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

**From:** Lisa Charlesworth (Secretary to the Authority)

**Date:** 08 and 09 April 2025

**Location:** London/hybrid

### **GEMA Minutes for 08 April**

#### **1. Welcome**

Mark McAllister welcomed the Board to the meeting. No conflicts of interest were noted.

#### **2. CEO Report**

The Board noted the contents of the CEO report, including progressing the NESO investigation into the North Hyde substation fire incident.

#### **3. Electricity Distribution Price Control (“ED3”) Framework**

The Board noted the update on the framework for the next electricity distribution price control starting in April 2028. The Board agreed the recommendations and approved the associated publication of Ofgem’s ED3 Framework Decision.

#### **4. Voluntary Redress Fund**

The Board noted the update on the approach to the Voluntary Redress Fund and discussed how the projects and energy advice funded through the Voluntary Redress Fund directly benefitted consumers.

#### **5. Price Cap – policy impacts on costs**

The Board noted the paper on impacts on bills, highlighting drivers of changes in bills and effects on the average household, to inform future policy considerations.

#### **6. Retail Market Developments 6 monthly update**

An update on retail market developments and consumer outcomes was noted by the Board that provided insights into the current investor view of the market, and the role of behaviour change related to flexibility as an indicator of a competitive retail market.

## **GEMA Minutes for 09 April**

### **1. Welcome**

Mark McAllister welcomed the Board to the March meeting. No conflicts of interest were noted. The Board approved the minutes of the previous meeting.

### **2. Updates from Committees of the Authority**

The Chairs of the People and Remuneration Committee, Audit and Risk Assurance Committee and RIIO-3/ED3 Committee provided an update on the March 2025 meetings.

### **3. Committees of the Authority: Terms of Reference**

The Board noted the recommendations of the annual review of the Terms of Reference for the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee and approved the proposed updates.

### **4. Risk and Assurance Framework and Risk Appetite**

Following the approval of the risk appetite statement in December 2024, the Board noted the paper that provided an overview of Ofgem's strategic approach to risk management and considerations for review.

### **5. 2025-26 Internal Audit Plan**

The Board noted the paper and approved the Internal Audit plan for 2025/26.

### **6. Administration of Community Benefits – Bill Discounts scheme**

The Board noted the paper and discussed considerations related to the government's bill discounts scheme, set out in the recent Planning and Infrastructure Bill, for communities impacted by new electricity transmission infrastructure, and that Ofgem would continue to engage with government on its plans for the administration of the scheme.

### **7. DCC – Ex Ante Price Control Design**

The Board discussed the ongoing review of the regulatory arrangements for the Data Communications Company (DCC) and the proposals related to an ex-ante cost control for the holder of the successor Smart Meter Communication Licence ("DCC2"). The Board approved the recommendations in the paper in respect of the price control design.

### **8. Debt Strategy – priorities and next steps**

The Board noted the paper that provided an update on progress related to the Debt Strategy published in December 2024 and set out further proposals related to energy debt to support a sustainable approach to near-term and long-term debt management to support consumers and across the retail market. The Board approved the

recommendations in the paper including the proposed priorities for Ofgem's Debt Strategy.

### **Apologies for absence**

Jonathan Brearley (9 April)

### **Those present**

Alena Kozakova  
Barry Panayi  
Graham Mather  
Jonathan Brearley (8 April)  
Jonathan Kini  
Mark McAllister  
Nick Winser  
Tony Curzon-Price  
Warren Buckley

### **Those attending**

Akshay Kaul  
Melinda Johnson  
Neil Kenward  
Neil Lawrence  
Priya Brahmbhatt-Patel  
Sinead Murray  
Tim Jarvis

### **Others present**

Lisa Charlesworth (Head of Governance and Secretariat)