

Consultation

DCC Development Plan RY2016-17



Date issued: 23 May 2016

Deadline for comments: 20 June 2016

Classification: DCC Public

1 Introduction

DCC is required to produce a Development Plan that sets out DCC's strategic priorities for developing its services for the benefit of energy consumers and industry for the next five-year period. DCC is required to update the Development Plan on an annual basis at a minimum. The requirements for the Development Plan are set out in Condition 14 of the Smart Meter Communication Licence (the Licence).

DCC is consulting on a draft version of the update to its Development Plan covering the five-year period starting from the current regulatory year, 2016-17.

DCC has produced the draft Development Plan with reference to the requirements set out in Condition 14 of the Licence.

DCC will take account of comments received in response to the consultation, revising the Development Plan where we believe this is necessary, before publishing the finalised Development Plan at the end of July 2016.

DCC will publish a revised Development Plan on an annual basis at a minimum.

2 Summary

The Development Plan sets out:

- A summary of our development activities over the last year
- An update on our assessment of the utilisation and capacity of DCC Services
- Our Development Approach, including routes for change, principles and key development stages
- Our assessment of the trends and factors likely to influence DCC's future development
- Our strategic priorities and service development roadmap covering the next five years.

At this stage in DCC's development, DCC is unequivocally focused on the implementation of DCC Services to enable the rollout of smart meters. As a result, this iteration of the Development Plan does not provide the level of content that will be included once DCC Services are live, for instance a full assessment of the performance and utilisation of DCC systems, services and infrastructure.

3 Consultation Questions

DCC requests that parties review the draft Development Plan and provide comments and feedback based on the following questions:

Content of the DCC Development Plan

DCC requests that parties review the draft Development Plan and provide comments and feedback based on the following questions:

Content of the Development Plan	
Q1	Do you agree with DCC's strategic priorities? Please explain your reasoning.
Q2	Do you agree with DCC's approach to developing and improving its services, including its proposed principles? Please explain your reasoning.
Q3	Do you have any further comments relating to the draft Development Plan?

Relationship with the DCC Business Plan

At its April 2016 Service Development Forum, DCC received feedback from Parties that there could be benefit in aligning its Business Plan and the Development Plan. Parties noted that there was a degree of overlap in the publications and that it would potentially be beneficial to align production timescales¹.

DCC would welcome Parties' views on the advantages and disadvantages of aligning and/or combining the DCC Business Plan and Development Plan.

Relationship with the DCC Business Plan	
Q4	What are your views on the advantages and disadvantages of aligning and/or combining the DCC Business Plan and Development Plan?

4 How to respond

Please provide responses by Monday 20th June 2016 to DCC at contact@smartdcc.co.uk.

Consultation responses may be published on DCC's website (www.smartdcc.co.uk). Please state whether all, or any part, of your consultation response is confidential. Please note that responses in their entirety (including any text marked confidential) may be made available to the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) and the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority (the Authority).

If you have any questions about the Development Plan, please contact contact@smartdcc.co.uk.

If you have questions about our approach to consultations, please contact our Regulation Manager at tom.rothery@smartdcc.co.uk.

¹ DCC's Annual Business Plan is published in January. The Development Plan is published in July.