

This is the DAR for the Networks teleconference held on Thursday 1st August 2019 between Xoserve, DCC and Net Company.

Attendees:

Rob Walker (RW)- DCC

Laura Kanabe (LK) - DCC

Kenny (K) – Net Company

Steve Weston (SW) - Xoserve

Nathan Prince (NP) - Xoserve

Kirsty McGarry (KM) - Xoserve

There was no specific agenda circulated, Rob Walker chaired the meeting, and acknowledged that the group are working at risk as Ofgem has not yet approved the final solution options. Rob shared a high level plan, described as a work in progress view of steps required to be ready for SIT.

The areas covered are detailed below:

Phase 1 : Requirements clarification (August)

A discussion was held to understand the aim of this phase. It was advised that workshops will be held to answer outstanding questions and agree what is feasible. It was acknowledged that the Code on Connection (CoCo) document content would have an impact on the Network solution. If required a CR will be raised at the end of August to reflect what is being asked from Comms network providers.

Xoserve made a request for DCC / SI to engage with Market Participants to gauge the level of interest in each of the solution options currently being considered, in order to prevent unnecessary work and cost. An action was taken to formally feed this back to Ofgem, SI and DCC.

A working assumption was tabled by DCC. For the purpose of requirements clarification all three options should be considered for requirements gathering purposes.: As there is currently no clear indication of a preferred solution by Market Participants for the purpose of requirements clarification, all 3 options should be considered. Xoserve are logging a risk that the greater delays of conclusion of the industry preferred position considering all three options will require more work and potentially could create a greater risk of delay.

It was noted that any of the three solutions should cover the end to end solution and should consider secondary interfaces.

Phase 2 : Detailed design and definition of Azure connectivity (September)

Xoserve have requested clarification that our assumption that the IX options is for a layer 3 dumb network and asked whether any additional components offering other services was required. It was confirmed that a layer 3 network is assumed and the SI advised they believed there is not significant change required by Xoserve. Xoserve has asked for this assumption to be confirmed.

Xoserve raised a questions in relation to lead time required by Market Participants to procure and provision any of networks into data centres and this should be understood and not be underestimated as it could pose a risk to the readiness of participants particularly for SIT if they should choose an option they do not currently use. A request was made for the Programme and Suppliers to engage with participants early in order to mitigate the risk.

Phase 3 : Development, test, ordering and provisioning

Xoserve requested this phase be split out on the plan to distinguish activities for all Market Participants where they are responsible. Xoserve's request was declined it is felt that the DCC/SI plan should reflect high level activities with the lower level detail residing in Xoserve's low level project plan.