

Public

# CUSC Panel 21 October 2025

## CUSC Panel Minutes

**Date:** 21/10/2025      **Location:** Microsoft Teams

**Start:** 11:30      **End:** 12:30

### Participants

Attendee	Initials	Representing
Anthony Pygram	AP	Independent Panel Chair
Catia Gomes	CG	Panel Secretary, Code Administrator
Ren Walker	RW	Panel Technical Secretary, Code Administrator
Andy Pace	APa	Users' Panel Member
Binoy Dharsi	BD	Users' Panel Member
Garth Graham	GG	Users' Panel Member
Lauren Jauss	LJ	Users' Panel Member
Shane Cracknell	SC	Users' Panel Member
Dan Arrowsmith	DA	NESO Panel Member
Nadir Hafeez	NH	Authority Representative
Harriet Harmon	HH	Authority Representative

### Apologies

Attendee	Initials	Representing
Andrew Enzor	AE	Users' Panel Member
Joe Colebrook	JC	Users' Panel Member



## Public

13006. CG noted that the Code Administrator Consultation was run from 19 September – 03 October 2025 and received 18 non-confidential responses and 3 confidential responses. Key points from the consultation were:

- The consultation received high levels of support with 17 out of 18 respondents stating that all solutions better facilitated the Applicable CUSC objectives than the baseline. 13 out of 18 respondents preferred the WACM3 solution.
- 1 respondent was not supportive due to the urgency and need to implement the code modification within the Gate 2 offers as part of the Gate 2 To Whole Queue (G2TWQ) process in the implementation of Connections Reform.
- Most respondents emphasised that timely implementation is critical, ideally before Gate 2 offers or the next security deadline.
- No legal text issues identified.

13007. The Panel held their recommendation vote on CMP447. The Panel recommended unanimously that the Original, WACM1, WACM2 and WACM3 better facilitated the Applicable CUSC Objectives. **Post Meeting Note: The Final Modification Report was submitted to the Authority on 21 October 2025.**

## 3. New Modification

### **CMP457: Revision of the Obligatory Reactive Power Service (ORPS)**

13008. JT delivered a presentation on CMP457. JT explained that the rising cost of ORPS provision reflects the compensation rate for ORPS, being reflective of gas prices. The increasing shift away from gas to low carbon generation requires a re-evaluation of compensation principles rather than a simple updating of values. This update to the Connection and Use of System Code (CUSC) will incorporate the output from the ORPS project to introduce a fair and transparent payment methodology.

13009. JT advised the Panel that an industry webinar took place on 25 September where the proposed solution was shared with industry for feedback ahead of the final recommendation being published, however noted that further discussions on the solution are expected throughout Workgroup meetings.

## Public

13010. The Panel unanimously agreed that CMP457 should follow the Standard Governance route and proceed to a Workgroup. The Terms of Reference will be agreed at the CUSC Panel on 31 October 2025.

## 3. AOB

### Connections Reform Update

13011. JN from NESO attended the Panel to give an update on Connections Reform. JN advised the Panel that the system functionality and portal are open longer due to Gate 2 connections, ensuring all applicants are included in the queue process. JN further explained that NESO understands the Q2 deadline and timelines for 2030 and are reviewing this internally with colleagues, TO's, DNO's, Ofgem and Government to deliver the new re – baselined plan.

13012. GG, acknowledging the letter than was sent by several trade associations in relation to their Connection Agreements, highlighted the reference NESO made to the Appeals Process and how sought further clarification on this process. HH thanked GG for raising this, however noted that further investigations on this process should not happen at the CUSC Panel as there is a limit to the remit of the CUSC panel, and further discussions are needed outside of the Panel. There was some disagreement about this by Panel members, and it was agreed that it would be beneficial for an agenda item for the 31 October Panel meeting to further discussion the role of the CUSC Panel in relation to this.

### In person CUSC Panel: 31 October

13013. The Panel discussed the next in person meeting and if this should be held as an in person meeting or online. The Panel considered the potential agenda items and agreed that this should remain as an in-person meeting.

## 3. Close

13014. The Chair thanked the Panel for their time and contributions and brought the meeting to a close.

**The next CUSC Panel meeting will be held on 26 September on Microsoft Teams.**