



Making a positive difference
for energy consumers

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Date: 20 July 2026

Decision to modify and issue new Regulatory Instructions and Guidance¹ (RIGs) for Smart DCC Ltd under Part B of Condition 33 of the Smart Meter Communications Licence²

We consulted Smart DCC Ltd, also known as the Data Communications Company (DCC), on changes to the RIGs which reflect developments in Price Control, and also improve clarity and ease of use. We are now issuing a Direction to DCC, set out in Appendix 1, for the purpose of modifying and issuing new RIGs. We are publishing the finalised new RIGs and reporting templates together with this Decision.

Context

The RIGs³ provide the basis on which Smart DCC Ltd, also known as the Data Communications Company (DCC), must report key Price Control Information to us.

It is important to note that the RIGs do not prescribe exactly how and to what level DCC should justify every cost variation. It is DCC's responsibility to prove costs incurred are economic and efficient. Proposed Changes

Proposed Changes

¹ All terms used in this Notice shall have the meaning given to them under the Licence, unless expressly stated otherwise.

² The Smart Meter Communications Licences were granted under both the Gas Act 1986 and the Electricity Act 1989. For ease, in this letter we refer to these licences in the singular. DCC's licence can be found at <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/licences-industry-codes-and-standards/licences/licence-conditions>.

³ The Regulatory Instructions and Guidance were last published in July 2025 and are available from: [Data Communications Company \(DCC\): Regulatory Instructions and Guidance 2025 | Ofgem](#)

We are proposing some changes to the reporting templates, which are then reflected in the RIGs guidance documents, due to developments over the past year. The primary changes and reasons for them are as follows:

1. **Additional space for the one new External Service Provider in the Main RIGs and Annex 3:** this affects sheets 4 and 12a in the Main RIGs and sheet 2 in Annex 3. There are also 2 new sheets in Annex 3 to accommodate these new SPs: 3ac and 4ac.

These primary changes have led to a number of smaller changes throughout the reporting templates and guidance. In addition to this, we have made a range of minor changes to increase the clarity and usability of the reporting templates. All changes are recorded in the change log which accompanies this letter.

Consultation Response

We sent a Notice outlining the proposed changes to DCC in June 2026. DCC confirmed they were comfortable with the proposed changes.

Next Steps

DCC must report in accordance with the RIGs by 31 July 2026. We will review and analyse the information over the summer and aim to publish a consultation on the outcome of the review in Autumn 2026. We will publish the decision early in 2027.

If you have any questions, contact ife.jaiye.tikolo@ofgem.gov.uk.

Yours Sincerely,

Ayena Gupta
Head of DCC Oversight and Regulatory Review
Duly authorised on behalf of the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority

20 July 2026