
Panel Report

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Foreword from Wanda Goldwag

Independent Chair of the Uniform Network Code Modification Panel



When I assumed this role in January 2020, I could never have imagined what an extraordinary two years would have unfolded. First the challenges of a global pandemic, then the world-wide rise in wholesale gas prices and the failure of energy suppliers in the market and now as I write this, the events that are unfolding in the Ukraine.

I am however delighted to introduce to the first Uniform Network Code Modification Panel Annual Report. This first Annual Report will cover the periods 1st October 2019- 30th September 2020 and 1st October 2020 – 30th September 2021. This Annual Report came about because of Modification 0731S -Introduction of Annual Modification Panel Report:

<https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0731>

Since it began in March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a far-reaching and deep impact across all our stakeholders, placing previously unimaginable pressures on the energy industry, regulators, consumer groups, businesses, and consumers.

However, through it all, the Uniform Network Code (UNC) Modification Panel has delivered good performance that has allowed the industry to fulfil its obligations in these unprecedented times. The Modification Panel has been faced with an intense and important workload over the last year, dealing at pace – with a broad range of intricate, technical, and pressing consumer issues. Only through collaboration across the industry, have we been able to successfully navigate through these unprecedented times. We have also met these challenges by swiftly embracing new technology and communications, whilst embracing agile working.

The UNC Modification Panel and UNC Committee (UNCC) also provided an expeditious response to Ofgem's reprioritised objectives which were "to ensure that customer needs are met, particularly the most vulnerable; to maintain secure, reliable, and safe supplies of energy to consumers in the short to medium term (i.e., through to the end of next winter); and to ensure the safety and protection of consumers and the workforce."

The UNC Modification Panel has ensured that our decisions listen to the voice of the consumer, and I am delighted that we have Citizens Advice fully involved in the Modification Panel. We have also been working closely with Code Administration Code of Practice (CACoP: <https://cacop.co.uk>), which is a cross energy industry code body, developing our processes and best practice to ensure that when change is being considered, the consumer benefits are better reflected as well as the impacts on the environment, and the challenges of achieving Net Zero.

It is, however, important that I highlight matters that I believe have gone less well. Firstly, I remain surprised at the enormous number of meetings (over 500 each Gas Year) that the Joint Office of Gas Transporters has managed. This is an enormous strain on both them and the industry and calls out for a more streamlined way to manage the Uniform Network Code (UNC).

Secondly, I worry that there has been little progress on reforming the number of code bodies in the energy industry. I set up a working group of the Independent Chairs of the code bodies, to assist in sharing best practice and consolidation, but no real progress has been made. Lastly, I remain concerned that Ofgem have been overwhelmed by the demands made on them and that we have Modifications waiting with them for such a long time, that the Legal Text that goes with them is out of date, when finally, they are considered for a decision, leading to much unnecessary additional work.

When I consider the next two years, I therefore very much look forward to engaging with Ofgem, BEIS and the industry in relation to the Design and Delivery of the Energy Code Reform:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/energy-code-reform-governance-framework>.

It is vitally important that we ensure that the future of Energy Code Reform places the consumer at the heart of decision making. I would welcome further discussion relating to the role of the strategic body. I firmly believe that there needs to be clear regulatory accountability and that any future framework should allow effective opportunities for different interests and views to be represented whilst being as simple, rational, transparent, and timely as possible. I would also like to see the manner and timescales in which the regulator responds to changes monitored more robustly

I would like to see further consideration as to how the future strategic body will be assessed and held to account in relation to areas such as UK net zero targets, strategic direction, delivery, benefit to end consumers and financial accountability. Any assessment should include the views of the energy industry stakeholders, consumers, business, and the UK government.

The Modification Panel will also be carefully monitoring any potential impacts relating to the Supplier of Last Resort process (SoLR), as well as the ongoing and deeply saddening situation in Ukraine.

I will also continue to work with and focus the attention of my Panel on the benefits of the changes we discuss. I will ensure that all Panel Members continue to operate in a highly professional manner, that our discussions are transparent and coherent and that we have the consumer at the heart of all we do. Our decisions must not reflect individual company needs, but rather be reflective of the needs of the consumer and the industry.

On behalf of the UNC Modification Panel, I would like to extend my warmest thanks to the team at the Joint Office of Gas Transporters, we very much appreciate all your hard work and expertise which enables us to fulfil our role as a Modification Panel.

Over the past two years, we have also said farewell to several UNC Modification Panel Members. I would like to thank all past members for the commitment, expertise, and flexibility they brought to their roles. Our thanks and appreciation

Mark Jones, Nigel Bradbury, Andrew Green and Rebecca Cailles, who all have left the UNC Modification Panel.

Moving forward, I was delighted that I received the unanimous support of the UNC Modification Panel and the approval of the Authority to continue in the role, for a final two-year period. I very much look forward to working with the industry and supporting the consumer during these challenging times

Warmest regards,

Wanda

April 2022

Background – Uniform Network Code (UNC) Governance

The Role of the Joint Office of Gas Transporters

The Joint Office is the Code Administrator for the Uniform Network Code (UNC). The Uniform Network Code (UNC) is the hub around which the competitive gas industry revolves, comprising a legal and contractual framework to ship and transport gas. It has a common set of rules which ensure that competition can be facilitated on level terms. It governs processes, such as the balancing of the gas system, network planning, and the allocation of network capacity.

The Joint Office was created in 2005 during the sale of four of National Grid's gas distribution networks. As part of the sale, Ofgem placed a licence condition, Standard Special Condition A12 (Joint Governance Arrangements) (SSpCA12)¹ on the retained and sold networks. SSpCA12 requires gas transporters to work together to establish, develop and operate joint governance arrangements for the implementation and administration of the UNC and other common matters. In accordance with SSpCA12, the gas transporters entered into a joint agreement, the Joint Governance Arrangements Agreement (JGAA).

This agreement, amongst other things, describes how the Joint Office is established, governed, and funded. To ensure the Joint Office is governed effectively, the gas transporters provide oversight and direction through the Joint Governance Arrangements Committee (JGAC).

JGAC meets regularly throughout the year and is comprised of representatives of each of the Gas Transporters and Chief Executive of the Joint Office. The Joint Office avoids undue discrimination or preference across the gas industry. The Joint Office is trusted to impartially, support, facilitate, educate and where necessary challenge all parties as a critical friend.

The Joint Office works closely with the UNC Modification Panel to manage the governance arrangements which facilitate change within the gas industry. As part of Ofgem's energy Code Governance Review a Code of Practice (CACoP) was developed by industry to facilitate convergence and transparency in code modification processes and to help protect the interests of small market participants and consumers through the adoption of key code administration principles.

The Joint Office of Gas Transporters is committed to operating in line with the Code Administration Code of Practice (CACoP) and we regularly report performance data to the Authority.

Uniform Network Code Modification Panel

Membership and role

The UNC Modification Panel (<https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/panel>) is composed of the following:

- The Independent Panel Chairperson
- Up to five (5) other Transporters' Representatives, being Voting Members
- If appointed, up to six (6) Users' Representatives, being Voting Members
- If appointed, the Ofgem Representative, being a non-voting Member
- If appointed, the Terminal Operators' Representative, being a non-voting Member
- If appointed, up to two (2) Consumers' Representative(s), being Voting Members
- If appointed, the Independent Suppliers' Representative, being a non-voting Member; and
- If appointed, the Independent Gas Transporters' Representative, being a Voting Member

Ofgem is responsible for approving the appointments of the Independent Panel Chairperson and both Consumers' Representatives.

The UNC Modification Panel meets on the third Thursday of each month or is convened when needed outside of this time,

At the monthly meetings of the UNC Modification Panel, items discussed include but are not limited to:-

- New Modification Proposals
- Workgroup Reports
- Final Modification Reports
- Variations
- Legal text
- Modifications with Ofgem awaiting decision.

The UNC Modification Panel is also responsible for several Sub Committees and Workgroups which:

- Monitor adherence to the UNC
- Support Proposers in shaping UNC Modification Proposals
- Review both the contract performance of the Central Data Service Provider (CDSP) and any changes to be made to its governing documents (the Data Service Contract (DSC)).

Modification types

The types of Modifications governed by the UNC Modification Panel are:-

- Fast Track
- Self-Governance
- Standard Modification
- Review
- Urgent Modification.

The UNC Modification Panel can approve Fast Track and Self-Governance Modifications for implementation.

The Authority (Ofgem) approves Standard and Urgent Modifications and Parties can appeal Self-Governance Modifications to the Authority.

Significant Code Reviews (SCRs)

The Significant Code Review (SCR) process provides a tool for Ofgem to initiate wide ranging and holistic change and to implement reform to a code-based issue.

Ofgem would consult before deciding on whether to undertake an SCR. The consultation would set out Ofgem's views on the need for an SCR; the proposed scope and scale of the work including, where possible, an estimate of the time and cost implications; and the reasons why Ofgem consider that an SCR is the most appropriate mechanism to take forward the area of work. Ofgem would also expect to consult on which of the SCR process options should be followed. Recent SCRs include:

- Retail Code Consolidation Significant Code Review -<https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/publications/rcc-scr-closure>
- Switching Programme

<https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/energy-policy-and-regulation/policy-and-regulatory-programmes/switching-programme>

Duration of Appointments

The Independent Panel Chairperson is appointed for a two-year period. Wanda Goldwag, the present Independent Panel Chairperson took her post on 1 January 2022 and will remain until 31 December 2023. Panel Members are elected for a two-year period. Elections for Modification Panel Members will commence in the Summer of 2023, for appointments to begin on 1 October 2023.

The Joint Office of Gas Transporters provides full secretarial support to the Uniform Network Code Modification Panel.

Uniform Network Code Modification Panel - Performance Data

The UNC Modification Panel is the body constituted under the Uniform Network Code to oversee the Modification process. The UNC Modification Panel is responsible for the governance of all Modifications from the moment they are raised through to the point of implementation.

To support the Modification process, the Joint Office of Gas Transporters administers industry meetings, workgroups, and committees. The Joint Office of Gas Transporters is also responsible for ensuring that the Uniform Network Code Modification Register the Uniform Network Code and subsequent, related documents are up to date.

Modification 0731 – Introduction of an Annual Modification Report requires data to be presented that relates to the work of the UNC Modification Panel: <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0731>

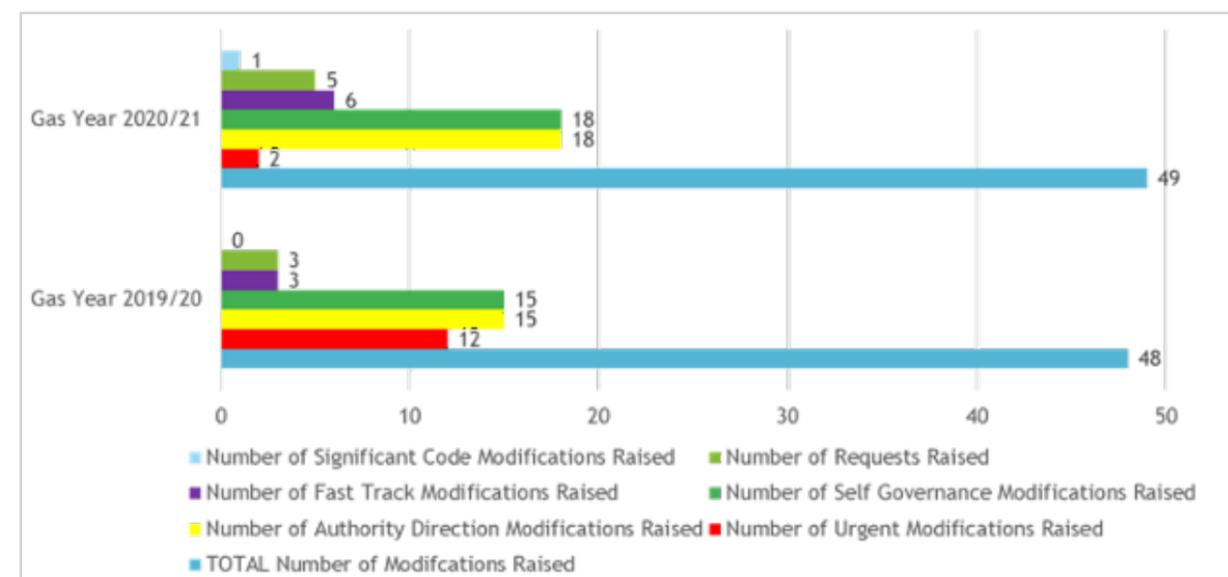
The Joint Office has provided data relating to Gas Year 2019-2020 and Gas Year 2020-2021. The data is sourced from the Joint Office of Gas Transporters Website, Workload Planner and the Uniform Network Code Modification Register.

The data provided below covers the following data sets:

1. Overview of Modifications Raised for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021
2. Modifications Raised by Proposing Organisation for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021
3. Modifications Raised by Proposing Organisation Type for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021
4. Total number of all Meetings by Type for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021
5. Total number of Meetings by Workgroup Area for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021
6. Total number of Consultations and responses for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021
7. All Modification Process Outcomes (Implemented or Rejected) for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021
8. Modifications Implemented through Panel Decisions by Type for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021
9. Modifications Implemented through Authority Decisions by Type for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021
10. Modifications Rejected: Comparison by Decision Maker for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021

11. Lifecycle for Authority Direction Modifications (Excluding Urgent Modifications) for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021
12. Lifecycle for Authority Direction Modifications (Urgent Modifications only) for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021
13. Modifications Sent back by the Authority for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021

1. Overview of Modifications Raised for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021



2. Modifications Raised by Proposing Organisation for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021

| Gas year | Total number of mods made | Number of organisations raising mods | Organisation | Number of modifications raised >1 | Urgent | AD | FTSG | SG | Request |
|----------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------|----|------|----|---------|
| 20/21 | 49 | 13 | National Grid | 18 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 11 | - |
| | | | Gazprom | 5 | - | 4 | - | 1 | |
| | | | Northern Gas Networks | 3 | - | 1 | 2 | - | |
| | | | Barrow | 2 | - | 1 | - | 1 | |
| | | | Corona | 2 | - | 1 | - | 1 | |
| | | | E-on | 2 | - | 1 | - | 1 | |
| | | | SGN | 2 | - | - | 1 | 1 | |
| 19/20 | 48 | 17 | National Grid | 10 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 1 |
| | | | Gazprom | 10 | 3 | 4 | - | 3 | |
| | | | Wales ?& West Utilities | 5 | 1 | - | 2 | 2 | |
| | | | Storengy UK | 4 | 1 | 3 | - | - | |
| | | | Northern Gas Networks | 3 | 2 | - | - | 1 | |
| | | | Centrica | 2 | - | 2 | - | - | |
| | | | RWE Npower | 2 | 1 | 1 | - | - | |
| | | | SGN | 2 | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| | | | South Hook Gas LTD | 2 | 1 | 1 | - | - | |

Proposing Organisations are listed here if they have raised more than 1 Modification in total in that Gas Year.

Key to abbreviations:

| Urgent | Urgent Modification |
|---------|-----------------------------------------|
| AD | Authority Direction Modification |
| FTSG | Fast Track Self Governance Modification |
| SG | Self Governance Modification |
| Request | Request Modification |

3. Modifications Raised by Proposing Organisation Type for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021

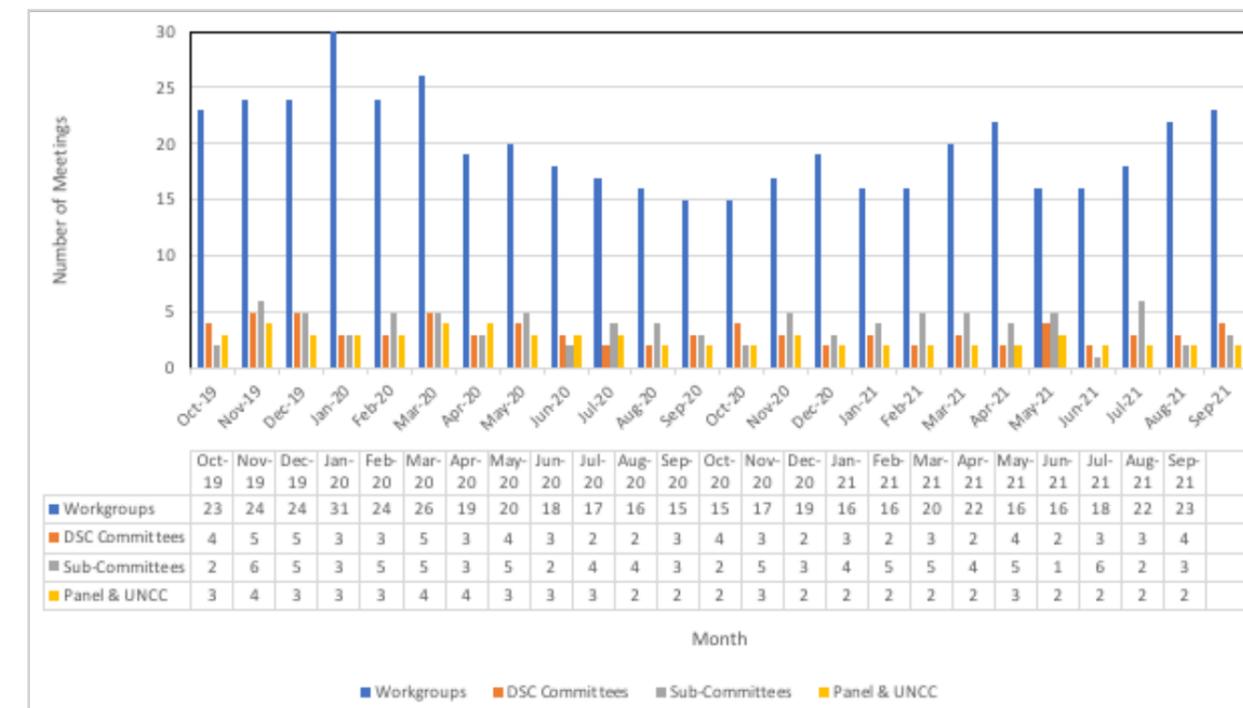
| Gas year | Organisation | Number of modifications raised >1 | Urgent | AD | FTSG | SG | Request |
|----------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------|----|------|----|---------|
| 20/21 | Transporter | 23 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 12 | - |
| | Shipper | 11 | - | 7 | - | 1 | 3 |
| | Other (SCR/Ofgem etc.) | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 19/20 | Transporter | 20 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 9 | 2 |
| | Shipper | 20 | 6 | 11 | - | 3 | - |
| | Other (SCR/Ofgem etc.) | - | - | - | - | - | - |

Proposing Organisations are listed here if they have raised more than 1 Modification in total in that Gas Year.

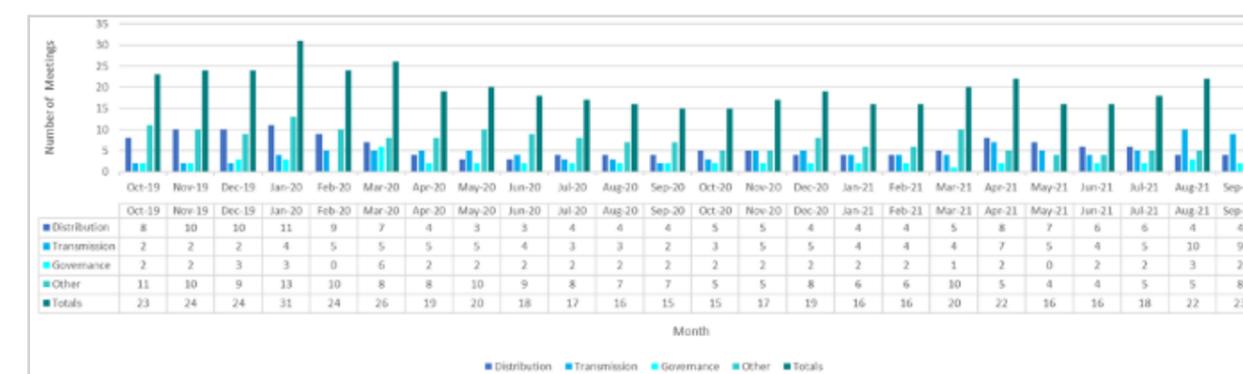
Key to abbreviations:

| Urgent | Urgent Modification |
|---------|-----------------------------------------|
| Urgent | Urgent Modification |
| AD | Authority Direction Modification |
| FTSG | Fast Track Self Governance Modification |
| SG | Self Governance Modification |
| Request | Request Modification |

4. Modifications Raised by Proposing Organisation for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021

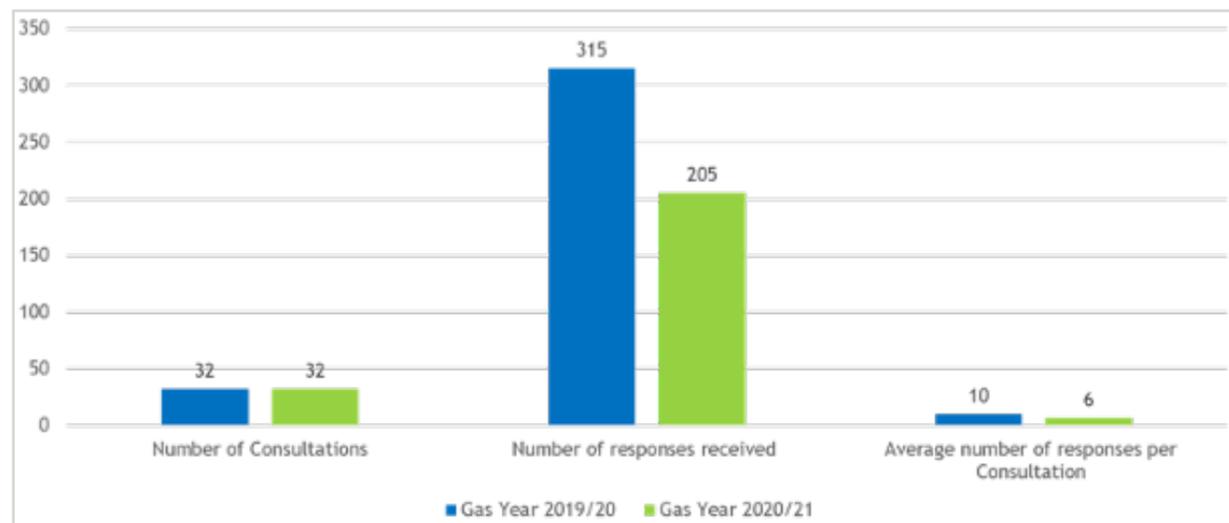


5. Modifications Raised by Proposing Organisation for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021

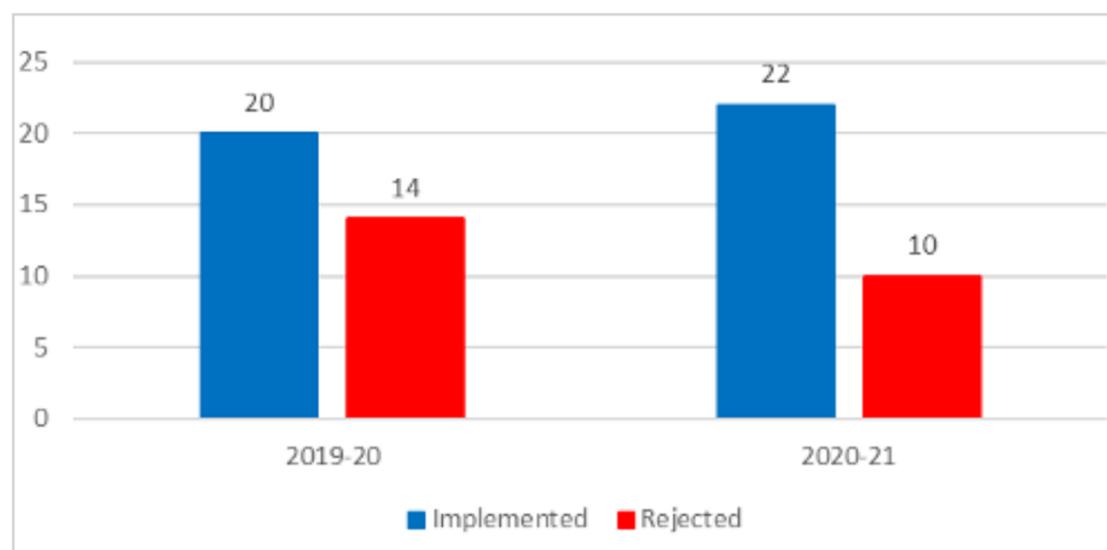


Meeting numbers each month include the number of individual Modification Workgroups. For example, in October 2019, Distribution Workgroup was held, with seven individual Workgroup meetings also taking place (Workgroup 0692, Workgroup 0694, Workgroup 0697, Workgroup 0699, Workgroup 0701, Workgroup 0702, and Workgroup 0704 (<https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/dist/241019>)).

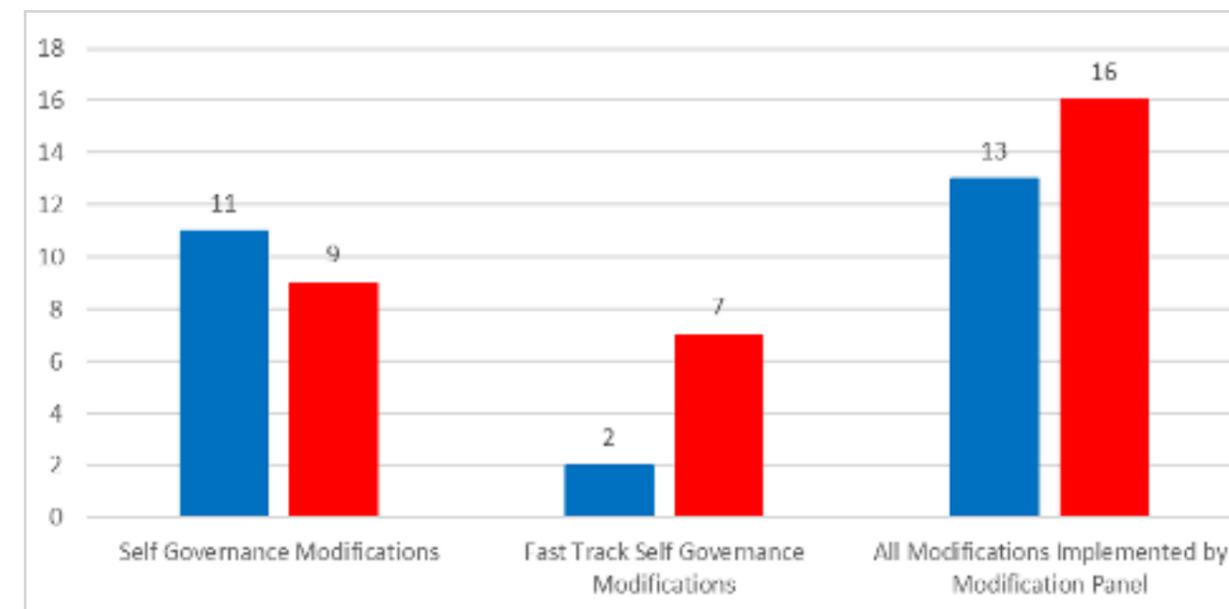
6. Total number of Consultations and responses for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021



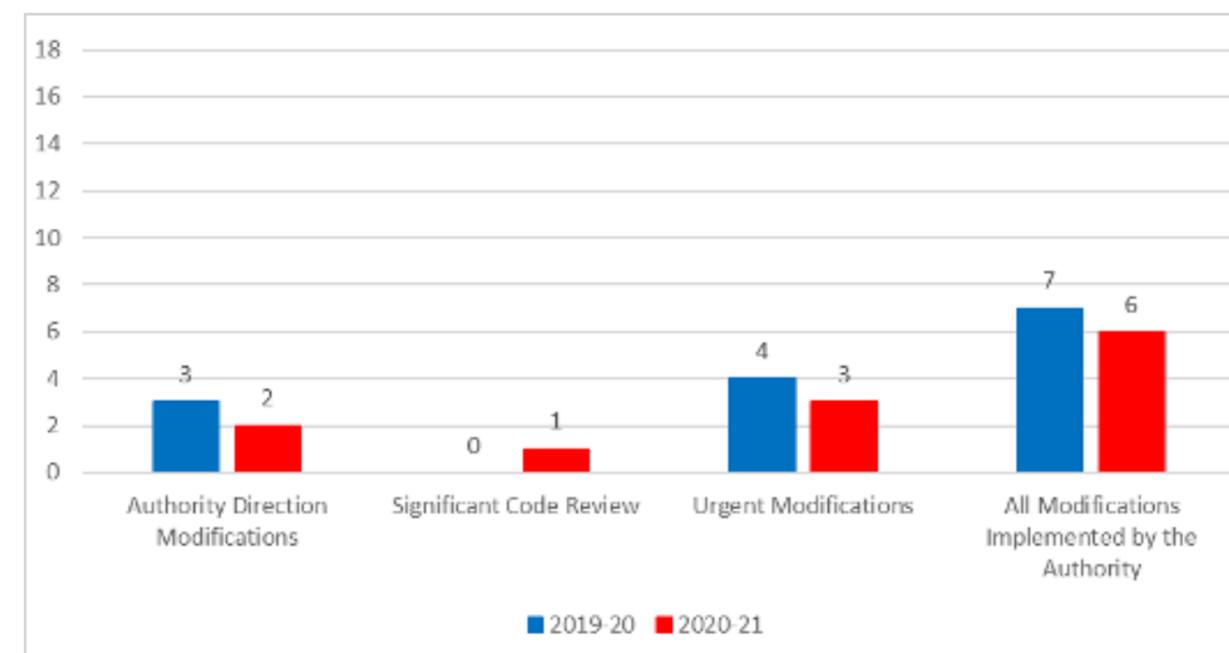
7. All Modification Process Outcomes (Implemented or Rejected) for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021



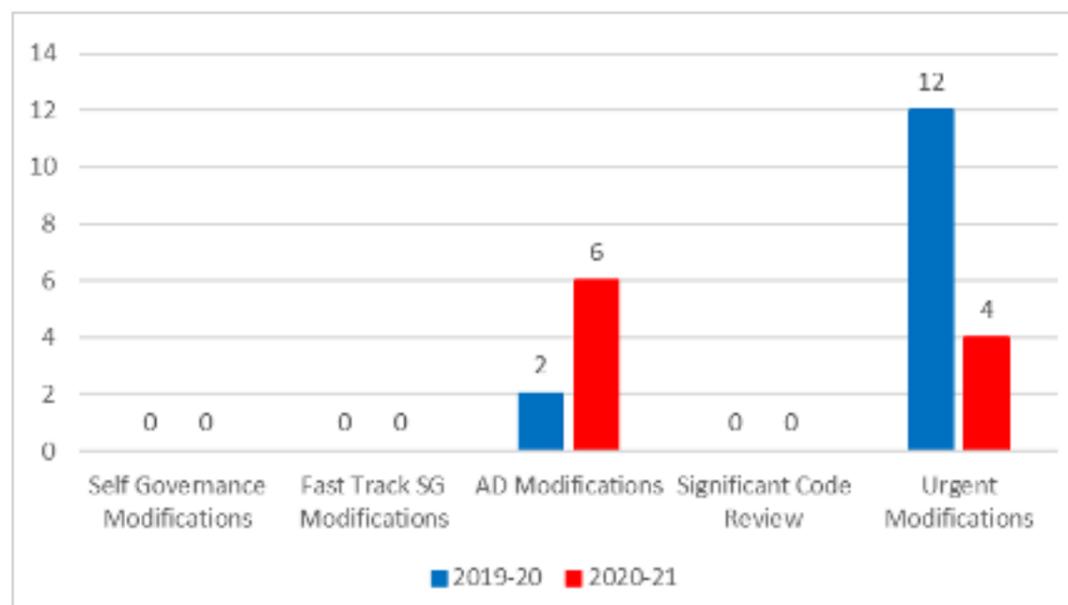
8. Modifications Implemented through Panel Decisions by Type for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021



9. Modifications Implemented through Authority Decisions by Type for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021



10. Modifications Rejected: Comparison by Decision Maker for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021

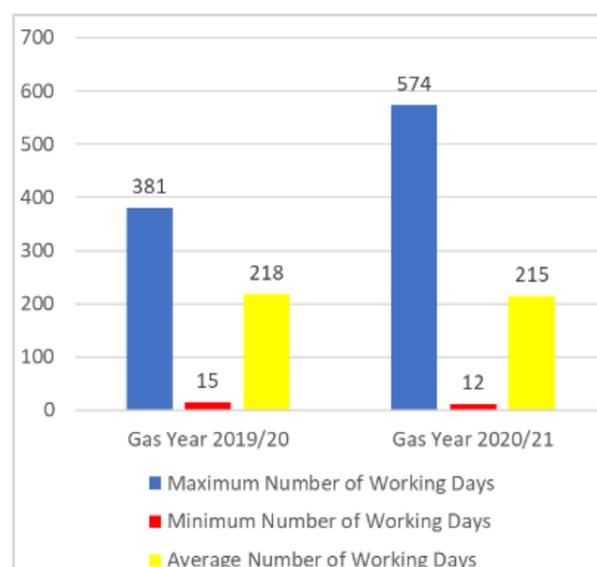


Self Governance Modifications and Fast Track Self Governance Modifications are decided by the UNC Modification Panel.

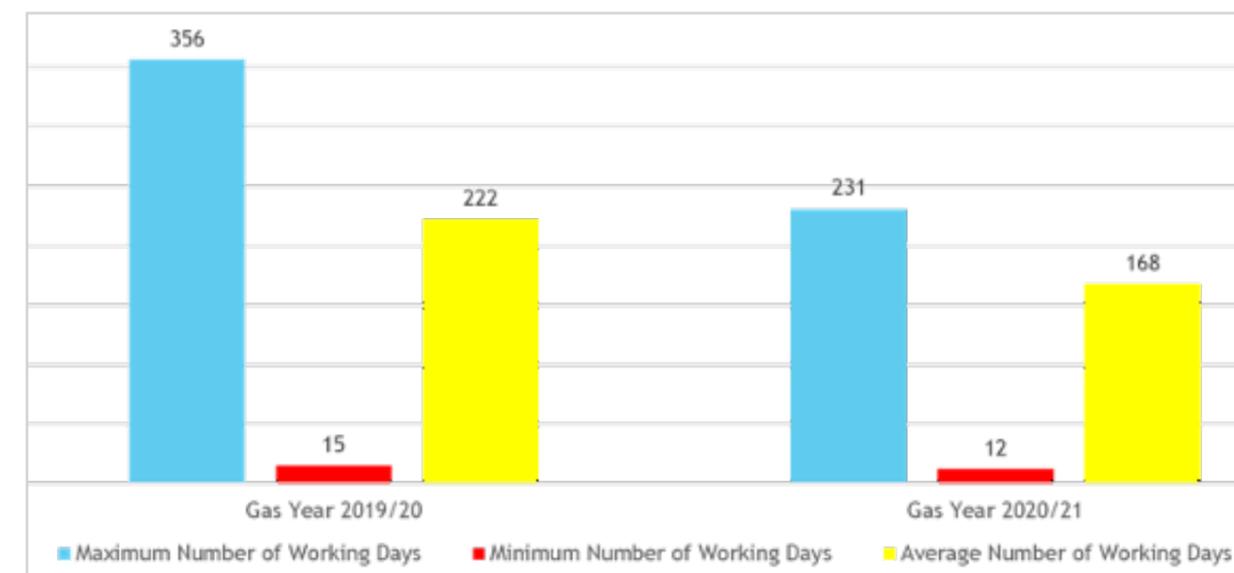
Key to abbreviations:

| | |
|----|----------------------------------|
| AD | Authority Direction Modification |
| SG | Self Governance Modification |

11. Lifecycle for Authority Direction Modifications (Excluding Urgent Modifications) for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021



12. Lifecycle for Authority Direction Modifications (Urgent Modifications only) for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021



13. Modifications Sent back by the Authority for Gas Years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021

Modification 0687 – Creation of new charge to recover Last Resort Supply Payments was sent back by the Authority on 9 October 2019. A Varied Modification (Modification 0687V) was accepted by the UNC Modification Panel in December 2021.

Alternative Modification 0797 (Urgent) - Last Resort Supply Payments Volumetric Charges was raised on 22 December 2021 and progressed with Modification 0687V

Both Final Modification Reports were subsequently submitted to the Authority on 13 January 2022. The Authority decided to implement Modification 0797 rather than Modification 0687V on 20 January 2022.

<https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0687>

and

<https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0797>

| Gas year | Send back |
|----------|-----------|
| 19/20 | 1 |
| 20/21 | 0 |

UNC Modification Panel - Governance Overview

Modification Panel Voting Decisions

Voting decisions taken by each Panel Member can be found in the determinations record issued for each Panel meeting. For example, the determinations record for the last Panel Meeting in the report period can be found here:

<https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/panel/160921>

A summary of the voting record of a Panel Member may be produced on request to the Panel Secretary (enquiries@gasgovernance.co.uk).

Modification Panel Member Attendance

A record of Modification Panel Member Attendance can be found in Appendix B.

Cross Code Impacts

The UNC Modification Panel works closely with other Code Administrators and Code Managers.

The Joint Office of Gas Transporters, working closely with the Uniform Network Code Modification Panel, abides by the 14 high level principles set out within the Code Administration Code of Practice (CACoP).

CACoP sets out principles for the administrators of the industry codes that underpin the electricity and gas wholesale and retail markets.

It is designed to facilitate convergence and transparency in code modification processes and help protect the interests of small market participants and consumers. Where inconsistencies or conflicts exist between the relevant Codes and the Code of Practice, the relevant Code shall take precedence, though it is anticipated that Licensees, the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority and other Code Parties will take reasonable steps to ensure the two are aligned.

Data summarising UNC Modifications with a Cross Code impact is held on the Central Modification Register for the reporting period. This can be found here:

<https://cacop.co.uk/products/central-modifications-register>.

Provision of Legal Text

The UNC Modification Rules provide that the Gas Transporters are responsible for the provision of legal text in support of all Modifications. Proposers are free to provide Suggested Text as part of any Modification Proposal.

The Gas Transporters remain responsible for the Legal Text until the implementation of the Modification.

In addition, Transporters are required to provide legal text for a Modification when the Authority requests this.

UNC Modifications are defined by the legal text that supports them. The development of the legal text is therefore critical to any Modification.

Principle 9 of the Code Administration Code of Practice is that "Legal text will be produced and consulted upon prior to a Modification being recommended for approval". The Code of Practice sets out that:

"To allow users to fully understand and assess the impact of a Modification, the default position will be that legal drafting will always be developed in time to allow for consultation."

To achieve this Principle:

- The Joint Office of Gas Transporters will seek to ensure legal text is produced in time to be issued for consultation.
- The UNC Modification Panel, in exceptional circumstances has the authority to agree that legal text may not be produced in certain circumstances, including where the Proposer has produced suggested text as part of the Modification.
- The UNC Modification Panel can agree to minor corrections to legal text at the time of making its final recommendation.
- If the UNC Modification Panel determines that changes to the legal text are appropriate but considers that they cannot reasonably be considered to be minor, they may instruct the Joint Office of Gas Transporters to carry out a further consultation on that revised text.
- The Joint Office of Gas Transporters will seek to ensure that legal text is produced in a consistent style and that the legal text accurately implements the intent of the Modification.

Furthermore, Principle 6 of CACoP provides that "Before it is consulted on, the Proposer will have a right to discuss the legal text of a Modification with those producing the text".

UNC Code Updates

The UNC updates undertaken during the two Gas Years covered by this report generally occurred after each monthly UNC Modification Panel Meeting triggered by changes to the Code.

The current version of the UNC can be found here: <https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/UNC>

Details can be found in the table below in Appendix A

Recent areas considered by the UNC Modification Panel

Over the period of this report, the UNC Modification Panel has considered the following significant areas:

- Unidentified Gas (UIG)
- Transmission Charging Modifications 0678
- Supplier of Last Resort (SOLR)
- Response to COVID-19 Pandemic.

Unidentified Gas (UIG)

In 2018, Modification 0658 - Central Data Services Provider (CDSP) to identify and develop improvements to Local Distribution Zone (LDZ) settlement processes was approved by Ofgem. The Modification authorised the CDSP to assign resources and incur costs related to a Task Force to investigate the causes and influencers of UIG, with a target of making recommendations to reduce the volatility and scale of UIG.

Many of the recommendations of the CDSP-led taskforce were taken forward through UNC Modifications which were assessed and developed through the UNC UIG Workgroup; this Workgroup met from January 2018 to July 2020. Many of these Modifications were raised because of preliminary analysis and discussions at the Performance Assurance Committee to support and nurture ideas to tackle areas of risk. Several of these Modifications were then raised by PAC Members through their own Shipper User organisations.

Modifications raised because of this industry-wide effort to address UIG and thus improve settlement included:

- 0690S – Reduce qualifying period for Class 1 - implemented 25 March 2020.
- 0672 – Target, Measure and Reporting Product Class 4 Read Performance - implemented 07 September 2020.
- 0691S - CDSP to convert Class 3 or 4 meter points to Class 1 when G1.6.15 criteria are met - implemented 01 April 2021.

- 0664 - Transfer of Sites with Low Valid Meter Reading Submission Performance from Classes 2 and 3 into Class 4 – due to be implemented on a date to be confirmed.

Related Review Workgroups:

- 0693R - Treatment of kWh error arising from statutory volume-energy conversion – reported to UNC Modification Panel in January 2021.
- 0778R - Gas Vacant Sites Process review – inflight review Modification raised by Centrica on 09 August 2021
- 0781R - Review of the Unidentified Gas process – inflight review Modification raised by Corona Energy on 13 September 2021.

Transmission Charging Modifications 0678

The European Tariff Network Code (“TAR NC”) entered into force on 6 April 2017 with some provisions to apply from October 2017 and the remaining provisions to be in place by May 2019. TAR NC sets out a range of principles and specific requirements that necessitate changes to the gas transmission charging arrangements in Great Britain (“GB”). These changes are expected to be implemented in GB via changes to the charging methodology in the Uniform Network Code (“UNC”).

In mid- January 2019, following Ofgem’s decision letter on Modification 0621, National Grid raised Modification 0678 and requested Urgency from the Authority relating to an imminent date-related issue, namely the forthcoming entry into force of TAR NC on 31 May 2019. Accordingly, the Authority directed the Modification follow a set timetable culminating in a Modification Panel decision on 18 April 2019 with an initial submission date for the Final Modification Report to Ofgem 23 April 2019.

With facilitation by the Joint Office of Gas Transporters and National Grid, Workgroups were well attended by industry and, despite being extremely frequent (often back to back) and highly complex, covered the necessary material to enable a further suite of Modifications 0678/A/B/C/D/E/F/G/H/I/J (Urgent) to be included in a Final Modification Report, considered by the UNC Panel on 23 May 2019.

The UNC Modification Panel considered that no clear majority view existed on the preference of whether any one of the proposed modifications better facilitates the Relevant Objectives than the others. Therefore, the Panel recommended that none of the proposed modifications should be implemented.

In its minded to letter of 23 December 2019 Ofgem concluded that 0678 and 0678A were the only two compliant Modifications. On 28 May 2020 Ofgem directed Modification 0678A be implemented and rejected all other 0678 Proposals. Modification 0678A - Amendments to Gas Transmission Charging Regime (Postage Stamp) was implemented on 01 October 2020.

Supplier of Last Resort (SOLR)

Twelve energy suppliers exited the market between January and September 2021, many of these supplied gas to customers.

UNC related activities were impacted by the administrative effects of these changes, in particular through the effects on credit and settlement managed through the Energy Balancing and Credit Committee, facilitated by Joint Office of Gas Transporters and the CDSP, Xoserve. This Committee began an intensive period of emergency meetings, some of which are still being held on a weekly basis as of March 2022. Several Modification were raised after the reporting period to address consequential impacts.

SCR and SCR related Modifications

During the reporting period, 1 SCR modification was raised.

Modification 0768 - Retail Code Consolidation Significant Code Review

<https://www.gasgovernance.co.uk/0768>

Response to COVID-19 Pandemic

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the gas industry was the Panel’s primary focus throughout 2020. The industry responded swiftly following communication from Ofgem outlining their overriding objectives: protecting consumers, especially the vulnerable, ensuring secure energy supplies and maintaining the safety of customers and the workforce.

The industry raised, with support from the Joint Office of Gas Transporters and the UNC Modification Panel, several urgent Modifications with particular focus on combatting the financial repercussions of a nationwide lockdown:

- To allow Annual Quantity (AQ) corrections to better reflect the changing consumption of the End User.
- Allowing the submission of Estimated Meter Readings as Actual Meter Readings, due to being unable to access premises.
- Utilising the Isolation flag where businesses have had to close and therefore being removed from the Unidentified Gas (UIG) allocation.
- Changing Ratchet charges to avoid incentive charges where consumption at specific sites increased above the agreed booked capacity to support local/national needs.
- To enable consumers to have their site SOQ updated to reflect their network use more accurately during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Supporting customers, who have liquidity constraints due to COVID-19, by introducing a Transportation Charges deferral scheme.

With a nationwide lockdown being imposed, the Panel had to adapt to an entirely new way of working. This was done by swiftly embracing new communication technology, which enabled the Panel to continue to operate almost seamlessly – continuing to review, consult and implement changes to the Uniform Network Code virtually.

In addition to the new ways of working, several extraordinary Modification Panel meetings were convened to manage the increased workload. These were held at very short notice and yet had full attendance, with Modification Panel members recognising the importance of their roles in supporting consumers and businesses during this incredibly difficult time.

Looking towards the future

Horizon Scanning

Over the forthcoming period the UNC Modification Panel will be monitoring the following areas, ensuring that guidance and support is provided to support any necessary changes within the industry.

Regulatory
Price Controls

SoLR

BEIS / Ofgem
Code Reform

Net zero
challenges and
opportunities

Digitisation

Price Cap

Conflict in
Ukraine

Future Improvements for Consideration

Looking forward over the next period, the Joint Office of Gas Transporters, working with the UNC Modification Panel will be considering several areas for improvement to include, but not limited to:

Code
Consolidation

Digitisation

BEIS / Ofgem
Code Reform

Provision and
funding of
centralised legal
text

Workgroup
Reports

Joint Office of Gas
Transporters
Website

Customer
Engagement Days

Modification
Proposals Training
Days

Use of Urgency
and Short Notice

APPENDIX A

Summary Table of UNC Code Updates

| UNC Update Version Number | Date of Issue | Details |
|---------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5.37 | 28 September 2019 | Inclusion of Modification 0700. |
| 5.38 | 23 October 2019 | Inclusion of Modification 0685 & Inclusion of (future) Notice of Implementation 0695S. |
| 5.39 | 08 November 2019 | Inclusion of Modification 0695S & Inclusion of (future) Notice of Implementation 0703S. |
| 5.40 | 25 November 2019 | Inclusion of Modification 0703S & Inclusion of (future) Notice of Implementation 0709FT. |
| 5.41 | 31 January 2020 | Inclusion of Modification 0709FT & Inclusion of (future) Notices of Implementation 0692S & 0682. |
| 5.42 | 28 February 2020 | Inclusion of (future) Notice of Implementation 0690S & Inclusion of Modification 0682. |
| 5.43 | 26 March 2020 | Inclusion of (future) Notice of Implementation 0707S & Inclusion of Modifications 0681S & 0690S. (Please note: there are no UNC legal text changes associated with the implementation of 0707S) |
| 5.44 | 20 April 2020 | Inclusion of Modification 0707S & Inclusion of (future) Notices of Implementation 0712S & 0713S. (Please note: there are no UNC legal text changes associated with the implementation of 0707S & 0712S) |
| 5.45 | 12 May 2020 | Inclusion of Modifications 0712S, 0713S, 0722, 0723 & 0724 & Consent to Modify C058. (Please note: there are no UNC legal text changes associated with the implementation of 0712S) |
| 5.46 | 26 June 2020 | Inclusion of Modifications 0683S & 0704S & Inclusion of (future) Notices of Implementation 0708S, 0702S, 0678A & 0672S & Inclusion of Modifications 0715S, 0711 & 0726. |
| 5.47 | 15 July 2020 | Inclusion of Revised (future) Notices of Implementation 0702S & 0708S. |
| 5.48 | 24 July 2020 | Inclusion of Modifications 0702S & 0708S. |
| 5.49 | 25 August 2020 | Inclusion of BEIS phase 1 (June 2020) & Inclusion of (future) Notices of Implementation 0732FT & 0733FT. |
| 5.50 | 09 September 2020 | Inclusion of Modification 0672S. |
| 5.51 | 15 September 2020 | Inclusion of Modification 0732FT. |
| 5.52 | 25 September 2020 | Inclusion of (future) Notices of Implementation 0720S, 0697VS & Inclusion of BEIS phase 2 (September 2020) & Inclusion of (future) Notice of Implementation 0716. (Please note: there are no UNC legal text changes associated with the implementation of 0720S) |

APPENDIX B

Panel Attendance Gas Year 2019/20

| | Panel Attendance Record - Gas Year 2019/20 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | TOTALS | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| | 17 Oct | 1 Nov | 21 Nov | 19 Dec | 16 Jan | 20 Feb | 19 Mar | 27 Mar | 16 April | 30 April | 21 May | 18 June | 3 July | 16 July | 20 Aug | 17 Sept | Present | Telephone | Alternate | Not Present |
| Andrew Green | P | NP | P | P | P | P | T | NP | T | T | T | T | T | A | T | T | 5 | 8 | 1 | 2 |
| Richard Fairholme | T | T | P | P | P | P | T | T | T | NP | T | T | T | T | T | T | 4 | 11 | 0 | 1 |
| Mark Jones | P | T | P | T | P | P | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | 4 | 12 | 0 | 0 |
| Steve Mulinganie | A | NP | A | P | P | P | T | NP | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | 3 | 9 | 2 | 2 |
| Dan Fittock | T | T | P | T | P | P | T | A | T | T | T | T | A | T | T | T | 3 | 11 | 2 | 0 |
| Mark Bellman | P | A | A | P | A | P | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | A | 3 | 9 | 4 | 0 |
| Joel Atherton / Stew Horne / Lauren Snoxell | P | A | P | T | P | NP | NP | NP | NP | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | 3 | 8 | 1 | 4 |
| Nigel Bradbury | NP | NP | P | P | NP | P | T | T | T | T | T | T | A | T | T | T | 3 | 9 | 1 | 3 |
| Tracey Saunders | T | A | P | P | P | P | T | A | T | T | T | T | A | T | T | T | 4 | 9 | 3 | 0 |
| Darren Lond | A | T | P | P | P | P | T | A | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | 4 | 10 | 2 | 0 |
| Hilary Chapman | A | T | A | P | P | P | T | T | T | T | T | T | A | T | A | T | 3 | 9 | 4 | 0 |
| Richard Pomroy | P | T | P | P | P | P | T | T | T | T | A | T | T | T | T | T | 5 | 10 | 1 | 0 |
| Guv Dosanjh | P | T | P | P | P | P | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | 5 | 11 | 0 | 0 |
| John Cooper / Alex Travell from January 2020 | T | A | A | P | P | P | A | A | T | T | T | A | T | A | T | T | 3 | 7 | 6 | 0 |
| Number of Members Present | 13 | 11 | 14 | 14 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 11 | 13 | 13 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | | | | | |

Panel Attendance Gas Year 2020/21

| | Panel Attendance Record - Gas Year 2020/21 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | TOTALS | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|-----------|-----------|-------------|--|
| | 15 Oct | 19 Nov | 27 Nov | 17 Dec | 21 Jan | 18 Feb | 18 Mar | 15 Apr | 13 May | 20 May | 17 Jun | 15 Jul | 19 Aug | 16 Sep | Present | Telephone | Alternate | Not Present | |
| Andrew Green | T | T | T | T | A | A | T | T | T | T | T | T | A | A | 0 | 8 | 4 | 0 | |
| Richard Fairholme | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | 0 | 12 | 0 | 0 | |
| Mark Jones | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | A | T | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | |
| Steve Mulinganie | T | T | A | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | 0 | 12 | 0 | 0 | |
| Dan Fittock | NP | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | 0 | 11 | 0 | 1 | |
| Mark Bellman | T | T | T | T | T | T | A | T | T | T | T | A | A | A | 0 | 8 | 4 | 0 | |
| Lauren Snoxell / Sam Hughes from May 2021 | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | A | T | A | T | 0 | 10 | 2 | 0 | |
| Nigel Bradbury | A | T | T | T | A | NP | NP | NP | NP | NP | - | - | - | - | 0 | 2 | 2 | 5 | |
| Tracey Saunders | A | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | A | T | T | T | T | T | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | |
| Darren Lond | T | A | T | T | A | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | 0 | 10 | 2 | 0 | |
| Hilary Chapman / David Mitchell from Sep 2021 | T | T | A | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | A | T | T | T | 0 | 11 | 1 | 0 | |
| Richard Pomroy | A | T | A | T | A | T | T | T | A | T | T | T | T | T | 0 | 10 | 2 | 0 | |
| Guv Dosanjh | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | 0 | 12 | 0 | 0 | |
| Rebecca Cailles from Oct 2020 / Alex Travell from June 2021 | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | T | A | A | T | T | NP | T | 0 | 10 | 1 | 1 | |
| Number of Members Present | 13 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 13 | | | | | |