findings report for publication to the wider industry. Ongoing</p> <p>11_02 LC/WMo/SM/WC to provide Good Practice Guide Review Feedback. Completed</p> <p>12_03 TT/LH explore possibility of Business Assessed Methodology consultation slot in March. Completed</p> <p>12_04 MG to send revised slides to JL and TT/LH. Ongoing</p>

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		<p>12_05 SM to send notes on Alignment of Wholesale Tariffs with Retail Price Control Groups GPG review to JL. Ongoing</p>
4.	Business Assessed and RV charges and consultation – next steps	<p>JL reminded the members of MG’s presentation last meeting and acknowledged that due to a heavy workload there were no updates at this point.</p> <p>MG confirmed that the RV and Business Assessed Tariffs working group would be restarting in January.</p> <p>The sub-group discussed the timeline for publication of the Business Assessed Methodology Consultation. JL informed the members that MOSL had given a window (16 March – 20 April) from which the working group would choose the exact dates of the consultation. LH notified the subgroup that they had to confirm dates with MOSL by early February.</p> <p>LH reminded the sub-group that the Comms team usually require two weeks, but that it could be longer depending on the format. JL replied that the consultation would probably be sent to Comms as a Word document to be converted into a PDF.</p> <p>JL proposed publication of the consultation to take place in early April to give time for comms to be set up.</p> <p>The sub-group agreed for a first draft of the consultation to be ready for review ahead of the March meeting. Following its review, the consultation would be sent to the MOSL Comms team for publication in early April (final dates to be confirmed).</p> <p>JL thanked the RV and Business Assessed Tariffs working group members for their hard work.</p>
5.	Annual review of existing Good Practice Guides	<p>JL thanked WMo, LC, SM, WC for their work reviewing the existing GPGs that were attached to the Tariffs sub-group.</p> <p>JL noted that SM is aware of the ongoing action to provide written feedback on the “Alignment of Wholesale Tariffs with Retail Price Control Groups” GPG.</p>

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		<p>LH took an action to provide the members with editable versions of the GPGs, so that the sub-group can update the GPGs.</p> <p>LC informed the sub-group that she had emailed various wholesalers to confirm that the details of the “Return to Sewer Allowances” GPG appendix are correct. So far, she had only received a couple of responses and expected it to take a few weeks to obtain responses from all wholesalers.</p> <p>JL declared the GPG related actions closed, except for SM and LH’s actions.</p>
6.	Scope and actions for working subgroups	<p>Metered volumetric tariffs and metered fixed charges No updates, group remains dormant.</p> <p>Surface Water and Highway Drainage charges and Return to Sewer allowances No updates, group remains dormant.</p> <p>RV and Business Assessed tariffs This item was addressed earlier in the meeting; there are no additional updates at this time.</p> <p>Trade Effluent The TE working group met on 20 December with its three new members making it an equal balance of wholesalers and retailers. NB to supply the TE members with the point of progress to then distribute the workload amongst them. The TE working group aims to provide the sub-group with a summary of the RFI at the February meeting following which it will consider next steps.</p>
7.	AOB	<p>The sub-group noted that TT was leaving the sub-group and had handed over to LH.</p> <p>DK would also be leaving the sub-group at the end of March and would be handing over to Jim McLaughlin.</p> <p>The meeting was closed by JL.</p>
8.	Date of next meeting	Thursday 5 th February 2026 @ 3pm.

Actions from meeting

Action	Owner	Timeframe for completion
08_01 LH to add to agenda in Q1 2026-27 an item on water efficiency to discuss impact of price rises on customer behaviour.	LH	Q1 2026-27
08_02 – NB to produce a draft TE RFI findings report for publication to the wider industry.	NB	March
12_04 – MG to send revised slides to JL/LH.	MG	Prior to February meeting
12_05 – SM to send written feedback on “Alignment of Wholesale Tariffs with Retail Price Control Groups” GPG.	SM	Prior to February meeting
13_01 – LH to provide the members with editable versions of the GPGs.	LH	Prior to February meeting