

Switching Programme Summary – Issue 4, February

Latest news

Procurement update

DCC have now completed the procurement process for the Systems Integrator (SI). The contract for the SI has been awarded to Netcompany, who are in the process of onboarding to the Programme. The SI will be responsible for coordinating the DBT phase activity between existing and new system providers.

The next big procurement milestone coming up will be the contract signature of the Central Switching Service (CSS) Provider(s). DCC have now selected their preferred bidder and are engaged in contract negotiations. This period is commercially sensitive, DCC expect to formally announce the successful bidder(s) around the time of entry to DBT in April.

Ofgem has now appointed PwC to the Programme Coordinator role, who are embedded in the Programme and working with Ofgem now. The other Ofgem-led procurement to be completed is for the Licensed Party Assurance (LPA) provider. The Invitation to Tender for the LPA provider was issued on 11th February, with tender responses to be submitted by 11th March. We expect to be able to make the announcement of our chosen bidder in the coming months.

What's coming up

REC Accession and 2019/20 RECCo budget

On 1st February we designated and published version 1.0 of the Retail Energy Code (the REC). This version covers the transitional requirements on energy licensees to cooperate with the delivery of the Switching Programme. This REC came into effect 28th February.

Completed REC accession agreements were required to be returned no later than close of 28th February. If your organisation has not yet returned the completed REC accession agreement, then please do contact us to let us know, and we can assist with the next steps.

Information on the process and the designation, which includes the appointments made to the interim RECCo Board, can be found [here](#).

We also consulted on the 2019/20 RECCo budget in January/February. This consultation closed 15 February. We expect the final 2019/20 RECCo budget to be agreed by the RECCo Board when they meet 18 March. Shortly after the 2019/20 RECCo budget has been approved by the RECCo Board, we will issue invoices to licensed suppliers in accordance with the REC. Payment details, including due date will be confirmed as soon as possible. If you have any queries please contact us at SwitchingProgramme@ofgem.gov.uk.

DCC stakeholder survey

DCC is a key delivery partner on the Switching Programme. As part of DCC's continuous improvement, DCC are conducting their second stakeholder survey. The results of Wave 1 of the survey, conducted in July 2018, along with the proposed actions/remedies has been published on the DCC website.

Ofgem and DCC encourage you to complete the Wave 2 survey as it enables DCC and the programme to track progress and provide a better service. The survey will take about five minutes to complete and can be accessed [here](#).

Design, Build, Test (DBT) entry self-assessment survey

As the Switching Programme prepares to enter DBT on 2nd April 2019 we are undertaking a readiness assessment of programme participants against a set of agreed criteria. This is in order to support the Delivery Group and the Programme Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) to make an informed decision to proceed to enter DBT. It also provides Programme Participants with an opportunity to explain to us any risks or issues which they may be managing, so that we can understand the impact to individual organisations and to the industry as a whole. This will allow us to better understand how and where support may be required.

Organisations will have had the opportunity to attend an Industry Launch event for the Switching Programme as well as one of two WebEx sessions where this approach was explained. In addition, the DBT Entry Framework explains the approach in more detail and is available on the Ofgem website [here](#).

The DBT Entry Self-Assessment survey is tailored to each organisation type and programme participants are asked to rate their organisation's readiness against the criteria applicable to the organisation. Organisations will have received their tailored survey link on 21st February 2019. **Programme Participants are asked to send one completed survey submission per organisation by 8th March 2019 at the latest.**

We are asking participants to contact SwitchingProgramme@ofgem.gov.uk with any questions.

FAQs

Standstill Period: See the below link for an information note on the Standstill Period:
<https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/publications-and-updates/query-management>

What's coming up in diaries

Meetings:

Existing System Provider Forum:

Monday 11th March – 10am at Ofgem, 10 South Colonnade

Monday 8th April – 10am at Ofgem, 10 South Colonnade

Monday 13th May – 10am at Ofgem, 10 South Colonnade

Data Working Group:

Thursday 21st March – 10.30am at Gemserv, 8 Fenchurch Place

Thursday 25th April – 10.30am at Gemserv, 8 Fenchurch Place

Thursday 18th May – *time and venue to be confirmed*

Switching Programme Design Forum:

Monday 11th March – 1pm at Ofgem, 10 South Colonnade

Monday 25th March – *time TBC*, at Ofgem, 10 South Colonnade

Monday 8th April – 1pm at Ofgem, 10 South Colonnade

Switching Delivery Group:

Tuesday 26th March – 10am at Ofgem, 10 South Colonnade

Tuesday 23rd April – 10am at Ofgem, 10 South Colonnade

Switching Implementation Group:

Tuesday 12th March – 10am at Museum of London, Docklands

Tuesday 9th April – 10am at Ofgem, 10 South Colonnade

Regulatory Design User Group:

Monday 25th March – *time TBC*, at Elexon, 350 Euston Road