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CUSC Panel 2026

CUSC Panel Minutes

Meeting Number: 372

Date: 22/05/2026 **Location:** Microsoft Teams

Start: 10:00 AM **End:** 12:30 PM

Participants

Attendee	Initials	Representing
Anthony Pygram	AP	Independent Panel Chair
Catia Gomes	CG	Panel Secretary Code Administrator Representative
Ren Walker	RW	Panel Technical Secretary (Code Administrator)
Andrew Enzor	AE	Users' Panel Member
Binoy Dharsi	BD	Users' Panel Member
Garth Graham	GG	Users' Panel Member
Joe Colebrook	JC	Users' Panel Member
Kirsty Dawson	KD	Users' Panel Member Alternate
Kyran Hanks	KH	Users' Panel Member
Lauren Jauss	LJ	Users' Panel Member
Shane Cracknell	SC	Users' Panel Member
Dan Arrowsmith	DA	NESO Panel Member
Tom Lowe	TL	Consumers' Panel Member
Nadir Hafeez	NH	Authority Representative

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James Stone	JS	Authority Representative
Jacob Snowden	JSn	Elexon - Observer

Apologies

Attendee	Initials	Representing
Binoy Dharsi	BD	Users' Panel Member

Presenters / Observers

Attendee	Initials	Representing
Penny Garner	PG	NESO
Camille Gilsenan	CGi	NESO
Liam King	LK	Ofgem
Paul Mott	PM	Proposer of CMP476

1. Introductions, Apologies and Declarations of Interest

1. Apologies were received from Binoy Dharsi.
2. Declarations of interest were noted by the following Panel members:
 - JC as Proposer of CMP460.
 - AE as Proposer of CMP470.
 - GG as Proposer of CMP477.

2. Minutes from previous meeting

3. The meeting minutes from the CUSC Panel held on 21 April and 24 April were approved.

3. Review of actions log

4. The CUSC Panel reviewed the action log:

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- Action 182: Action closed. CG confirmed ongoing engagement with TL through regular meetings. The Panel agreed that representation remains sufficient, while CG will contact Consumer Scotland to confirm their interest in attending Panel meetings. The Panel agreed to close the action.
- Action 193: Action to remain open.
- Action 195: The Panel agreed to close this action. DA confirmed that NESO looked at what could have been implemented instead of CMP471 being raised, however, the potential solution didn't satisfy the Proposer so CMP471 was still raised.
- Action 196: Action to remain open. CG confirmed that some feedback from Panel members has been received and asked those Panel members who hadn't provided their feedback to do so ahead of the next Panel. The ranking of modifications will be reviewed in June ahead of a July deep dive.

4. Chair's update

NESO update on Energy Code Reform

5. PG and CGi attended the Panel to provide a NESO update on Energy Code Reform. PG explained that NESO strongly supports the objectives of Energy Code Reform and its role in delivering a simpler, more agile regulatory framework for a rapidly changing energy system. NESO have considered the Code Manager role for the Electricity Commercial Code and Gas Network Code under Phase 2 and decided not to submit an expression of interest.
6. The Phase 2 Code Manager role would represent a further significant new undertaking, distinct from our existing code responsibilities. While NESO have the capability to deliver the role, NESO is already taking on a number of new and expanding responsibilities as part of becoming the independent system operator, particularly in whole-system planning and advisory functions. NESO remains fully committed to supporting a successful phase 2 transition and will continue to work closely with Ofgem to support the wider programme, including the Phase 3 expression of interest process when it opens.
7. A Panel member thanked PG and CGi for the update and highlighted that following NESO's decision, there is a requirement for Panel members to be more engaged in the process to be able to assist the potential Code Manager in the future.

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8. CGi provided an overview of Ofgem’s anticipated timetable, including publication of the Code Manager selection process, expected licence changes, and the overall programme schedule, with transition completion targeted for late 2027 or early 2028 and full delivery by 2030.
9. PG and CGi confirmed that updates will be reflected in Panel headline reports and minutes, and also agreed to provide updates across wider industry forums.

5. Authority Decisions

10. NH and JS provided an update on modifications that have been decided upon, together with those currently awaiting their decision.

Awaiting Decisions

Modification	Final Modification Report Received	Expected Decision Date
CMP315 ‘TNUoS Review of the expansion constant and the elements of the transmission system charged for’ and CMP375 ‘Enduring Expansion Constant & Expansion Factor Review’	07 February 2024	TBC pending update on RNP (previously 07 February 2025)
CMP316 ‘TNUoS Charging Methodology for Co-located Generation’	08 August 2025	May 2026 (previously March 2026)
CMP330&CMP374 ‘Allowing new Transmission Connected parties to build Connection Assets greater than 2km in length and Extending contestability for Transmission Connections’	10 August 2023	TBC subject to CMP414 send back

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CMP397 'Consequential changes required to CUSC Exhibits B and D to reflect CMP316 (Co-located Generation Sites)'	12 June 2024	May 2026 (previously March 2026)
CMP423 'Generation-weighted Reference Node'	09 December 2025	TBC pending update on RNP
CMP440 'Re-introduction of Demand TNUoS locational signals by removal of the zero price floor'	10 April 2026	TBC pending update RNP
CMP453 'To Bill BSUoS on a net basis at BSC Trading Units'	11 November 2025	September 2026

11. The Authority provided an update on modification decisions, confirming that several modifications (including CMP315, CMP371, CMP423 and CMP440) remain under review as part of the wider Review of National Pricing (RNP), with decisions deferred where appropriate. CMP453 remains on track, CMP344 has been rejected, and CMP316 and CMP397 are expected to receive decisions in May.
12. The Panel discussed the interaction between Ofgem's powers and ongoing modification work, with Ofgem confirming a focus on identifying the appropriate solution before determining delivery mechanisms, including potential use of PIA powers or integrated approaches across multiple modifications. It was noted that some modifications, such as CMP445, may progress independently where they do not significantly impact wider reforms.
13. An update was provided on urgent and pending decisions, including CMP473, with Ofgem indicating a decision is expected shortly and sits with the connections team. The Panel requested further clarity on timelines, particularly when delays with decisions on urgency impact implementation.

Demand Connections Update

14. LK from Ofgem provided the Panel with an update on Demand Connections. LK explained that Demand Connection Reform is a central element of Energy Code Reform, driven by growing system constraints and rapidly increasing demand, particularly from data centres and low-carbon technologies, following a long

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period of declining demand. LK noted that the current connections queue is large and inefficient, risking delayed delivery of strategically important projects, and emphasised the need to better manage this transition.

15. LK confirmed that Ofgem is therefore progressing work across three key areas: curating a more effective and credible connections queue, improving how projects are planned and prioritised to deliver the greatest economic and social value, and accelerating system capacity and connection processes while maintaining resilience. Further proposals, including queue management measures and policies for large Demand Users such as data centres, are expected to be published in June, alongside broader considerations on investment, market participation, and technical requirements.
16. In response to LK’s update, a Panel member emphasised that, under the existing regulatory framework, all connection agreements and their associated terms and condition, whether for Demand or Generation must be subject to consultation and codified within the regulated framework, as required by law. The Panel member highlighted the importance of maintaining this principle, particularly given the scale of potential demand, while acknowledging that the current queue levels are unlikely to fully materialise in practice.

Energy Code Reform

17. NH advised the Panel that as part of Energy Code Reform, decisions on the prioritisation process will take effect from 29 May, with the draft second Strategic Direction Statement (SDS) currently under consultation and publication expected in September.

6. New modifications

CMP476: Correction to Section 15 of the CUSC

18. PM delivered a presentation on CMP476. PM explained that this modification corrects an unintended inconsistency in how the Global Asset Re-Use Factor is described in Section 15 of the CUSC compared how it is described in associated documents and applied in practice.
19. Following feedback from a Panel member on the proposed legal text, the Proposer amended the proposed legal text. The changes were presented to the CUSC Panel who agreed with the suggested amendments.

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20. The Panel unanimously agreed that CMP476 should follow the Self- Governance route and proceed to Code Administrator Consultation. The Code Administrator Consultation opened on 27 May, and this will close on 17 June 2026.

CMP477: Facilitating Cross -TO Area Connection Modifications

21. GG provided the Panel with an update on CMP477. GG explained that recent discussions with the NESO Connections team might resolve the issue addressed by CMP477 without the need for a code modification and proposed pausing the modification to allow time for a written resolution from NESO. The Panel supported this approach.

7. In flight modification updates

CMP460: Improving Transmission Connection Asset Charging

22. CG presented a timeline update for CMP460. CG stated that an extension is being requested as further development is required to the legal text, alongside additional Workgroup meetings. The Panel approved the timeline extension request.

CMP470: Introducing an Oversubscribed Technologies Commitment Fee

23. CG presented a timeline update for CMP470. CG explained that an extension is being requested as additional time is required to finalise the solutions and develop the legal text for the original proposal and four Workgroup Alternative CUSC Modifications (WACMs). It was noted that the original timeline was driven by a target decision date of 01 August; however, uncertainty remains due to a lack of confirmation from NESO on the provision of offers. Panel members acknowledged the effort made to meet the existing timeline and agreed that the submission to the Authority should reflect the absence of sufficient information to assess impacts.
24. CG confirmed that a timeline extension request letter would be submitted to the Authority following the Panel meeting.

The next Modification Tracker will be published on 08 June 2026.

8. Workgroup Reports

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25. No Workgroup Reports were presented to the Panel.

9. Draft Final Modification Reports

26. No Draft Final Modification Reports were presented to the Panel.

10. Discussion on Prioritisation

27. CG provided the Panel with a summary of feedback received from other Code Panels regarding Prioritisation and sought views from Panel members on whether prioritisation criteria and timeframes should be standardised across codes or tailored to individual code requirements.
28. NH confirmed that Ofgem's expectation for broadly consistent criteria, while allowing some implementation flexibility.
29. The Panel discussed the interpretation of the 'complexity' criteria, with some Panel members questioning whether higher complexity should automatically increase priority. CG agreed to review and clarify the wording to align with Ofgem's published criteria.
30. The Panel noted the current high volume of urgent modifications and the associated pressure on industry resources. It was agreed that, while urgent modifications cannot be stopped, the Panel should remain mindful of resource constraints and ensure clear communication of these pressures to industry stakeholders.
31. The Panel made no changes to the prioritisation stack and will review this at the Panel meeting on 26 June. The current prioritisation stack can be found via the following link: [here](#)

11. Standing Groups

Transmission Charging Methodology Forum (TCMF)

32. DA confirmed that the TCMF was held on 30 April. The meeting materials can be found via the following [link](#).

The next TCMF meeting will be held on 04 June.

12. European Updates

Joint European Stakeholder Group (JESG)

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33. GG advised that the JESG meeting was held on 12 May. The meeting materials can be found via the following [link](#).

The next JESG meeting will be held on 09 June.

13. Update on other Industry Codes

34. The Panel papers and Headline Report for the following meetings can be found at the below links:

- 23 April 2026 Grid Code Review Panel [Papers and Headline Report](#)
- 28 April 2026 SQSS [Panel Papers and Headline Report](#)
- 29 April 2026 STC [Panel Papers and Headline Report](#)

14. Relevant Interruptions Claim Report

35. No further updates for the Panel.

15. Governance

36. No further updates for the Panel.

16. Horizon Scan

37. CG advised that work is ongoing to review and refine the Horizon Scan to ensure it reflects both current in-flight modifications and emerging issues. CG confirmed that further internal work is being undertaken to define required inputs and to assess how the Horizon Scan will align across codes.

17. Code Administrator Update

38. There were no updates for the Panel.

18. Any Other Business (AOB)

Workgroup Consultation Responses

39. A Panel member highlighted an instance where a company submitted multiple identical responses to a Workgroup Consultation under different CUSC parties, noting the potential to skew summary outputs and querying whether Section 8 should be amended to address this.

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40. The Panel discussed current practice, with Panel members noting that decisions are based on the substance rather than the number of responses. CG confirmed that each CUSC party is entitled to submit a response, although identical submissions could be flagged to improve transparency.
41. The Panel considered potential next steps, including a suggestion from a Panel member to identify parent companies within response summaries. Another recommendation was to issue informal reminders to parties ahead of considering any formal rule changes, with the Panel agreeing to continue monitoring the issue.

19. Close

42. The Chair thanked the Panel for their time and contribution and brought the meeting to a close.

The next CUSC Panel meeting will be held on 26 June via Microsoft Teams.

New Modification Proposals to be submitted by 11 June.

CUSC Panel Papers Day is 18 June.