



Emma Kelso
Senior Director, Customers and Casework

By Email
1 September 2021

Dear Emma

Request to extend the term of elected Panel Members

Ofwat's approval of [CPM039/CPW124: Revisions to Panel Composition](#), introduces a Transition Period during which the Strategic Panel and Code Change Committee will be appointed. The Transition Period begins 1 September 2021 and must be no longer than six months setting a backstop of 28 February 2022. During the Transition Period, the current Panel's responsibilities continue.

Current Panel members' terms of office are due to expire 30 September 2021. Therefore the Panel discussed at its meeting on 31 August, whether to request an extension to terms of office. If not extended then a Panel Nomination Meeting would be required before October to appoint Trading Party Panel members to the current Panel.

Ofwat has already granted a six-month extension to Trading Party Panel member terms of office in its letter of 2 February 2021. Consequently some Panel members were initially disinclined to request a further extension. However, the Panel will need to focus on handing over its current responsibilities to the new Strategic Panel and Code Change Committee. This would be hampered by a change in membership in October and therefore the Panel recognise that an extension may be justified, particularly as this would be limited to the Transition Period. Furthermore, a call for trading parties to nominate candidates for the current Panel could be confusing and burdensome if coincident with calls for Strategic Panel nominations.

The Panel voted unanimously (13 votes) to request an extension and therefore, in accordance with Section 5.6.9 of the Market Arrangements Code, I request an extension of the following Panel member's terms of office until the end of the Transition Period:

- Trevor Nelson - Unassociated Retailer Panel Member (Business Stream)
- Nicola Smith - Unassociated Retailer Panel Member (Clear Business Water)
- Claire Yeates - Unassociated Retailer Panel Member (Waterscan)
- Mark Holloway - Wholesaler Panel Member (Thames Water)
- Martin Mavin - Wholesaler Panel Member (Northumbrian Water)
- Richard Barton - Associated Retailer Panel Member (Pennon Water Services)
- Fallon Wilkinson – Associated Retailer Panel Member (Water Plus)
- Charlotte Glass – Associated Retailer Panel Member (Wave)



Independent and Customer Representative Panel members are appointed by the Panel Chair. Two independent Panel member roles are due to expire at the end of September and it is my intention to confirm their re-appointment for the Transition Period.

The Panel Secretariat will today be giving 20 business days' notice of a Panel Nomination Meeting on 29 September and inviting Trading Parties to nominate candidates by 22 September. That meeting will seek to appoint a vacancy for a Wholesaler Panel Member. The notice will advise that the Panel has made this request to extend its term, but if not approved the meeting will also seek to appoint other trading party members. I would therefore be grateful of a quick decision so that the industry can respond with the appropriate nominations.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Trisha McAuley".

Trisha McAuley OBE
Chair of the Panel

CC
Georgina Mills, Ofwat
Adam Richardson, Panel Secretary