

## Minutes of a meeting of the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority

From: Vickie Baker  
Secretary to the Authority

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> April  
2022

Location: 10SC London

### GEMA meeting minutes for 5th April

#### 1. Welcome and Introductions

1.1 The Chair welcomed all members to the meeting.

#### 2. Retail Strategy

2.1 The Board worked with the Executive on the key strategic objectives, options and trade-offs in relation to the future Retail Strategy.

#### Apologies for absence

Cristina Luna Estaban (NED observer)

#### Those present

Martin Cave  
Jonathan Brearley  
Christine Farnish  
Lynne Embleton  
John Crackett  
Myriam Madden  
Barry Panayi

#### Those attending

Philippa Pickford  
Sinead Murray  
Neil Kenward  
Neil Lawrence  
Akshay Kaul

#### Others present

James Kilmartin (Principal Private Secretary)  
Vickie Baker (Head of Governance and Secretariat)  
Jemma Baker (Deputy Director for Future Retail Markets (Interim))  
Stephen Perry (Senior Retail Policy Manager)  
Neil Gordon (Senior Strategy Manager)

## **GEMA meeting minutes for 6th April**

### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

1.1 There were no conflicts of interest reported, the minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> March were approved and two actions identified as completed were agreed to be closed.

1.2 The Chair highlighted the 'for circulation' papers for the Board's attention. These included:

- National Audit Office Study – the energy supplier market;
- Communications Update;
- Delivery & Schemes Director's Update; and
- Case Update.

### **2. CEO Report**

2.1 The CEO, noting that Board members were apprised of his written report, updated the Board on a number of issues, including:

- The retail market;
- Network price controls (RIIO-2); and
- The Boiler Upgrade Scheme (BUS).

### **3. Market Outlook**

3.1 The Board were apprised of recent developments on the energy markets' response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

3.2 The Board noted progress on work underway to reduce the risks faced by energy consumers and the governance arrangements in place to ensure a coordinated approach across Ofgem.

### **4. Default Tariff Cap**

4.1 The Board approved the approach to a forthcoming consultation on proposed changes to the Default Tariff cap, and requested that the final proposals be brought back to the Board for approval, following the consultation.

4.2 The Board requested the Retail team provide an update at a future meeting on customer service standard levels, and protections for consumers, particularly those in vulnerable circumstances.

### **5. Ofgem Risk Management**

5.1 The Board discussed the strategic risks facing Ofgem and the energy market, considering the mitigations and countermeasures planned and underway.

5.2 The Board reviewed the organisational risk appetite statement and agreed to the proposed changes.

## **6. Secure, Smart Energy System**

6.1 The Board were briefed on the new area and agreed with the recommended approach for work to progress on the scope of the regime and report back to the board.

## **7. Update on approach to potential new government schemes**

7.1 The Board discussed potential new schemes that have been assessed against criteria agreed by GEMA in July 2021.

7.2 There followed a discussion on Ofgem's priorities and the Board agreed with the recommended approach, providing guidance on future steps.

## **8. Internal Audit Programme Plan 2022/23**

8.1 The Board agreed to approve the audit plan, conditional on further consideration later in the year of whether an additional audit related to D&S Financial Management should be included in the plan.

## **9. Any other business**

9.1 The Board discussed a draft Lessons Learned report it has received, considering the root causes of the supplier failures over the autumn and winter of 2021-22. The Board agreed that the final report should be published by Ofgem.

## **Apologies for absence**

Cristina Luna-Esteban – Ofcom (UKRN Observer)  
Sinead Murray

## **Those present**

Martin Cave  
Jonathan Brearley  
Christine Farnish  
Lynne Embleton  
John Crackett  
Myriam Madden  
Barry Panayi

## **Those attending**

Simon Wilde  
Philippa Pickford  
Akshay Kaul

## **Others present**

James Kilmartin (Principal Private Secretary)  
Vickie Baker (Head of Governance and Secretariat)

Ashley Stewart (Governance and Secretariat Manager)

***For specific agenda items***

Aidan Stringfellow (item 3)  
Priya Brahmbhatt-Patel (items 3 and 4)  
Neil Kenward (item 4)  
Dan Norton (item 4)  
Fiona Cochrane-Williams (item 4)  
Karen Boyle (item 5)  
Chris O'Connor (item 5)  
Tom McFadden (items 5 and 7)  
Neil Lawrence (items 4 and 5)  
Rich Smith (items 5 and 6.1)  
Ashley Malster (item 6.1)  
Doug Cook (item 6.1)  
Carmel Golden (item 6.2)  
David Fletcher (item 6.2)