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# CUSC Panel 2026

## CUSC Panel Minutes

**Meeting Number: 370**

**Date:** 15/05/2026      **Location:** Microsoft Teams

**Start:** 12:30      **End:** 13:30

## 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
Garth Graham	GG	Users' Panel Member
Joe Colebrook	JC	Users' Panel Member
Kyran Hanks	KH	Users' Panel Member
Lauren Jauss	LJ	Users' Panel Member
Shane Cracknell	SC	Users' Panel Member
Tom Lowe	TL	Consumers' Panel Member
Dan Arrowsmith	DA	NESO Panel Member

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Scott Bull	SB	Authority Representative
James Stone	JS	Authority Representative
Jacob Snowden	JSn	Elexon – Observer

## Apologies

Attendee	Initials	Representing
Binoy Dharsi	BD	Users’ Panel Member
Nadir Hafeez	NH	Authority Representative

## Presenters

Attendee	Initials	Representing
Matthew Dowds	MD	CMP471 Proposer

## 1. Introductions, Apologies and Declarations of Interest

1. Apologies were received from Binoy Dharsi and Nadir Hafeez.

## 2. New Modifications

CMP471: Interim Contract Variation Process Ahead of CMP434 Gated Application Window

2. MD delivered a presentation on CMP471. MD explained that this modification proposes a temporary, limited amendment to the CUSC allowing Users to adjust elements of their NESO contracts before the first CMP434 Gated Application Window.
3. MD set out their rationale for Urgency against Ofgem’s Urgency criteria (a), which is as follows: *a) A significant commercial impact on parties, consumers or other stakeholder(s)*. MD explained that this modification meets Ofgem’s urgency criteria as it relates to an imminent and time-

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bound issue with significant commercial implications for Users. Users require the ability to amend connection dates ahead of the first CMP434 Gated Application Window and prior to the 01 April 2027 liability trigger. Without this, Users may be exposed to increased cost and liability profiles that do not reflect deliverable project timelines. The timing of implementation is therefore critical. A backstop implementation date of September 2026 is required to ensure that Users can utilise the proposed variation process before the relevant liability milestone is reached.

4. Without urgent implementation, Users will be required to enter the first CMP434 Gated Application Window with contractual connection dates that do not reflect current project delivery assumptions. This misalignment may lead to inefficient Gate 2 outcomes, including an increased risk of Users rejecting Gate 2 Offers due to inaccurate programme assumptions and associated cost exposure. The inability to amend connection dates ahead of the Gated Application Window creates a clear timing constraint. If not addressed in advance of this window, Users will lose the opportunity to make proportionate adjustments within the scope of this proposal, resulting in avoidable inefficiencies and increased cost risk.
5. The Panel discussed the CMP471 Proposal and the associated request for urgency and noted the following:
  - Seven Panel members agreed with the Proposer's justification for urgency.
  - The view of NESO Panel member was that the figures presented by the Proposer during Panel, show that it's clear this issue presents a significant commercial impact to some industry parties, which would not be solved in time by a modification progressing under a standard timeline. As such, NESO agrees with the case for urgency.
6. The Panel unanimously agreed that CMP471 met the Authority's Urgency criteria (a) and therefore recommended urgent treatment. Panel's recommendation was sent on 15 May 2026 seeking an Authority decision

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by 5pm on 19 May 2026. ***(Post meeting note: The Authority granted Urgency for CMP471 on 28 May).***

### **3. Any Other Business (AOB)**

7. No any other business was raised.

### **4. Close**

8. 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 22 May at Faraday House.**

**New Modification Proposals to be submitted by 07 May.**

**CUSC Panel Papers Day is 14 May.**