

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

From: Hamish Finlay  
Secretary to the Authority

Date: 28/04/2021

Location: Virtual

### GEMA meeting minutes for 28<sup>th</sup> April 2021

#### 1. Chair's Opening Remarks

1.1 The Chair welcomed Board members and external attendees to the meeting, and noted that Paul Arnold, Deputy CEO and Chief Operating Officer of the Information Commissioner's Office, was also in attendance.

1.2 The Chair noted that it was the final meeting for Euan McVicar, General Counsel, and the Board thanked him for his assistance and contribution to the organisation.

1.3 The Chair noted that no conflicts of interest had been reported.

1.4 There were no comments on the minutes from the last meeting, which were therefore approved.

1.5 The Chair highlighted the 'for circulation' papers submitted for the Board's attention, which included a revised organisational Purpose and Values statement, which was approved by the Board. The Chair also drew the Board's attention to the Inclusion, Equality and Diversity Conference held jointly by Ofgem and Energy UK.

1.6 The Board were briefed on some of the Chair's recent engagements which included:

- A joint CEO and Chair meeting with Centrica;
- A virtual visit to understand more about The Wise Group's approach to dealing with consumers in financial difficulty; and
- An Ofgem staff event and group discussion with Peter Cramton on the 2021 Texas Electricity System Outage.

#### 2. Chief Executive Officer's (CEO) Report

2.1 The CEO, noting that Authority members were apprised of his written report, were briefed on some key issues, including:

- The Committee on Climate Change's (CCC's) Sixth Carbon Budget;
- Cyber security;
- A meeting with the Secretary of State; and
- Progress on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the national regulator in India.

### **3. Full Chain Flexibility**

3.1 The Board discussed the opportunities presented by Full Chain Flexibility (FCF) for cost effectively achieving Net Zero.

3.2 The Authority indicated its full support for an ambitious, rapid approach on FCF and for Ofgem to take a leadership role. The Board noted that there would be a further discussion at its July meeting.

### **4. Access Next Steps**

4.1 The Board discussed the potential market reforms required on charging, to support a low cost energy transition.

4.2 Following discussion, the Board approved the approach set out in the paper.

### **5. Quarterly E-Serve Report – Deep Dive**

5.1 The Board considered a deep dive report from the Director of E-Serve.

5.2 The Board discussed the benefits of greater integration between E-Serve and the wider organisation, the importance of engagement with government scheme partners, and the experience of scheme participants.

5.3 The Board also noted a paper on E-Serve IT matters and associated improvement plans.

### **6. Industry Board leadership, governance and transparency**

6.1 The Board discussed proposals to improve the standards of Board leadership, governance and transparency within regulated entities in the energy sector.

6.2 The Board agreed to move forward to develop policy proposals, and to review the position again next year.

### **7. Transformation Programme**

7.1 The Board discussed the ongoing organisational Transformation Programme.

7.2 The Board expressed its support for the developing proposals and noted the importance of their effective implementation.

### **8. Any other Business**

8.1 The Board reflected on the meeting and discussed possible areas for improvement at future meetings.

## **9. Transformation: Purpose and Values**

The Board noted the paper.

## **10. ARAC Minutes**

The Board noted the paper.

## **11. Communication Insights**

The Board noted the paper.

## **12. External Relations Update**

The Board noted the paper.

## **14. Agenda Forward Look**

The Board noted the paper.

## **15. Litigation Tracker**

The Board noted the paper.

### **Those present**

Martin Cave (Chair)

Jonathan Brearley (CEO)

Paul Grout

Christine Farnish

Lynne Embleton

John Crackett

Myriam Madden

Barry Panayi

### **Those attending**

Neil Kenward

Stephanie Broadribb

Priya Brahmhatt-Patel

Cathryn Scott

Philippa Pickford

Jonathan Spence

Rich Smith

## **Others present**

James Kilmartin	(Principal Private Secretary)
Vickie Baker	(Head of Governance and Secretariat)
Jennifer Todd	(Deputy Head of Governance and Secretariat Team)
Hamish Finlay	(Deputy Head of Governance and Secretariat Team)
Paul Arnold	(Information Commissioner's Office)

## ***For specific agenda items***

Euan McVicar	(Item 1)
Neil Barnes	(Item 3)
Anna Rossington	(Item 3)
Tom Kenyon-Brown	(Item 3)
Marcia Polletti	(Item 3)
Tom Corcut	(Item 3)
Amy Freund	(Item 4)
Beth Hannah	(Item 4)
David McCrone	(Item 4)
Patrick Cassels	(Item 4)
Gareth John	(Item 5)
Natasha McCabe	(Item 5)
Sujoy Roy	(Item 5)
Eddie O'Hara	(Item 5)
Laura Nell	(Item 6)
Lisa Charlesworth	(Item 6)
Agnese Meloni	(Item 6)
Kiera Schoenemann	(Item 7)
Robin Nuttal (External)	(Item 7)
Eoin Daly (External)	(Item 7)
Julian Kirchherr (External)	(Item 7)
Flora Rose (External)	(Item 7)
Gregor Jost (External)	(Item 7)