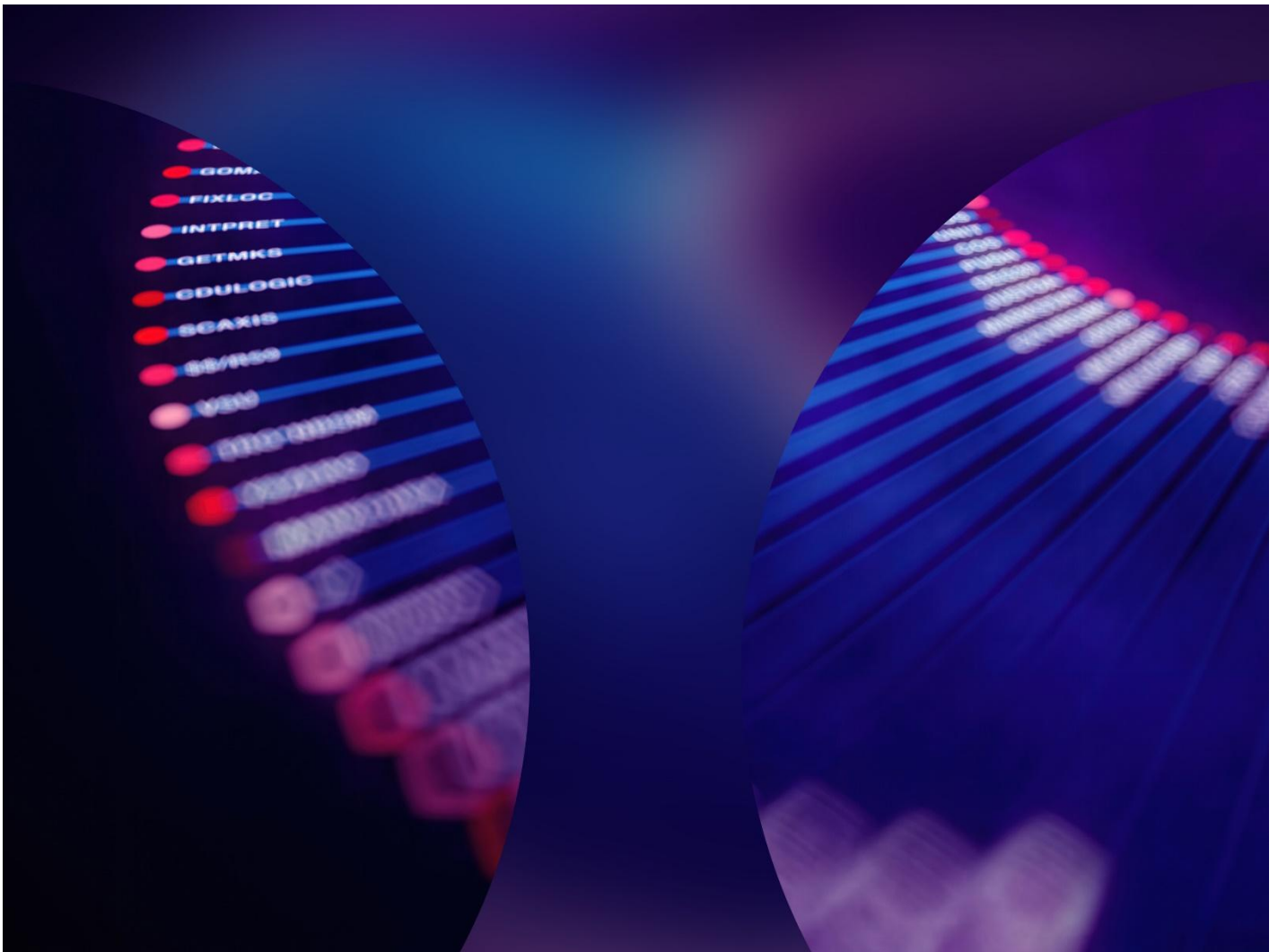


# DIP CR 0015 'Introducing Level 3 & 4 Response Codes into the DIP Rules' Initial Assessment

Public

Document owner	Document number	Date	Document status
DIP Manager	1.0	17 March 2026	<b>Public</b>



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## Summary

### About this document

You can find the definitions of the terms and acronyms used in this document in the [DIP Glossary](#)<sup>1</sup>.

This document provides information on a DIP CR. It provides an assessment of the proposed change and its progression.

There are four parts to this document, which are:

- This document. It is the main document providing insight into the change, solution, and progression.
- **Attachment A** contains the **DIP CR Proposal Form**.
- **Attachment B** contains the amendments to **DSD002 – Detail DIP Operational Requirements, Annex 2**.
- **Attachment C** contains the new annex, **Annex XX – DIP Message Validation Codes**, to **DSD002**.

### Timeline for DIP CR 0015 'Introducing Level 3 and 4 validation codes into the DIP Rules.'



### Executive summary

The DIP Rules outline the obligations that DIP Users must fulfill, including the process for validating messages exchanged between each other. Message validations within a message channel<sup>1</sup> are categorised into four levels, ranging from 1 to 4<sup>2</sup>. Levels 1 and 2 involve synchronous<sup>3</sup> and asynchronous<sup>4</sup> validations performed by the DIP, while the DIP Users themselves handle Levels 3 and 4, also with both synchronous and asynchronous validations.

However, the DIP Rules do not specify response codes for DIP Users to utilise at Levels 3 and 4. This lack of clarity is affecting how applicants, potential users, and existing DIP Users develop their systems to manage both synchronous and asynchronous validations. To address this issue, this DIP CR proposes introducing response codes into the DIP Rules by adding a new Annex to **DSD0002 – DIP Connection and Operation** requirements as part of the DIP Managers' June Release.

	Impacts	Explanation
DIP Users	Positive	Clarity is provided for Level 3 and 4 validations.
DIP Manager	Positive	Ensures message channels aren't impacted by issues with DIP Users' ability to validate messages.
DIP Rules	Positive	Introducing the response codes into the DIP Rules will ensure DIP Users are aware of what is included at Level 3/4 validations.
DIP objectives	Positive	Objective (a) will be fulfilled as this DIP CR improves DIP users' ability to provide accurate and timely

<sup>1</sup> [DSD002 –Detailed DIP Operational Requirements, Annex 2](#), 7.6.1

<sup>2</sup> [DSD002 –Detailed DIP Operational Requirements, Annex 2](#), 7.4.4.

<sup>3</sup> At the same time, at the same frequency.

<sup>4</sup> .Not synchronous; occurring at different times.

support for sharing relevant market data.

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Industry Codes	Positive	This DIP CR will support DIP Users and their Code Obligation.
Cost	TBC	This is a document change to clarify how DIP Users should otherwise be developing their systems.
Change Tier	One	This DIP CR introduces new requirements for DIP Users into the DIP Rules.

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## Overview

### Background

The Market-wide Half-Hourly Settlement Programme (MHHSP) has introduced a new Target Operating Model (TOM) to facilitate updated market arrangements. A key component of this initiative included implementing new interfaces for messages that are utilised within the middleware service known as the DIP. These interfaces are described in a design document, MHHSP-DES138 Interface Catalogue.

The design document, MHHSP-DES138 Interface Catalogue, aims to align with the other end-to-end (E2E) architecture documentation that is part of the Target Operating Model (TOM). It serves as a basic overview of the key elements and messages used in the DIP. The document outlines the different levels of validations that will be performed by the DIP, such as checking message environment codes and message schema versions. Additionally, it details how participants can implement interface validation levels for the initial receipt of messages.

For participants, it was noted that the 'interface validation levels and error codes' included in the document are for illustrative purposes. Participants—such as applicants, potential users, and existing DIP users—are encouraged to consider what types of checks they would like to perform when receiving a message.

Participants saw this document as guidance rather than a requirement. Consequently, they began developing their systems to incorporate message validations. Some of these validations aligned with the design document, while others deviated from it. As a result, the validations could differ from one user to another in the DIP, which affects how messages are received and validated.

As participants began qualifying for the MHHS arrangement and onboarding to the DIP, the DIP Manager noticed that some participants had not incorporated Level 3 and Level 4 response codes into their systems. This omission was causing issues for DIP users regarding message validation. This discrepancy could become significant as more Market Participants complete their Industry Code Qualification and onboarding to the DIP.

To address this issue, the DIP Manager presented its findings to the MHHSP Expert Group (EG) and sought feedback from participants and Industry Code Bodies on how the issue could be addressed. It was recommended that the DIP Manager develop a DIP CR to address the issue.

### What is the issue?

The DIP Rules, which are obligations for DIP Users to meet, detail the level of validations that occur when a message is exchanged. There are:

- Level 1 - initial synchronous validation by the DIP;
- Level 2 - secondary asynchronous validation by the DIP;
- Level 3 - initial synchronous validation by the DIP User; and
- Level 4 - secondary asynchronous validation by the DIP User.

The DIP Rules do not detail at Level 3 and/or Level 4 validations the response codes included in the MHHSP design document. Rather, the DIP Rules (DSD002, Annex 2) explain that "each message channel has both synchronous and asynchronous methods for reporting status/error messages back to the Sender." The issue created is that the lack of clarity in the MHHSP design document has led to erroneous interpretations of the requirements, and it is impacting how applicants, potential, and DIP Users are developing their systems to handle synchronous/asynchronous acceptance/validation within the message channel used by a DIP User(s).

### Solution

To resolve the issue, it is proposed to uplift the response codes used for Level 3 and 4 validations in the MHHSP design document into the DIP Rules as part of a new Annex. This will ensure that Market Participants are aware of what they need to include for their systems to handle synchronous/asynchronous acceptance/validation within the message channel used by a DIP User(s).

### Proposers rationale

Incorporating response codes into the DIP Rules will clarify the Level 3 and 4 validations for DIP users. This change will help minimize errors that may arise from Market Participants either adhering to or overlooking the requirements outlined in the MHHSP design document.

### Proposers red-lining

Document	Section	Amendment
<a href="#">DSD002, Annex 2</a>	7.6	Amending this section to include a reference to a new Annex that has the Level 3 and 4 response codes.
DSD002, Annex XX (new)	Whole document	This is a new annex. It introduces Level 3 and 4 response codes that the DIP Manager has developed from MHHSP documents (DES138).

Note that the full text or amendments can be found within the legal text **Attachment(s) B and C**.

## Impacts, benefits, and risks

### Impacts

The current extent and impact of this issue are not yet clear because Market Participants are in the process of Qualification. However, the DIP Manager and others have observed that participants qualifying and onboarding to the DIP have varied interpretations of the MHHS TOM requirements for Level 3 and 4 validations. This discrepancy could become significant as more Market Participants complete their Industry Code Qualification and onboarding to the DIP.

### Benefits

The introduction of Level 3 and Level 4 response codes into the DIP Rules will provide clarity for applicants, potential DIP users, and current DIP users regarding the validation of messages. This is important because it ensures that all users of the DIP are following consistent practices when sending and receiving messages.

### Risks

Currently, applicants, potential users, and existing DIP users have built their systems based on their interpretations of the E2E architecture documents. Each of these groups did this to qualify for various Industry Codes and to onboard to the DIP. Modifying the DIP Rules to incorporate new message requirements poses a risk to onboarding to the DIP.

If participants are unable to onboard to the DIP, it may impact their ability to qualify for various Industry Codes. This could pose a risk to the MHHS Milestone 14 (M14), which requires all DIP Users, specifically electricity suppliers, to have the necessary systems and services in place to accept MPANs under the new TOM.

Both of these risks are significant. However, the implementation of additional codes into the messages used within the DIP by the DIP Manager is not considered burdensome; it should be relatively straightforward. Furthermore, the DIP Manager has provided guidance to assist applicants, potential users, and current DIP users in understanding the requirements for Level 3 and Level 4 validations within message channels. This initiative encourages early adoption of the DIP CR before its official approval.

Affected party/area	Impact, benefit, or risk	Explanation
DIP Rules	Positive impact and benefit	Provides clarity on the validations for DIP Users to use for Level 3 and 4 validations.
DIP System	Positive impact and benefit	Will ensure the DIP System can operate without interruptions due to issues between DIP Users' validations at Level 3 and 4.
DIP User	Positive impact and benefit	Ensures that Level 3 and 4 validations are consistent from user to user.
DIP Manager	Positive impact and benefit	Enable the DIP Manager to continue to operate a service that isn't affected by design issues.
DIP Service Provider	Neutral	
Industry Codes	Positive impact and benefit	Level 3 and 4 validations will support Level 5 and 6 validations.
DIP Manager Cost	Low	This is a document change for the DIP Manager and will have minimal cost.

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This change will likely have minimal costs to DIP Users. However, the DIP Manager is consulting on this change to ensure any additional or hidden costs to those seeking or using the DIP are captured and understood.

DIP User Cost

Low

DIP Objective	Impact	Rationale
<p>Applicable <b>DIP Objective (a)</b> Provide accurate and timely support for the sharing of applicable market data.</p>	Positive	Improves DIP users' ability to provide accurate and timely support for sharing relevant market data.
<p>Applicable <b>DIP Objective (b)</b> Further consumer interests through the appropriately governed sharing of data.</p>	Netural	
<p>Applicable <b>DIP Objective (c)</b> Facilitate competitive change and innovation through the efficient and economic delivery of reliable and adaptable services.</p>	Netural	

## DIP CR tier, progression, and implementation/recommendation

### Change Tier

Tier	Criteria	Explanation
<b>Tier 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>an implementation cost greater than £500,000 for the DIP Manager and/or £250,000 for DIP Users;</li> <li>placing new obligations on DIP Users and/or the DIP Manager that will require a change to the DIP User's business operating model;</li> <li>an Implementation Date will be more than 24 months after the date on which the decision is made.</li> </ul>	This DIP Change Request introduces a new requirement for DIP Users to incorporate into their systems. As such, it is classified as a Tier 1 change and will be determined by the DCAB.
<b>Tier 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All other changes.</li> </ul>	This DIP CR is introducing a new requirement for DIP Users to incorporate into their system. Thus, it is not 'all other change'. Rather, it is a Tier 1 change. In turn, it is not a Tier 2 change.

### Progression timeline

Event	Date
DIP CR Raised	16 March 2026
Initial Assessment published	17 March 2026
Industry Consultation	17 March 2026 – 14 April 2026
Final Assessment published	28 April 2026
DIP CR presented for decision	12 May 2026 (pending DCAB approval)
Decision published	13 May 2026 (pending DCAB approval)
Proposed Implementation Date	25 June 2026 (pending DCAB approval)

### Reason to consult

The DIP Manager emphasizes the importance of consulting on this DIP Change Request (CR). This consultation is necessary because the issue has been discussed in various industry forums, including the MHHS Expert Group and the DIP Change and Advisory Board (DCAB) meetings. As a result, it is visible to many stakeholders in the industry. By consulting on this CR, we can allow those who have been affected, as well as those who might be affected in the future, to assess the situation. This process ensures that their opinions are heard.

## Consultation questions

To allow stakeholders to scrutinize CR 0015, the DIP Manager will ask:

Question	Reason to ask
Has the DIP Manager appropriately understood the issue?	It ensures the DIP Manager and those who respond are in agreement on what the issue is.
Has the issue impacted your organisation?	
If so, what has been the impact?	It enables respondents to detail the impact, costs, and risks this issue may be causing them (if at all).
Do you agree with the proposed solution?	
If so, do you agree with the red-lined text in DSD002, Annex XX?	
If so, do you agree with the response codes in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Table 1 (page 4 of DSD002, Annex XX)</b> and/or</li> <li>• <b>Table 2 (page 14 DSD002, Annex XX).</b></li> </ul>	Respondents can provide reasons they support (or do not) the red-lined text the DIP Manager has developed.
Do you agree that the red-lined delivers the solution that addresses the issue in this DIP CR?	Respondents can detail and/or provide reasons whether the solution addresses the issue in this DIP CR.
Will the solution in this DIP CR incur any costs to your organisation?	Respondents can outline the cost this DIP CR may cause them (if at all).
Do you agree with the implementation approach of this DIP CR?	Respondents can explain whether they support the implementation approach of this DIP CR.
Do you have any additional comments on this DIP CR?	Ensures respondents can add further comments or considerations that the DIP Manager may have missed within their assessment.

## Implementation

DIP Manager initially recommends an Implementation Date for **CR0015** of:

- **25 June 2026** as part of the standard June DIP Release.