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# Switching Operator (SO) Service Definition

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# Contents

1	Description of Service.....	4
2	Definition of Users .....	9
3	System Access and User Management .....	9
4	Service availability .....	16
5	Service Levels .....	17
6	Maximum Demand Volumes.....	20
7	Reporting.....	20
8	System Audit .....	23
9	Data Handling.....	23
10	Security .....	23

**Technical Specification Document**

**Switching Operator (SO) Service Definition**

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*Change History*

<b>Version Number</b>	<b>Implementation Date</b>	<b>Reason for Change</b>
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0.2	TBD	Version for March 2021 Switching Consultation
1.0	18 July 2022	Switching SCR Modification R0041
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## 1 Description of Service

### The [Switching Operator](#)

- 1.1. The [Switching Operator](#) (SO) has overall accountability for the effective and robust operation of the end to-end [Switching Arrangements](#), as described in the [Switching Service Management Schedule](#) .
- 1.2. The [Switching Operator](#) co-ordinates service management activities delivered across all [Switching Data Service Providers](#).
- 1.3. The service management activities and procedures will be based on a set of best practices such as the ITIL-based lifecycle. This aims to effectively co-ordinate service management activities and use a common approach across all [Switching Data Services](#).
- 1.4. The [Switching Operator](#) delivers the following outcomes:
  - (a) provision of analysis, and detailed investigations into the root causes of recurring [Switching Incidents](#), as part of its management of [Switching Problems](#), to support the identification of any permanent resolutions that may be required;
  - (b) the agreement of manual activities and workarounds which should be implemented until any permanent solutions are in place or deemed not to be necessary;
  - (c) provision of subject matter expertise to support [Market Participants](#) for [Switching](#) related issues; and
  - (d) provision of a plan and supporting activities to lead improvements in address data quality, as further described in the [Address Management Schedule](#).

### [Switching Service Desk](#)

- 1.5. The [Switching Operator](#) shall provide a [Switching Service Desk](#) which:
  - (a) provides a single point of contact for [Market Participants](#) and other interested

parties;

- (b) co-ordinates ticket resolution across all [Switching Data Service Providers](#);
- (c) resolves [Switching Incidents](#) and fulfils [Switching Service Requests](#) raised by [Market Participants](#) and other interested parties, within agreed service levels; and
- (d) manages [Operational Switching Service Changes](#), analysis of [Switching Problems](#) and updates to knowledge articles.

- 1.6. The [Switching Service Desk](#) utilises the [Switching Service Management System](#) to access information relating to tickets raised via the [Switching Portal](#) and from [Switching Data Service Providers](#) who will input tickets directly into the [Switching Service Management System](#).
- 1.7. In addition to the facility for [Switching Portal Users](#) to raise tickets with the [Switching Service Desk](#), the [Switching Portal](#) will enable users to review the status of open tickets and review historic tickets raised by their own organisation.
- 1.8. The [Switching Operator](#) shall manage the resolution of [Switching Incidents](#), in accordance with the [Switching Service Management Procedures](#) document, which defines the activities and interactions between the [Switching Operator](#), [Switching Data Service Providers](#) and [Switching Portal Users](#).
- 1.9. Details of the services that are available via [Switching Service Requests](#) shall be described on the [Switching Portal](#).
- 1.10. Knowledge articles will be available on the [Switching Portal](#) to provide the facility for [Switching Portal Users](#) to search for knowledge that can be used to solve their issues, before a ticket is raised.

### **Provision of General Switching Information**

- 1.11. The [Switching Operator](#) shall maintain and operate a [Switching Portal](#) to deliver the following outcomes:
  - (a) providing up-to-date information using service status dashboards covering all

[Switching Data Services](#) along with service bulletins to keep [Market Participants](#) informed about the [Switching Data Services](#) and any issues or outages currently affecting the [Switching Arrangements](#);

- (b) providing links to other relevant services that are part of the [Switching Arrangements](#) or other [REC Services](#) (e.g. the [Enquiry Services](#)) and the [REC Portal](#);
- (c) providing an accurate and continually updated knowledge base for the guidance and assistance of [Market Participants](#), [Switching Data Service Providers](#) and other interested parties; and
- (d) using role-based access control to ensure that each [Switching Portal User](#) has access to the correct data for its organisation.

#### **Co-ordination of [Switching](#) Activities Delivered by [Switching Data Service Providers](#)**

1.12. Requirements on [Switching Data Service Providers](#) to deliver their obligations to support the [Switching Operator](#) activities are included in the [Switching Service Management Schedule](#) .

1.13. The [Switching Operator](#) will co-ordinate its activities and those of [Switching Data Service Providers](#), to deliver the following outcomes:

- (a) a co-ordinated process to progress [Operational Switching Service Changes](#) that minimises the planned maintenance windows and, where possible, co-ordinates outages for [Switching Data Service Providers](#) and schedules these at times of the day that would cause the least disruption to [Market Participants](#);
- (b) an accurate and complete, published forward schedule of change that provides details of all planned changes and what effect they will have on the availability of [Switching Data Services](#);
- (c) sufficient capacity across all [Switching Data Services](#), at all times, to meet [Market Participant](#) demand by collating capacity and headroom information and matching that with expected [Market Participant](#) activity. For the avoidance of doubt, each [Switching Data Service Provider](#) is responsible for ensuring the capacity of its [Systems](#) in accordance with the maximum demand volumes set out in its service definition;
- (d) timely publication of accurate reports incorporating data relating to each [Switching Data Service Providers](#), as defined in Paragraph 7;

- (e) a review of processes and recommendations for the adjustment of [Service Levels](#) to improve the services provided; and
- (f) effective and proven business continuity and disaster recovery processes across the end-to-end [Switching Arrangements](#).

### **Support to the [Code Manager](#)**

- 1.14. The [Switching Arrangements](#) form part of the overall scope of this [Code](#).
- 1.15. The [Code Manager](#) is accountable for the overall [Entry Assessment](#) process and onboarding of new entrants. The [Switching Operator](#) shall co-ordinate with the [Code Manager](#) in the following areas:
- (a) the onboarding of entrants who wish to become [CSS Users](#) or [Switching Portal Users](#); and
  - (b) the receipt of [Switching Operation Data](#).
- 1.16. The [Code Manager](#) is responsible for developing and maintaining the [REC Portal](#), which provides information to [Market Participants](#) and other interested parties relating to activities delivered under this [Code](#). The [Switching Operator](#) shall co-ordinate with the [Code Manager](#) to ensure information provided via the [Switching Portal](#) does not unnecessarily duplicate or conflict with information provided via the [REC Portal](#).
- 1.17. The [Code Manager](#) is responsible for the service desk accessed via the [REC Portal](#), which provides support to [Market Participants](#) and other interested parties relating to all activities delivered under this [Code](#). The [Switching Operator](#) shall co-ordinate with the [Code Manager](#) to ensure the scope of each service desk and portal is clearly communicated and queries are directed to the correct service desk, with links and contact details on each portal.
- 1.18. The [Code Manager](#) is responsible for the overall change management arrangements defined in the [Change Management Schedule](#). This does not include [Operational Switching Service Changes](#). Where necessary (i.e. where the scope of change impacts multiple [Switching Data Service Providers](#) and a consolidated view is required) the [Switching Operator](#) shall co-ordinate with the [Code Manager](#) to ensure that the impact of changes impacting the [Switching Arrangements](#) have been fully documented.

1.19. As part of its role to deliver the [Operational Switching Service Change](#) process, the [Switching Operator](#) shall ensure the [Code Manager](#) (as chair of the [Switching Change Advisory Board](#)) has all the required information to effectively deliver its role. The make-up and operation of the [Switching Change Advisory Board](#) will be as defined in its terms of reference.

### **Interaction with the [REC PAB](#)**

1.20. The [REC Performance Assurance Board](#) ([REC PAB](#)) is responsible for delivering the [performance assurance framework](#) for this [Code](#), which covers both [Market Participants](#) and [REC Service Providers](#).

1.21. The [REC PAB](#) requires access to relevant data from all [REC Service Providers](#) and [REC Service Users](#) for monitoring purposes. For the [Switching Operator](#), the extent of data and timescales for providing this will be defined by the [REC PAB](#), and will include:

- (a) switching information held by the [CSS Provider](#);
- (b) service management information relating to all [Switching Data Service Providers](#), as held by the [Switching Service Management System](#); and
- (c) [CSS Provider](#), [Switching Operator](#) and [CSS Certificate Authority](#) performance information, relating to the delivery of requirements defined within the [Switching Service Management Schedule](#) and the relevant service definitions.

1.22. The [Switching Operator](#) shall provide data or reports (in accordance with the [Switching Service Management Schedule](#)) to the [REC PAB](#) to demonstrate the effectiveness of the end-to-end [Switching Arrangements](#), based on its own data and that received from the [CSS Provider](#) and [CSS Certificate Authority](#).

1.23. The [REC PAB](#) will deliver performance assurance activities using a risk-based methodology, therefore the specific [Switching Operator](#) reporting requirements may change to meet the [REC PAB](#) requirements.



## 2 Definition of Users

2.1. The following types of organisation can utilise the Switching Operator Service:

- (a) Switching Data Service Providers – are required to interact with the Switching Operator to deliver a number of end-to-end processes in accordance with the Switching Service Management Schedule;
- (b) Market Participants – use the Switching Operator Service to obtain information about the Switching Arrangements and any specific availability issues, and log Switching Incidents and/or Switching Service Requests as necessary;
- (c) Other users – including agreed interested parties such as potential CSS Users, Price Comparison Websites or Managed Service Providers who will use the Switching Operator Service to obtain information about the Switching Arrangements and any specific availability issues, and log Switching Incidents and/or Switching Service Requests as necessary. Managed Service Providers can be nominated by CSS Users to provide switching services and support on their behalf. Where this is the case, Managed Service Providers require the same access to Switching Operator Services (e.g. reports, tickets) as the CSS User would have;
- (d) the Code Manager – interacts with the Switching Operator across a range of activities including performance assurance, change management and entry assessment;
- (e) governance bodies – including the Authority, BEIS, the REC Board and the REC PAB, use the Switching Operator Service to receive reports in accordance with Paragraph 7.

## 3 System Access and User Management

3.1. The Switching Operator utilises two key systems to ensure activities are delivered in a secure and robust way:

- (a) Switching Service Management System - a central repository that stores and manages all Switching Incidents, Switching Service Requests, Operational Switching Service Changes and queries relating to the Switching Arrangements. The Switching Service Management System also stores and provides self-help

information to be published via the [Switching Portal](#) to aid in the resolution of queries.

- (b) [Switching Portal](#) - the switching 'shop window' for [Market Participants](#) and agreed interested parties, providing key information about the [Switching Arrangements](#) to [Switching Portal Users](#), including dashboards, the forward schedule of change, a knowledge base and switching announcements e.g. notifications relating to [Major Switching Incidents](#).

- 3.2. Access to these systems is restricted to authorised users who have the required access credentials as set out below, although a part of the [Switching Portal](#) will be publicly available.

#### **Access to the [Switching Service Management System](#)**

- 3.3. All access requests will be logged on the [Switching Service Management System](#) as [Switching Service Requests](#) for resolution.
- 3.4. [Market Participants](#) and other interested parties (not being [Switching Data Service Providers](#)) do not have direct access to the [Switching Service Management System](#), but instead they will be able to raise [Switching Incidents](#) and [Switching Service Requests](#), and track their progress, via the [Switching Portal](#).
- 3.5. The [Switching Service Desk](#) uses the [Switching Service Management System](#) to manage all tickets raised and to ensure that each ticket is assigned to the correct team (in the [Switching Operator](#) or in one of the [Switching Data Service Providers](#)) for action, and that they are resolved within the service levels defined in Paragraph 5.
- 3.6. The [Switching Operator](#) shall use the [Switching Service Management System](#) to:
  - (a) store all tickets, track progress and manage their resolution by the [Switching Operator](#) and [Switching Data Service Providers](#);
  - (b) investigate and resolve [Switching Problems](#);
  - (c) publish bulletins and dashboards;
  - (d) resolve recurring [Switching Incidents](#) and [Switching Problems](#);

- (e) publish reports to the [Switching Portal](#); and
  - (f) co-ordinate the [Operational Switching Service Change](#) function for all [Switching Data Service](#) providers.
- 3.7. Access to the [Switching Service Management System](#) will be set up by the [Switching Service Desk](#) on request from a [Switching Data Service Provider](#), and by agreed [Switching Operator](#) representatives for [Switching Operator](#) personnel.
- 3.8. [CSS Interface Providers](#) can be nominated by [Switching Data Service Providers](#) to support resolution of [Switching Incidents](#) and [Switching Service Requests](#) on their behalf. The association of a [CSS Interface Provider](#) to a [Switching Data Service Provider](#) is verified by a nomination to the [Switching Operator](#) from the relevant [Switching Data Service Provider](#) that a [CSS Interface Provider](#) is operating on its behalf. A [Switching Data Service Provider](#) may nominate any individual as authorised to view its data by raising an access request for them.
- 3.9. [Switching Data Service Providers](#), or their authorised representatives, will access the [Switching Service Management System](#) using:
- (a) Direct Access - all [Switching Data Service Providers](#) have direct access to the [Switching Service Management System](#) to submit [Requests for Change](#), raise and investigate [Switching Problems](#) and to add and resolve [Switching Incidents](#), or
  - (b) Integrated Systems - [Switching Data Service Providers](#) may choose to integrate their own [Systems](#) with the [Switching Service Management System](#) to ensure that all switching tickets are in the same place and data is synchronised between the two [Systems](#). These [Switching Data Service Providers](#) will manage each ticket in their local service management system with all updates being replicated automatically into the [Switching Service Management System](#).
- 3.10. Following [CSS Go-Live Date](#), any new automated integrations as referenced in Paragraph 3.9 (b) will attract an additional cost and would be progressed as a [REC Change Proposal](#). This will cover the provision of the required switching resources to support the development and testing of the integration and all affected [Systems](#). This will be in addition to the relevant [Switching Data Service Provider](#) cost of the integration.
- 3.11. Direct access to the [Switching Service Management System](#) is controlled by licence

from the provider of the [Switching Service Management System](#). Each individual user must have its own licence, provided by the [Switching Operator](#) on request.

### Access to the [Switching Portal](#)

- 3.12. The [Switching Portal](#) provides access to switching-related information including knowledge articles and information relating to [Switching Incidents](#) and [Switching Service Requests](#). It shall enable access to publicly available information as well as security-controlled areas to protect the confidentiality of each organisation's data.
- 3.13. There shall also be the facility for individuals to subscribe to certain types of email communications, e.g. [Major Switching Incident](#) communications, notice of outages. The full list of communications available shall be described on the [Switching Portal](#).
- 3.14. Access to the protected parts of the [Switching Portal](#) shall use two-factor authentication:
- (a) Each [Switching Portal User](#) will be given a [Switching Portal](#) login account and a password (that they can reset themselves). They will then be asked to input a code sent to them via a different device, to confirm their identity.
  - (b) The [Switching Portal](#) supports a number of different multi-factor authentication solutions. The easiest solution is Google Authenticator™ which requires the user to have a smart phone or device that can receive codes from the [Switching Portal](#).
  - (c) Where an individual does not have a second device (phone or tablet) an alternative method can be used. The exact product will vary dependent on the technology and browser being used.
- 3.15. Each of the following organisations will have access to the [Switching Portal](#) to obtain the information and services that it needs. Each user shall have its own [Switching Portal](#) account.

User Type	Switching Portal Access
1. Generally available	The <a href="#">Switching Portal</a> has a landing page of switching information that can be accessed by anyone in a similar way as a webpage. No access control is required here, as only 'public' information is available.
2. Interested parties and prospective <a href="#">Market Participants/CSS Users</a>	<p>Organisations can request access to the <a href="#">Switching Portal</a> as an interested party and will be able to access knowledge articles and guides that explain what new entrants have to do to become a <a href="#">Market Participant/CSS User</a>. This will allow minimal access to <a href="#">Switching Service Requests</a>.</p> <p>Any prospective <a href="#">Market Participant/CSS User</a> or any energy organisation known to the <a href="#">Switching Operator</a> or <a href="#">Code Manager</a> will be given access on request. If a request for access by an unknown organisation is received, then an acceptable reason for requiring access will be required before the <a href="#">Switching Operator</a> grants access.</p>
3. <a href="#">Switching Data Service Providers</a>	Most switching access by <a href="#">Switching Data Service Providers</a> is expected to be directly into the <a href="#">Switching Service Management System</a> , but they can also use the <a href="#">Switching Portal</a> to access knowledge articles and useful switching links if they choose.
4. <a href="#">Market Participants</a> and other users	<p><a href="#">Market Participants</a> and other users such as <a href="#">CSS Interface Providers</a> will have access to all information and services on the <a href="#">Switching Portal</a>, but can only access tickets and reports that relate to their organisation. They will be able to log <a href="#">Switching Incidents</a>, submit <a href="#">Switching Service Requests</a>, provide updates and check the progress of their tickets.</p> <p>They will also be able to view all system bulletins and the forward schedule of change, search the knowledge database for assistance and rate the articles available.</p>
5. <a href="#">Managed Service Provider</a>	<a href="#">Managed Service Providers</a> will have access to the <a href="#">Market Participant</a> information when permitted by those <a href="#">Market Participants</a> . This may include a <a href="#">CSS Interface Provider</a> acting on behalf of a <a href="#">Market Participant</a> .
6. <a href="#">Switching Operator</a>	<p>The <a href="#">Switching Operator</a> will be responsible for managing the information on the <a href="#">Switching Portal</a> using information from the <a href="#">Switching Service Management System</a> and from <a href="#">Switching Data Service Providers</a> (e.g. scheduled changes).</p> <p>It will also be able to provide administration activities.</p>

<p>7. Governing bodies – BEIS, the <a href="#">Authority</a>, <a href="#">REC PAB</a>, <a href="#">Code Manager</a></p>	<p>To access reports and other relevant information.</p>
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3.16. Requests for access to the protected parts for the [Switching Portal](#) shall be submitted using the [Switching Portal](#) 'access request' form held on the public-facing part of the [Switching Portal](#). For [Market Participants](#), the request will automatically create a user login and generate a single use password that will need to be changed on first use.

3.17. Access is based on the organisation's role i.e. whether the user is the [Switching Operator](#), [Switching Service Desk](#), [Switching Data Service Provider](#), [CSS User](#), [Market Participant](#) or other interested party.

3.18. Access requests from interested parties only, will ask why the organisation is requesting access. This will be analysed and if necessary, checked with the [Code Manager](#) to confirm that access is reasonable. This will not apply to [Market Participants](#) as they will already be known via [Market Participant Data](#) and access will always be provided to them.

3.19. The [Switching Operator](#) will monitor the number and frequency of accesses for each user, mainly to identify where access is not being used.

3.20. Within each organisation there are different levels of access that can be assigned, to control what activities each individual within the organisation should be able to undertake. This will be selected by the [Lead Contact](#) when access is requested, in accordance with roles available on the role-based access matrix.

3.21. There are a number of roles that can be assigned to an individual, including, but not limited to:

- (a) a [Lead Contact](#) for each organisation;
- (b) [Switching Incidents](#) and [Switching Service Requests](#) (raising and viewing);
- (c) reports (viewing and running);

- (d) a change manager who is approved to submit requests for [Operational Switching Service Changes](#) to the [Switching Operator](#) for evaluation and determination by the [Switching Change Advisory Board](#), if required;
  - (e) [Major Switching Incidents](#); and
  - (f) financial approver, for additional reports or services.
- 3.22. The full list of roles available will be published on the [Switching Portal](#). Organisations will be invited to request assignment to additional roles as new roles are identified. New role types may be added at the discretion of the [Switching Operator](#) or at the request of the [Code Manager](#).
- 3.23. The [Switching Operator](#) maintains a table that identifies the link between each organisation and the associated [Market Participant Identifier](#)s and [Market Participant Role](#)s that each organisation is authorised to access. This is used to protect the confidentiality of each [Market Participant](#)'s data. This will be loaded into the [Switching Service Management System](#) tools using the [Switching Operation Data](#) that is provided by the [Code Manager](#).
- 3.24. The association of a [Managed Service Provider](#) to a [Market Participant](#) is verified by a nomination to the [Switching Operator](#) from the relevant [Market Participant](#) that a Managed Service Provider is operating on its behalf. A [Market Participant](#) may nominate any individual as authorised to view its data by raising an access request for them.
- 3.25. Each organisation must nominate a [Lead Contact](#) plus one or more backup contacts who are the main people that the [Switching Operator](#) will engage with on behalf of their organisation, and it is these people who are able to nominate new users or change access permissions, and verify that the contacts are up to date.
- 3.26. Each organisation (via one of the assigned [Lead Contact](#) or backup contacts) is responsible for:
- (a) deciding the individuals who should have [Switching Portal](#) access;
  - (b) determining the access that each individual should have; and
  - (c) ensuring that, at the point an individual leaves the organisation, their [Switching Portal](#) access is removed.

#### 4 Service availability

##### Switching Service Desk

4.1. The Switching Operator shall ensure that the Switching Service Desk is available:

Item	Requirement
<b>Standard Operational Hours</b>	08:00 to 17:30 on <u>Working Days</u> .  24/7 for the <u>Switching Operator</u> 's technical operation centre.
<b>Out of Hours Support</b>	24/7 support for <u>Major Switching Incidents</u> .  24/7 support for overnight processes.  17:30 – 22:00 on <u>Working Days</u> for ticket escalations.

##### Switching Operator

4.2. Whilst the main points of contact will be the Switching Portal and the Switching Service Desk, some more complicated Switching Incidents or occurrences may need to be escalated to, or managed by, the Switching Operator once they have been initially logged. These will be escalated as required by the Switching Service Desk. The Switching Operator shall be available:

Item	Requirement
<b>Standard Operational Hours</b>	08:00 to 17:30 on <u>Working Days</u> .  24/7 for the <u>Switching Operator</u> 's technical operation centre.
<b>Out of Hours Support</b>	24/7 support for <u>Major Switching Incidents</u> .  24/7 support for overnight processes.  17:30 - 22:00 on <u>Working Days</u> for ticket escalations.

##### Systems

4.3. The Switching Service Management System and Switching Portal shall be accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week, except during Scheduled Maintenance periods and unplanned outages.



- 4.4. The [Switching Service Management System](#) and [Switching Portal](#) shall have 99.75% availability over each calendar month (excluding [Scheduled Maintenance](#)). [Scheduled Maintenance](#) should be limited to no more than 4 hours per month.
- 4.5. [Scheduled Maintenance](#) shall not occur between 16:00 and 01:00 hours. In the event of Scheduled Maintenance, the [Switching Operator](#) shall provide notice to [Market Participants](#) and [Switching Data Service Providers](#) at least 8 [Working Days](#) before the outage, and the [Switching Operator](#) shall report on unplanned outages as soon as reasonably practicable, after becoming aware of an unplanned outage.

### **User Support**

- 4.6. The [Switching Operator Service](#) includes the [Switching Service Desk](#).
- 4.7. Detailed procedures for logging [Switching Incidents](#) and raising [Switching Service Requests](#) will be available in the knowledge database, accessed via the [Switching Portal](#).
- 4.8. Operational processes will be agreed with all [Switching Data Service Providers](#) and detailed within the [Switching Service Management](#) Procedures document.

## **5 Service Levels**

### **Switching Incidents**

- 5.1. There are two parts to the [Service Levels](#) for [Switching Incidents](#) – response time and resolution time. Response time is the time between the point a [Switching Incident](#) is logged and the point it starts to be worked on; the resolution time is the time between the point that the [Switching Incident](#) is logged and the point the user is notified that it has been resolved.
- 5.2. [Switching Incidents](#) will be categorised as follows:

Priority	Description	Target Response Time	Target Resolution Time
1	<p>A Priority 1 <a href="#">Switching Incident</a> (<a href="#">Major Switching Incident</a>) is a <a href="#">Switching Incident</a> which, in the reasonable opinion of the <a href="#">Switching Operator</a> is, or is likely to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>prevent a large group of affected <a href="#">Market Participants</a> from using the systems that make up the <a href="#">Switching Arrangements</a>;</li> <li>have a critical adverse impact on the activities of the affected <a href="#">Market Participants</a> using the live <a href="#">Switching Data Services</a>;</li> <li>cause significant financial loss or reputational damage/or disruption to the affected <a href="#">Market Participants</a>;</li> <li>cause significant reputational damage to the affected <a href="#">Market Participants</a>; or</li> <li>result in any material loss or corruption of data used by the <a href="#">Switching Arrangements</a>.</li> </ul> <p>The service level for restoration of the <a href="#">Switching Service Management System</a> and <a href="#">Switching Portal</a> combined is 4 hours as this would be a Priority 1 <a href="#">Major Switching Incident</a></p>	30 minutes	four hours
2	<p>An <a href="#">Switching Incident</a> which in the reasonable opinion of the <a href="#">Switching Operator</a> is, or is likely to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>have a non-critical adverse impact on the activities of affected <a href="#">Market Participants</a>, but the <a href="#">Switching Arrangements</a> are still working at a reduced capacity.</li> </ul>	one hour	24 hours

3	<p>A <a href="#">Switching Incident</a> which, in the reasonable opinion of the <a href="#">Switching Operator</a> is or is likely to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have an adverse impact on the activities of an affected <a href="#">Market Participant</a> but which can be reduced to a moderate adverse impact due to the availability of a workaround; or</li> <li>• have a moderate adverse impact on the activities of an affected <a href="#">Market Participant</a>.</li> </ul>	three <a href="#">Working Hours</a>	three <a href="#">Working Days</a>
4	<p>A <a href="#">Switching Incident</a> which, in the reasonable opinion of the <a href="#">Switching Operator</a> is, or is likely to have a minimal impact on the activities of an affected <a href="#">Market Participant</a>.</p>	one <a href="#">Working Day</a>	10 <a href="#">Working Days</a>

5.3. [Major Switching Incidents](#) will be priority 1 or 2, based on the number of affected [CSS Users](#) and the impact on each.

### Switching Service Requests

5.4. [Switching Service Request](#) will be assigned a priority based on the nature of the request. Each request is defined in the [Switching Portal](#) with the priority and service level that applies.

Priority	Definition	Targets
1	<b>Critical</b> priority request	Target Fulfilment Time: one <a href="#">Working Day</a>
2	<b>High</b> priority request	Target Fulfilment Time: two <a href="#">Working Days</a>
3	<b>Medium</b> priority request	Target Fulfilment Time: three <a href="#">Working Days</a>
4	<b>Low</b> priority request	Target Fulfilment Time: 10 <a href="#">Working Days</a>

5.5. If a [Market Participant](#) or interested party requires a faster turnaround of a [Switching Service Request](#), this can be noted on the [Switching Service Request](#) when it is raised; however, the [Switching Service Desk](#) is not obliged to provide the fulfilment in an expedited time frame and this shall be dependant on the [Switching Data Service](#)

[Providers](#) and the volume of tickets waiting to be progressed.

### Management of BCDR events

5.6. Where a BCDR event is invoked, the [Recovery Time Objective](#) for the [Switching Operator Service](#) shall be:

- (a) four hours target time; and
- (b) eight hours maximum time

5.7. Where a BCDR event is invoked, the [Recovery Point Objective](#) for the [Switching Operator Service](#) shall be:

- (a) target - 15 minutes
- (b) maximum - 30 minutes

## 6 Maximum Demand Volumes

6.1. The [Switching Portal](#) shall support at least 200 service user organisations; at least 3,300 individual users; and at least 500 concurrent users.

## 7 Reporting

### Scheduled Reports

7.1. The [Switching Operator](#) shall produce regular reports for:

- (a) the [Authority](#), BEIS and the [Code Manager](#); and
- (b) [Market Participants](#) or their authorised representatives.

7.2. The following reports shall be made available on demand via the [Switching Portal](#). [Market Participants](#) will only be able to see reports for their organisation.

<b>Market Participant Reports</b>
<b>Recipients: Market Participants</b>
Open Issues Raised by <a href="#">Market Participant</a>
Open Issues Awaiting Information from the <a href="#">Market Participant</a>
Raised Issues by <a href="#">Market Participant</a>
Closed Issues In the Last 30 Days By <a href="#">Market Participant</a>
Open <a href="#">Switching Service Requests</a> Raised By <a href="#">Market Participant</a>
Open <a href="#">Switching Service Requests</a> Awaiting Information By <a href="#">Market Participant</a>
<a href="#">Switching Service Requests</a> Raised In The Last 30 Days By <a href="#">Market Participant</a>
<a href="#">Switching Service Requests</a> Closed In The Last 30 Days By <a href="#">Market Participant</a>

7.3. The following reports shall be made available via the [Switching Portal](#).

<b>Ofgem and Code Manager Reports</b>	
<b>Recipients: Ofgem and Code Manager</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
Weekly Incident Report	Weekly

Security Incident Report	Monthly
<a href="#">Switching Problems</a> Raised Last Month	Monthly
Registration Data Incident Report	Monthly
Security Incident Report	6 monthly
Switching <a href="#">Major Switching Incident</a> Review Report	As required
Switching <a href="#">Major Switching Incident</a> Summary Report	As required
Switching KPIs	Weekly
Switching Performance Measurement Report	Monthly

7.4. [Market Participants](#) may request additional reports to be created for them. If a [Market Participant](#) requests a custom / ad hoc report, then the [Switching Operator](#) will analyse the request and arrange for a cost estimate and projected timescale for it to be produced.

7.5. If the [Market Participant](#) wishes to accept this cost, it will need to provide financial approval from its organisation, following which the [Switching Operator](#) will arrange for the report to be produced, subject to them having access to the data that the report covers. The [Switching Operator](#) may not provide reports to [Market Participants](#) (other than those set out in Paragraph 7.2 of this service definition and Paragraph 8 of the [CSS Service Definition](#)) unless expressly permitted by, and in accordance with, the [Code](#).

7.6. Reports relating to the [Central Switching Service](#) ([Registration Service](#) and [Address](#)

[Management Service](#)) will be made available via the [Switching Portal](#). These will be produced by the [CSS Provider](#) and are detailed in the [CSS Service Definition](#).

## 8 System Audit

- 8.1. The [Switching Operator](#) shall ensure that the [Switching Portal](#) and [Switching Service Management System](#) maintain an audit trail of messages received, responses sent and operations performed by privileged users.
- 8.2. Audit logs shall, as a minimum, identify the username, time and date of access, including areas and actions carried out when access occurs.

## 9 Data Handling

- 9.1. Data received in relation to [Switching Service Desk](#) tickets will be held within the [Switching Service Management System](#). Any personal data included within a [Switching Service Request](#) will be removed once the [Switching Service Request](#) has been closed.

## 10 Security

### Security Monitoring

- 10.1. To ensure the delivery of robust [Switching Arrangements](#), the [Switching Operator](#) is responsible for monitoring the overall security of the [Switching Arrangements](#). It:
  - (a) monitors the deployed security of [CSS](#), ensuring any breaches are identified, resolved promptly and plugged to ensure that they will not recur;
  - (b) ensures that [CSS](#) data is secure at all times by monitoring for anomalies, threats and vulnerabilities;
  - (c) ensures that confidential data is not stored on the [Switching Service Management System](#);
  - (d) continually monitors the [CSS](#) for threat detection; and
  - (e) regularly reviews the [CSS](#) security model to ensure that it continues to be robust

and appropriate for [Switching](#) services.

**[Switching Service Management System](#) / [Switching Portal](#)**

10.2. Access to the [Switching Service Management System](#) and [Switching Portal](#) is controlled as further described in Paragraph 3.

10.3. The data stored in the [Switching Service Management System](#) is encrypted to protect the data at rest.