

Switching Programme Summary – Issue 6, April 2019

Latest news

Licensed Party Assurance procurement

The Switching Programme presents a complex delivery challenge, with over 100 organisations, including suppliers and network companies, that will need to work with Ofgem to deliver the Programme's changes. We recognise the challenges and the significant changes required by industry to deliver the Programme. Ofgem is therefore in the final stages of procuring a Licensed Party Assurer that will be conducting assurance over licenced parties at key milestones within the Programme.

Fundamental to our ability to drive progress and make decisions, is the ability for us to have confidence in the information presented to us by industry. The Licensed Party Assurer will be critical to giving Ofgem confidence in industry's progress and an understanding of the risks to industry delivery.

We have now awarded the contract and will be able to announce the party once the contract signature is finalised. We are anticipating making this announcement in May.

Core Systems Assurance announcement

DCC has now appointed Expleo to the Core Systems Assurance role, who are embedding in the Programme and starting to work with DCC and Ofgem. Expleo will provide assurance to Ofgem over any of the existing systems providers, CSS system providers, the Systems Integrator, and the DCC.

Delivery Group and Implementation Group rescheduling

You will be aware that we have put the DBT Entry Decision on hold due to ongoing commercial discussions. We now expect to be in a position to take that decision shortly. We are therefore proposing to bring forward the Delivery Group meeting to the 14 May in order to take that decision.

In the absence of a DBT Entry Decision there is no substantive agenda for the Implementation Group Meeting scheduled for 7th May, which will therefore be cancelled. The corresponding pre-meeting webinar will also be cancelled/rescheduled.

We apologise for the inconvenience caused, and thank you for your patience during this period.

What's coming up

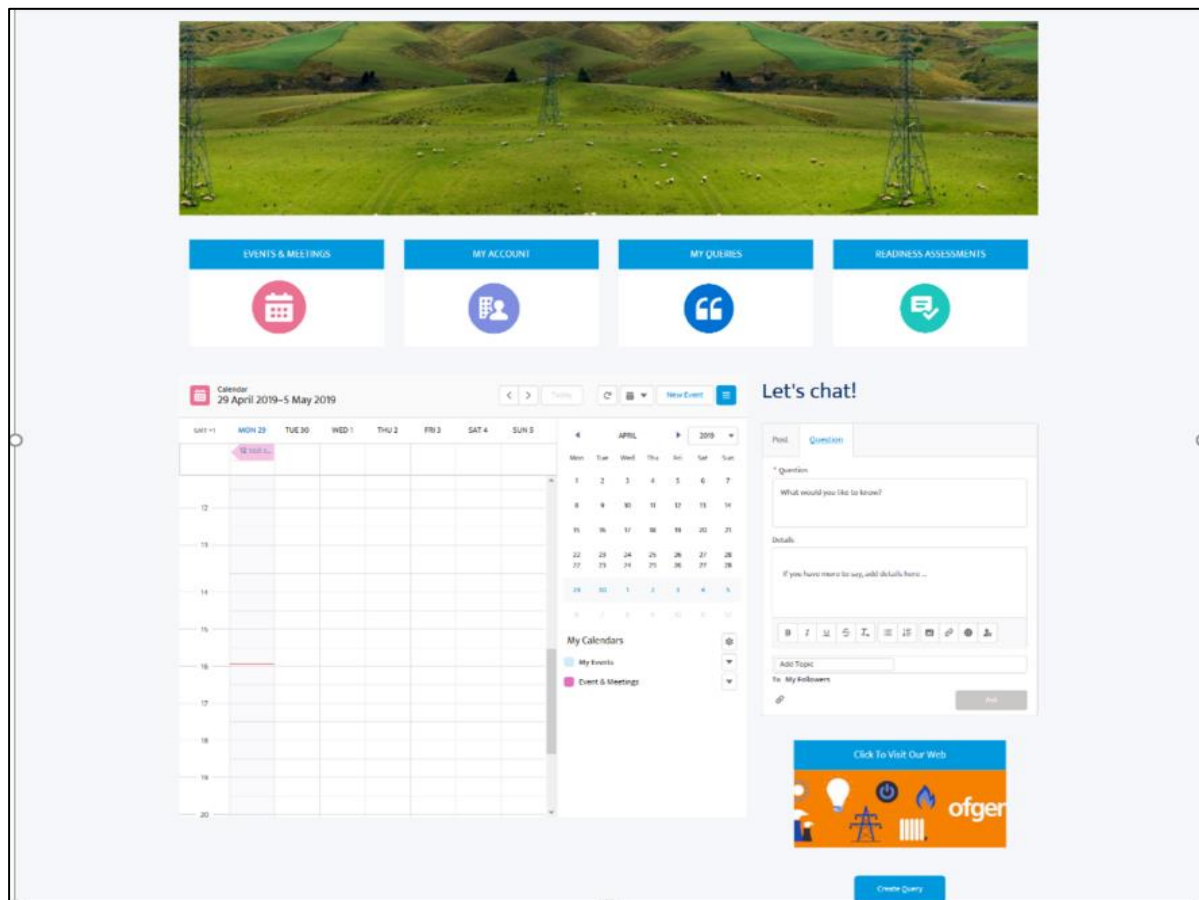
Switching Programme Portal

We are launching a Switching Programme Portal on the Salesforce platform. This Portal will help facilitate engagement between Programme Participants of the Switching Programme and Ofgem. Through the Portal, you will have the opportunity to conduct such activities as raise Queries to the Ofgem team, follow real-time feeds in Chatter, view upcoming events and answer readiness assessment questions.

We are currently building out the initial functionality so that the system is intuitive and easy to use. We are aiming to take Salesforce live on 15th May.

We are also planning a number of webinars to guide parties through how to use the portal, as well as providing you with guidance material on how to use the portal and the portal's rules of use.

Below is a screenshot of Salesforce to give you an idea of the look and feel.



Testing Working Group

We are looking to stand up the Testing Working Group as set out under the DBT Governance Structure.

If you are interested in joining the Testing Working Group, please contact the Switching PMO at SwitchingPMO@ofgem.gov.uk, and we will add you to the distribution list.

Members of the Testing Working Group should be familiar with industry testing processes, provide perspectives on their organisation's testing activities and be able to participate in the development of testing documentation for the Programme.

The first meeting will be held on 15th May by webinar. Could anyone interested in joining this group please send contact details to SwitchingPMO@ofgem.gov.uk.

Contacting licensed parties

The Programme Coordinator team has been working through the responses from our recent licensed party readiness survey, which closed in March. The team is starting to make contact with all organisations who either did not provide any response to that survey, or have not acceded to the REC and are required to as per their licence conditions.

We are actively working to ensure that all licensed parties are aware of their updated licence conditions, the Switching Programme, and what is expected of parties' participation during the delivery phase of the Programme.

DCC business case consultation reminder

A reminder to stakeholders that the consultation period for [DCC's Switching Business Case](#) closes on the 7th May at 12pm. Please send your feedback to switching@smartdcc.co.uk.

Further, Ofgem's [response to the consultation](#) has been published today.

What's coming up in diaries

Ofgem Meetings:

Data Working Group:

Wednesday 22nd May – 10.30am at Gemserv, 8 Fenchurch Place

Wednesday 19th June – 10.30am at Gemserv, 8 Fenchurch Place

Wednesday 17th July – 10.30am at Gemserv, 8 Fenchurch Place

Switching Programme Design Forum:

Monday 13th May – 1pm at Ofgem, 10 South Colonnade

Monday 20th May – 1pm at Ofgem, 10 South Colonnade

Monday 3rd June – 1pm at Ofgem, 10 South Colonnade

Monday 17th June – 1pm at Ofgem, 10 South Colonnade

Switching Programme Testing Working Group:

Wednesday 15th May – 10-12pm, by Webinar

Switching Delivery Group:

Tuesday 14th May – *time and location to be confirmed*

Switching Implementation Group:

Tuesday 4th June – 10am at Ofgem, 10 South Colonnade