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# Appointment of Trading Party Strategic Panel Members – Approach and Timetable

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## 1. Overview

Under the provisions of the Market Arrangements Code (MAC)<sup>1</sup>, when a Trading Party Member position becomes vacant on the Strategic Panel, a nomination process is to be initiated. The [Panel Nominations Committee](#) (PNC), which is convened by the Panel Secretary on behalf of Ofwat, is the committee responsible for the selection and appointment of Trading Party Strategic Panel members.

## 2. Selection and Appointment of a Trading Party Panel Members

The selection and appointment of the Trading Party Strategic Panel Members shall follow the process outlined below:

- Communications will be issued to the market inviting nominations from Trading Parties for the Trading Party vacancies occurring (two Retailer and one Wholesaler positions with effect from the end of existing members terms of office on 1 March 2026)<sup>2</sup>.
- Trading Parties will subsequently be given 15 business days to nominate candidates for the vacant seat by providing written confirmation of the nomination to the Panel Secretariat.
- Upon closure of the nomination window, the Panel Secretariat shall publish a list of the nominations received.
- The PNC shall review the nominations and shortlist the candidates suitable to progress through the selection process.
- Shortlisted candidates shall then progress to an interview to identify the most suitable candidate.
- Following interviews, the PNC shall determine the candidates it wishes to appoint to the Strategic Panel.
- The successful candidates shall be appointed to the Trading Party Member seats in accordance with section 5.6 of the MAC.

## 3. Timeline for the Process

The timeline below outlines the process for the selection and appointment of the Trading Party Strategic Panel Members.

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<sup>1</sup> Section 5.6 of the MAC.

<sup>2</sup> The PNC will publish the role description for Trading Party Strategic Panel Members.

Please note that the timetable may be varied based on the availability of candidates for interviews to be held as part of the selection process. All references to the number of days in the tables below are to business days.

	Task Name	Duration	Start date	End Date
1.	Publish notice of PNC meeting. <sup>3</sup>	1 BD	30/10/2025	30/10/2025
2.	Window for nominations.	15 BD	03/11/2025	21/11/2025
3.	PNC provided with the list of candidates.	2 BD	24/11/2025	25/11/2025
4.	PNC Meeting (to shortlist candidates). <sup>3</sup>	1 BD	01/12/2025	01/12/2025
5.	Candidate shortlist finalised and communicated to candidates.	2 BD	02/12/2025	03/12/2025
6.	Selection and appointment process.	23 BD	12/01/2026	11/02/2026
7.	First Strategic Panel Meeting	n/a	04/03/2026	04/03/2026

Following shortlisting, the PNC will conduct interviews with shortlisted candidates. Interviews are expected to be held in person in London on 28 and 29 January. Following the conclusion of the interview process, the PNC will reconvene to agree preferred candidates for appointment to the Panel. Outcomes are expected to be communicated to candidates no later than 11 February 2026.

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<sup>3</sup> In line with section 5.6 of the MAC, there must be twenty (20) Business Days' notice of the date of the Panel Nomination Committee meeting.