

CACoP Forum meeting 54

2 August 2024, 10:00 – 10:45

Microsoft Teams

Minutes

Attendee	Representing
Teri Puddefoot (TP)	Forum Chair
Rashpal Gata-Aura (RGA)	Forum Secretary
Sarah Williams (SW)	CUSC, Grid Code, STC
Helen Bennett (HBT)	UNC
Elizabeth Woods (EW)	SEC
Charles Clark (CC)	Ofgem
Annie Appleton (AA)	Ofgem
Caroline Frei muller (CF)	Gemser
Dylan Townsend (DT)	Electra link

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The Chair welcomed attendees to the August 2024 CACoP Forum noting apologies from Milly Lewis and Puja Vadgama.

1. ACTIONS UPDATE

Ref	Action	Discussion	Outcome
53/01	Chair to create draft survey and timeline and share with the Forum		Closed

Action 53/01

Forum members agree to close this action as the draft survey had been provided to the Forum for review.

2. WORK PLAN UPDATE

The Chair Forum **REVIEWED** the progress of items on the Work Plan and **AGREED** as below to remain and add on the Code Administrator Survey

- Reference 002 - to remain as an ongoing item.
- Reference 004 - to remain as an ongoing item.
- Reference 005 - to remain as an ongoing item.

3. OFGEM UPDATE

AA advised the Forum that Ofgem had commenced publishing again and were in the process of confirming the new Expected Decision Dates (EDD) for the modifications that were currently with them.

Ofgem were looking to communicate the EDD as soon as possible at Code Panel meetings, but no updates had been made to the EDD register on the publishing website on. This was due to the organisational priorities that may change in the light of the new government coming into power, and Ofgem were not in a position yet to confirm all the EDD for all the Code modifications presently.

AA noted that following the recent election outcome, Ofgem are proceeding with all of the planned work on the Energy Code Reform and whilst it was early days, Ofgem are working with the new government to understand what their priorities are and if further policy updates should be taken into consideration; the relevant panels will be updated as appropriate.

The Chair gave a brief update received from PV (see below) relating to code manager optional charging and code manager delivery plans. The Chair stated that this would be discussed in detail with Code parties during bilateral meetings. If Code Administrators do not have scheduled sessions with Ofgem, they could get in touch with Colin (colin.down@ofgem.gov.uk) and Frida (frida.skillemar@ofgem.gov.uk) if they would like to meet to have input on Ofgem's early policy.

- **Optional charging** would essentially be the possibility for the Code Manager to charge for some of their services on a more direct/one-off basis, instead of funding it through their core charges (which code parties regularly pay). The ask is whether code administrators currently have similar arrangements to this, as well as any broader input they may have.
- **Delivery plans** are about how Code Managers are obliged to produce a delivery plan for their code based on Ofgem's strategic direction statement. We have questions

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around the prescriptiveness of the requirements regarding the plan, its timespan and scope.

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Meeting Frequency

The Chair advised that conversations had taken place regarding the day of the CACoP meeting which falls on the first Friday of the month and Fridays can be a non-working day for some. There has been a request for the remaining meetings to be moved to a different day to enable participation.

The Chair requested comments from the Forum regarding this request.

HB and DT both strongly supported an alternative day along with the remaining Forum members present.

ACTION- Chair to identify the alternative day, communicate via email to get confirmation/approval for the October and December Panels to be held on another day rather than Friday.

Cross Code Survey

The Chair advised that the timeline for the Cross Code survey was in question due to annual leave period etc., (during August) and relayed concerns over the timing of the survey due to Energy Code Reform along with reasoning for the survey.

HB commented that discussions had taken place in their business and a few points had been raised:

1. What will be done with the results?
2. Was this the right thing to do with the Code Reform happening?
3. Care needs to be taken in what will be asked in the survey in view of many moving elements at present.

The Chair commented that this had been the general feel all around and to identify what will be done with the information received from the survey. In view of this, it may be appropriate to review the timing of the survey.

AA confirmed that whilst there is a lot going on at present with Code Reform and the government priorities, no definitive decision could be made today.

ACTION AA advised that she would reach out the wider team at Ofgem for comment/possible solution and take this discussion offline with The Chair.

ACTION The Chair to arrange an offline discussion with Ofgem to get their views/comments and communicate via email to the Forum members.

Newsletter

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The Chair requested material for the Newsletter which was due in September.

Data best practice (DBP) update

CC was invited to give an update on Data Best Practice (DBP) and its future in Codes.

The Chair requested permission to record this part of the meeting to enable those not present to listen in at a later date. No objections were raised, and the remaining meeting was recorded.

CC introduced himself, continued the presentation, and advised:

Proven Impact in Network Space

DBP had been a full licence condition for Networks

- Since August 2023, with the completion of RIIO-ED2 companies.
- The August decision – linked in the Open Letter – put forward a greater degree of specificity and standardisation
- Energy System Data being Presumed Open is a keystone principle
- Interoperability is a critical enabler
- Greater adoption leads to greater interoperability and increased acceptance of standards towards universality.

Ofgem were looking into the Expansion Phase:

- Assess to network data by energy stakeholders and incoming innovators to bring market solutions for the consumer and the public interest.
- Full benefit of digitalisation of the energy system by guiding the quality, accuracy, and accessibility of data.
- Development of building blocks and facilitation of interoperability and frictionless sharing of Energy System
- Opening of data will ensure that energy stakeholders have a better visibility of all assets on the network, which will help to balance the exponential increase in system changes on the road to Net Zero by optimising and co-ordinating the required building of latency to balance the system

CC advised that Ofgem would like to get the consultations out by the end of 2024.

CC informed that a Cross Code steering group was being established to ensure that industry views were taken into account

With Networks as a POC, Ofgem intend DBP to become an obligation for all parties in the energy sector, through code, Licence Condition, or other.

CC informed the Forum that DBP is intended to be universal. Some adaptation is expected for size, customer profile, data held/duplicated elsewhere, etc. As a new obligation, and cognisant of the differing levels of data maturity, Ofgem do not expect Day 1 Compliance. However, to be effective, compliance monitoring will be needed.

CC Advised that there would be a publication coming out soon from work that has already been done showing how much the data was being used and developing new products from them.

CC noted that the Networks may not be the perfect fit in the cold space and Ofgem needed to understand where there will need to be certain amount of adaptation. Whilst the Principals are high level there are many ways to meet them and the guidance and the supporting information will demonstrate and work through different ways companies can show they are meeting these Principals. Ofgem were looking at the idea of some modular aspects e.g., DNO would have certain ways to meet the principals/operability. If a company is a central systems body, they could meet the principals in a different way and regulations would apply for different modules or different areas etc.

CC continued that the [Open Letter](#) to Codes had been published on 14 March 2024 setting out Ofgem's direction of travel and intent. Ofgem propose to impose DBP compliance without active participation and consultation of those active in the code space. CC shared the [Published Consultation of definition change](#) – 22nd April 2024.

CC informed the Forum, that Ofgem were putting forward a Cross Code Digitalisation Steering group and with meetings due in August. Terms of Reference were ready to be agreed and encouraged CACoP Forum members to participate.

CC informed the Forum that his team worked closely with the Energy Code Reform team to ensure alignment.

CC advised that the Steering group will be for approximately 12 months, with meetings to be held on the 3rd Thursday of each month.

Some concerns were raised regarding the timings of the meetings and CC confirmed that this was being looked at. Emails to be sent to digitalisation@oem.gov.uk or Charles.clark@ofgem.gov.uk expressing an interest and CC would respond accordingly.

ACTION CC will confirm dates and share these with the Forum members to progress the Steering Group meetings.

SUMMARY AND MEETING CLOSE

The next CACoP Forum is scheduled for 4 October 2024 but noted that this would be moved, if possible, to accommodate all members.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and inputting to the discussions and closed the meeting.