



DSC Change Committee SDG Attendance Survey

Results

Background

As the attendance of the second Solution Design Group meeting had significantly reduced from the first meeting, DSC Change Committee Members requested a survey to be issued to the attendees to understand:

- Attendance levels
- Expectations of the SDG

In total there 7 responses to the survey.

Questions

Q1. Did you attend the first SDG meeting?

Yes	No
5	2

Q2. Did the meeting meet your expectations?

Yes	No
4	3

Questions – Cont'd

Q3. If the meeting did not meet your expectations why not??

- Note, there did seem to be some confusion from CMC members as to what we were suppose to do
- We require more detailed analysis provided by Xoserve to drive real technical discussion rather than prioritising change which is a ChMC activity.
- The meeting was asked for a technical assessment of the changes not to prioritise them

Q3 response cont'd (one response below)

We were asked to review a number of changes (many of which are internal to the CDSP) and provide a H/M/L priority. This is not a technical task but a programme management activity (something better suited to decision making groups such as DSC).

Even this task was made difficult because of the lack of information relating to the topics (e.g. 'Various changes to file format documents', there was no supporting data provided)

Also a number of questions were raised in the first meeting many of which were not truly answered in the second (although some were answered).

Not all affected parties were present (iGTs).

The external impact of internal CDSP changes was not clear to even the CDSP.

The meeting should have been broken down into individual topics > of time with a clear goal for the group.

The topics should be a technical nature and the group encouraged to look for different solution options to those topic. i.e. Discuss and develop a range of possible solutions (and a recommendation) to a particular problem which can be presented to the change board for consideration (effectively a working group to start developing or refining solutions for discussion).

A number of the items presented were already solutionised which left little room for the SDG other than a high level impact assessment for the change.

There are a couple of particular problems of using a competitive commercial group to develop an industry solutions and these will need to be managed:

How to add the appropriate weight to an issue when parties are unwilling to share related data (e.g. volumes which may highlight commercially or strategic direction e.g. settlement class strategy or target market). To determine the appropriate solution is in many cases is heavily reliant on understanding these non-functional factors.

In the past the most logical solution to a number of changes is for a single system to be altered (that of the CDSP) however there have been cases where this is rejected by the CDSP with a proposal that multiple other parties instead change their systems. (E.g. Read validation - was restricted to straight-line apportionment by the CDSP).

These issue need to be correctly managed to make sure the best Industry solution is arrived not just the best/simplest solution for the CDSP.

Questions cont'd

- Q4. Did you attend the second SDG meeting?

Yes	No
4	3

- Of the No responses:
 - 1 was on leave
 - Not my role
 - Was not available

Questions Cont'd

- **Q5. what would encourage you to attend further meetings?**
- Early notice of items to be discussed with enough description to determine if they are of interest to my company so that I could re-arrange my workload to attend as often as possible.
- Perhaps we should revisit terms of reference. I thought historically SDG was Solution Development Group! If we're now the design group I think this should be formalised in the governance structure.
- Agenda items in advance. The ability to discuss in detail is important. The chairman must allow wide ranging discussions to allow alternative solutions.
- Proper papers in advance of the meeting that set out and enable technical discussions, including file and data types.
- I do not have the appropriate skills
- Discussions of a more technical nature communicated ahead of the meeting with supporting data and preparation from the CDSP.