

UNC Governance Workgroup Minutes

Monday 04 June 2018

at Radcliffe House, Blenheim Court, Warwick Road, Solihull B91 2AA

Attendees

Penny Garner (Chair)	(PG)	Joint Office
Kully Jones (Secretary)	(KJ)	Joint Office
Chris Warner	(CW)	Cadent
Dan Fittock*	(DF)	Corona Energy
Darren Lond	(DL)	National Grid NTS
Joanna Ferguson	(JF)	Northern Gas
Kirsty Dudley*	(KD)	EON
Mark Bellman	(MB)	Scottish Power
Mark Jones*	(MJ)	SSE
Megan Coventry*	(MC)	SSE
Richard Pomroy*	(RP)	Wales & West Utilities
Sally Hardman	(SH)	SGN
Steve Mulinganie*	(SM)	Gazprom
Ray Elliott	(RE)	Ofgem

Apologies

Debra Hawkin	(DH)	TPA Solutions
Hilary Chapman	(HC)	SGN

Copies of all papers are available at <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/gov/040618>

1. Introduction and Status Review

Penny Garner (PG) welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Governance Review Group.

2. Joint Office Panel Presentation

PG provided a brief overview of the Joint Office presentation titled *Panel Presentation -Joint Office points to consider*. She explained that Joint Office are looking for support to undertake a piece of work to review governance arrangements and for the Review Group to look at the efficiency and effectiveness of the Modification Panel.

The presentation to Panel in April suggested some good governance principles that could be underpinned by the UNC Modification Rules. The list of topic areas, is not definitive and the Review Group were invited to propose new areas during the course of the meeting. The group were also asked to provide views on how the Modification Panel could be more efficient and effective and to consider short, medium and long-term approaches to achieve the utopia scenario.

PG suggested that the Workgroup could consider the governance issues in turn and for each one articulate the issue/current problem providing background information and an assessment of what is covered by the UNC Modification rules. This information could be captured in the draft issues log provided for the meeting together with an assessment of the priority and status and action taken.

The following general comments were made before the topics were discussed.

The Modification Panel is governed by the Modification Rules. The JO work to the CACoP principals.

Chris Warner (CW) commented on the scope of the Review Group, suggesting that whilst the majority of the areas to be considered relate to Modification Panel matters, the significant topic on the management of Alternative Modifications is a wider industry matter.

Ray Elliott (RE) provided a brief update on the piece of work led by Ofgem on “strategic direction”. He explained that many of the team members on this work had been re-deployed due to other work priorities. He agreed to keep the group updated on Ofgem’s work in this area.

Steve Mulinganie (SM) asked for technology to be added as a new area for consideration.

Kirsty Dudley (KD) asked who would own and drive this work forward and what would the issues log deliver. In response, PG suggested that any issues identified could be grouped into meaningful categories and this could lead to potential new Modifications to address the areas concerned.

It was suggested that the proposed topic areas be reviewed and prioritised to identify where best to focus the work of the group.

A brief discussion took place around the subject of tenure. PG asked whether the tenure subject could be addressed within Modification 0656, as a quick-win. The general view was that one year is too short a tenure period and it should be a minimum of two years. Kirsty Dudley (KD) and Mark Jones (MJ) provided experience from iGT UNC stating that tenure is on a two-year rolling basis from appointment. Alignment with iGT would therefore be helpful. KD questioned whether decisions should be made ahead of the Retail Energy Code (REC). In response, PG confirmed that Joint Office are involved in discussions with CACoP and Ofgem in relation to REC.

A rolling tenure was not favoured by all as it may lead to mini-elections. It was agreed that SM would include tenure in Modification 0656 and propose a two-year tenure with effect from October 2019 or with transitional arrangements from October 2018 (if Modification 0656 is implemented before 1 October 2018).

The Review group considered the issues identified in the issues log. An updated issues log will be published for the next meeting.

3. Issues

No new issues were raised.

4. Next Steps

The Review group agreed that 2 pieces of work should be undertaken:

- a. Joint Office would provide a draft Code of Conduct document for discussion in September.
- b. Use of alternative Modifications.

Action 0601: Review group participants to provide suggestions for topic areas to be addressed within a Code of Conduct document to Joint Office.

5. Any Other Business

None raised.

6. Diary Planning

The Review group agreed to hold monthly meetings in Solihull.

Further details of planned meetings are available at: <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/events-calendar/month>

Workgroup meetings will take place as follows:

Time / Date	Venue	Workgroup Programme
-------------	-------	---------------------

10:00 Thursday 12 July 2018	Radcliffe House, Blenheim Court, Warwick Road, Solihull B91 2AA	Detail planned agenda items. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of Issues Log • Consideration of outstanding actions.
10:00 Monday 06 August 2018 provisional date	TBC	Detail planned agenda items. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of Issues Log • Consideration of outstanding actions.
10:00 Tuesday 11 September 2018 provisional date	Radcliffe House, Blenheim Court, Warwick Road, Solihull B91 2AA	Detail planned agenda items. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of draft Code of Conduct • Consideration of Issues Log • Consideration of outstanding actions.

Action Table (as at 04 June 2018)

Action Ref	Meeting Date	Minute Ref	Action	Owner	Status Update
0601	04/06/18	4.0	Review group participants to provide suggestions for topic areas to be addressed within a Code of Conduct document to Joint Office.	ALL	Pending