DIP CR 0020 ‘Decreasing the Retention Period for the DIP Archive’ Further Assessment

Public

Assessment

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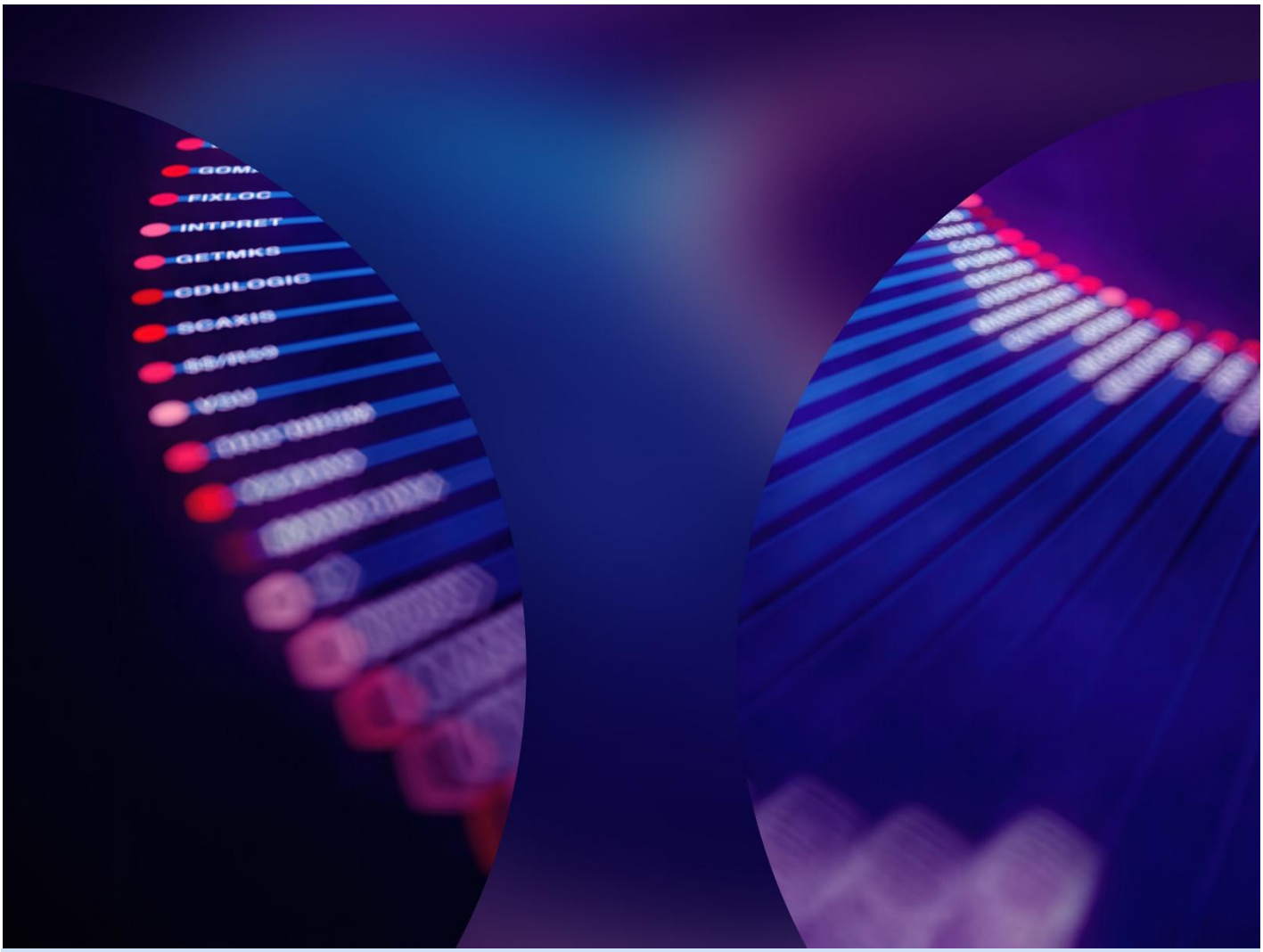

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Contents	

Summary

About this document

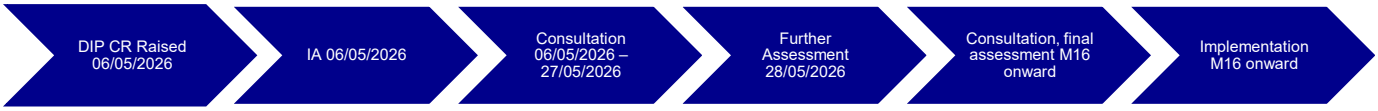
You can find the definitions of the terms and acronyms used in this document in the DIP Glossary[1].

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

There are three 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 red-line text for DCR0020
- **Attachment C** contains the consultation responses.

Timeline



Executive summary

The Data Integration Platform (DIP) currently provides message archiving, replay, and re-queue services to support users in scenarios such as data loss or system failure. Under existing DIP Rules, messages are retained for two years, and users must demonstrate equivalent data retention capability during onboarding.

A recent cost assessment conducted by the DIP Manager with the DIP Service Provider, Avanade, has identified that data storage costs—particularly those associated with message indexing (blob index tags in Microsoft Azure)—are increasing significantly. Avanade has taken steps to mitigate the issue by adjusting the platform architecture without impacting the archive features, but it is noted 2 years retention versus 90-day retention will have costs for the DIP Payees, and business validation should be performed.

To ensure the DIP remains efficient and cost-effective, it was proposed to reduce the archive retention period from two years to 90 days, de-duplicating data that is held in local systems and central systems. This change would materially reduce storage and indexing costs while maintaining sufficient capability to support core recovery functions such as message replay and re-queue.

This proposal aligns with the DIP Manager’s obligation to deliver a cost-efficient service and to ensure that the DIP Rules remain proportionate and fit for purpose.

However, consultation feedback demonstrated broad agreement that archive storage costs need to be managed. Stakeholders also raised significant concerns regarding operational resilience, replay capability, audit support, and the proportionality of reducing retention to 90 days during the MHHS transition period. As a result, the DIP Manager has concluded that further evidence gathering, industry engagement, and assessment of alternative approaches are required before progressing with implementation.

The consultation responses did not provide any specific business needs. It is accepted that there are some specific data flows requiring 90 days and 123 days retention, shown further down in this document. With no business-specific requirements evidenced, it is unclear why an extended duration is required for all other data flows.

	Impacts	Explanation
DIP Users	Postive	This change will reduce the cost of retaining information.

DIP Manager	Postive	This change will reduce the cost of retaining information.
DIP Rules	Postive	This change will clarify how long information should be retained in the DIP Rules.
DIP objectives	Positive	This change supports Objective C as it will ensure there is a cost-effective service delivered to DIP Users.
Industry Codes	Netural	N/A
Cost	Low	This change will reduce the cost of retaining information.
Change Tier	One	This change will affect the operating model for the DIP Manager as it will reduce the retention period of the DIP Archive.

Overview

Background

The DIP Rules set out the core services of the DIP[1], which includes Message[2] archiving, replay[3], and/or re-queue[4]. This functionality supports DIP Users[5] when a Message is lost or when there has been a system failure (alongside other scenarios). To enable this functionality, DIP Users must, during their DIP On-Boarding[6] checks (functional and non-functional) provide evidence that their systems can store data received via the DIP for at least two years[7], which aligns with the DIP archive's default retention period[8].

To provide the DIP archive and message replay and re-queue functionality, the DIP Manager[9] has been working with the DIP Service Provider[10], Avanade, to understand the costs associated with retaining data. This exercise has been undertaken because, as more and more DIP Applicants[11] are turning into DIP Users as part of Market-wide Half-Hourly Settlement (MHHS) Qualification[12].

The assessment identified that storage costs were rising, largely driven by the use of message index tagging to categorise messages across channels. Blob index tags are currently used as the underlying technology for the archive index, but this is being redesigned to use Cosmos DB (both Microsoft Azure services).

As a result, alongside the reduction in the archive retention period, this change will also help lower the ongoing cost of maintaining the archive index.

Currently, the costs are estimated to be significant per month for index tagging. These costs would be funded by DIP Payees[13] (after Milestone 16 (2 July 2027)).

What is the issue?

The cost of maintaining indexes for the DIP message archive is set to increase. This poses a challenge because the DIP Manager is responsible for providing DIP Users—and, by extension, DIP Payees—with an efficient and cost-effective service[14]. Additionally, the Manager must ensure that the established rules are fit for purpose[15].

Solution

To support a more cost-effective service, it is proposed to reduce the DIP archive retention period from two years to 90 days

Proposers rationale

Reducing the retention period would significantly lower data storage and indexing costs. This change enables the DIP Manager to fulfil its responsibility to operate an efficient and cost-effective service for DIP Users, while maintaining the core functionality required for message recovery scenarios.

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[1] DSD002, Annex 2, 2.2
[2] A flow containing an event or a message sent using the DIP
[3] The replay API will return the messages directly from the API call.
[4] he re-queue API will place the messages on the queue to be pulled by the corresponding Webhook
[5] An organisation that has completed DIP On-boarding and fulfils one of the DIP Roles listed in DSD002 ‘DIP Connection and Operation.’
[6] The process set out in DSD002 ‘DIP Connection and Operation.’
[7] DSD002, Annex 1, 1.1.1, (h)
[8] DSD002, Annex 2, 9.6.4 “The furthest a query can retrieve data is dependent upon the retention time set with each message channel (the default retention is 2 years).”
[9] The company or organisation appointed by the Authority responsible for the operation of the DIP, including recovery of costs, changes to the DIP and its governance processes, and any other duty as laid out in the DIP Rules
[10] The company appointed to manage and maintain the middleware that is the DIP
[11] An organisation applying to be a DIP User
[12] Shall have the same meaning as in the BSC Section C 12.2 and, for the purpose of the DIP Rules, shall apply mutatis mutandis to all potential DIP Users that are not BSC Parties but are required to be DIP Users by another Industry Code.
[13] Shall have the meaning in DSD005 ‘Funding and Budget’, i.e., DIP Costs shall be payable by DIP Payees. A DIP Payee is a DIP User that is required to pay a share of DIP Costs. DIP Payees are: Suppliers that have at least one Metering Point Administration Number (MPAN) registered in DIP MPAN Address Maintenance Service (DIP MAMS) and have completed DIP On-Boarding in accordance with DSD002 ‘DIP Connection and Operation’.
[14] DSD001, 3.1.2.
[15] DSD001, 3.1.3.

DIP CR 0020 ‘Decreasing the Retention Period for the DIP Archive’ Further Assessment
The 90-day retention aligns with the period required to support data replay in the IF-015/16 interface.

Proposers red-lining

Document	Section	Amendment
DSD002, Annex 2	9.6	Wording has changed from ‘default 2 years’ to ‘default 90 calendar days.’ **Change:** 9.6.4 The furthest a query can retrieve data is dependent upon the retention time set with each message channel (the default retention is ~~2 years~~ 90 days).

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

Impacts, benefits, and risks

Impacts

The most significant impact is on DIP Users’ data recovery capabilities. With only 90 days of archived data available, users will no longer be able to rely on the DIP for replay or re-queue of older messages. This places greater responsibility on users to maintain their own long-term storage solutions if they require data beyond this window.

Operational processes and expectations will need to adjust. Users, service desks, and support teams must be aware of the shorter recovery window, which could affect incident management, audit requests, and dispute resolution timelines.

Benefits

Reducing the retention period delivers immediate and tangible cost savings. The largest driver—index tagging in Microsoft Azure—scales with both data volume and retention duration, so shortening the storage window significantly lowers ongoing operational costs.

It also improves overall service efficiency. Managing a smaller data set reduces storage overhead, simplifies archive management, and may improve system performance for retrieval operations such as replay and re-queue within the retained window.

Finally, the change promotes proportionality. A 90-day retention period may better reflect actual operational needs if most recovery scenarios occur within a shorter timeframe, avoiding over-engineering the service**.**

Risks

A key risk is reduced resilience in long-tail failure scenarios. Issues that are identified late—beyond the 90-day window—may no longer be recoverable via the DIP, potentially leading to data gaps, reconciliation challenges, or increased manual intervention.

Affected party/area	Impact, benefit, or risk	Explanation
DIP Rules	Positive	This provides clarity on retention periods for the DIP Archive.
DIP System	Positive	This will ensure the DIP System is efficient when replaying and requeuing messages.
DIP User	Positive	This will ensure DIP Users understand the retention periods of the DIP Archive
DIP Manager	Positive	This provides clarity on retention periods for the DIP Archive.
DIP Service Provider	Positive	This provides clarity on retention periods for the DIP Archive.
Industry Codes	Netural	Netural
DIP Manager Cost	Positive	This provides clarity on retention periods for the DIP Archive and its cost.
DIP User Cost	Positive	This provides clarity on retention periods for the DIP Archive and its cost.
Applicable **DIP Objective (a)**	Netural	

• Provide accurate and timely support for the sharing of applicable market data.		
Applicable **DIP Objective (b)**		
• Further consumer interests through the appropriately governed sharing of data.	Netural	
Applicable **DIP Objective (c)**		
• Facilitate competitive change and innovation through the efficient and economic delivery of reliable and adaptable services.	Positive	This change will reduce the costs for the DIP and will support an efficient and economic delivery of reliable and adaptable services

DIP CR tier, progression, and next steps

Change Tier

Tier	Critiera	Explanation
Tier 1	• an implementation cost greater than £500,000 for the DIP Manager and/or £250,000 for DIP Users; • placing new obligations on DIP Users and/or the DIP Manager that will require a change to the DIP User’s business operating model; • an Implementation Date will be more than 24 months after the date on which the decision is made.	This change will affect the DIP Manager’s operating model and, thus, should be considered a tier one change.
Tier 2	• All other changes	This is a material change and is not a Tier 2 change.

Conclusion overview

The DIP Manager consulted on DCR0020 in May 2026. This allowed those impacted (and interested) in the change to provide their views. The DIP Manager received 20 responses to DCR0020. The consultation responses demonstrate broad agreement that increasing DIP archive storage and indexing costs are a genuine issue requiring management by the DIP Manager. However, the majority of respondents did not support the proposal in its current form to reduce archive retention from two years to 90 days. Stakeholders consistently raised concerns that the proposal was insufficiently evidenced, overly focused on cost reduction, and did not fully consider the wider operational, audit, assurance, replay, investigatory, and MHHS transition impacts associated with reducing archive retention. Many respondents considered the proposed reduction to be disproportionate and highlighted the risk that issues may not become apparent within 90 days, particularly during early MHHS operation and market stabilisation.

A recurring theme across responses was the need for stronger evidence and impact assessment before implementation. Respondents requested greater transparency regarding storage costs, expected savings, archive usage patterns, replay activity, and participant impacts. Several stakeholders also questioned whether alternative technical or operational solutions — such as lower-cost storage tiers, reduced indexing, phased implementation, selective retention approaches, or longer retention periods — had been fully explored. Concerns were also raised that reducing central archive retention could transfer operational burden and costs to market participants, potentially resulting in duplicated storage solutions and increased industry complexity.

While some respondents supported the principle of improving cost efficiency and accepted that archive retention may ultimately need to be reduced, support was generally conditional on additional safeguards, clearer governance arrangements, further stakeholder engagement, and more comprehensive operational analysis. Overall, the consultation responses indicate that stakeholders support continued investigation of the issue but consider further evidence gathering, industry collaboration, and assessment of alternative approaches necessary before progressing implementation of the proposed change.

Summarised consultation responses and DIP Manager response

Question: Has the DIP Manager appropriately understood the issue?
Respondents generally agreed that the DIP Manager understood the main issue: data storage costs will impact DIP Payees. However, the implications of reducing the data storage duration need further clarification. For instance, one respondent noted that the DIP Archive is beneficial in the event of a service incident. Additionally, other respondents explained that the DIP Archive is operationally essential for audit, reconciliation, and investigation activities. Thus, reducing the data storage period could negatively affect how these activities are supported. One respondent indicated that P474 Governance, funding, and operation of the DIP was agreed to by the Authority (Ofgem) because of the core services the DIP would provide to DIP Users, including Message Archiving. The two-year retention period was part of the Authority's approval. Making a change that reduces this period by 640 days is significant for a service that has not been operational for a year. Additionally, consideration should be given to how this reduction impacts users who have developed their disaster recovery processes. It is also important to assess how this change might affect future modifications and what implications it has for a DIP user exchanging data beyond the 90 days, as well as whether there are any impacts on Code Bodies assurance processes.
DIP Manager Response
The DIP Archive is used to support the replay and requeue of DIP Messages. Replaying or requeuing a Message is used when there are lost messages or instances where there has been a system failure. The responses received indicate that a reduction of the storage period of the DIP archive must be balanced with the operational reliance it provides. Whilst no examples of system failure of the DIP were given, respondents noted other industry incidents. Further, respondents provided examples of where they had to replay or requeue Messages that were older than 90 days. This feedback suggests that the issue of cost is principally a concern, as DIP Payees will have to pay for it, but there is support for maintaining the status quo, or a different period is considered.

Question: Has the issue impacted your organisation?
The issue of costs related to the data storage of the DIP Archive has not affected any respondents. The costs associated with the DIP are the responsibility of the DIP Payees, who are onboarded suppliers with at least one MPAN registered in the DIP MPAN Address Maintenance Service (DIP MAMS). According to the DIP Rules outlined in DSD001, Annex 1, which discusses Implementation Dates and Transition Arrangements, the funding provided by DIP Payees will not take effect (or have its first compliance date) until M16. As a result, the financial impact has not yet been experienced by DIP Payees and will only be realized starting in M16.
DIP Manager Response
The DIP Manager raised DCR0020 as a proactive change to ensure that the DIP remains economically efficient. As noted above, DIP Payees are responsible for the funding of the DIP.

Question: Do you agree with the proposed solution?
Responses indicate that the majority of stakeholders do not support the proposal to reduce DIP archive retention from two years to 90 days in its current form. While respondents broadly acknowledged the need to address increasing storage and indexing costs, many considered the proposed reduction to be disproportionate and insufficiently evidenced. Key concerns focused on the potential loss of operational capability, including impacts on replay activities, incident investigation, settlement reconciliation, audit and assurance processes, and MHHS transition support. Respondents also highlighted the risk that issues may not become apparent within a 90-day period and warned that the proposal could transfer cost and operational burden from the central DIP service to market participants. Many stakeholders requested further evidence, stronger impact assessment, and greater exploration of alternative solutions, including longer retention periods or lower-cost storage approaches. Although some respondents supported the principle of reducing unnecessary costs, support was generally conditional on additional safeguards, clearer governance, and further analysis before implementation.
DIP Manager Response
The proposed solution needs further evidence for respondents to be satisfied that the impact of reducing the retention period would not adversely affect their operations. To do this, the DIP Manager will need to investigate alternatives. Respondents also noted that the cost burden would shift from the DIP Manager to DIP Users. This is not true. The DIP Manager is funded by DIP Payees, who are onboarded suppliers that have more than one MPAN. Additionally, DIP Users must be capable of retaining their own information for at least two years. The DIP Manager raised this CR because the costs of storage are high. These costs will be funded by DIP Payees. This change was a proactive response to storage costs.

Question: Do you agree that the red-lined delivers the solution that addresses the issue in this DIP CR?
Responses to this question indicate that stakeholders are not yet fully satisfied that the proposed red-lined changes deliver the most appropriate solution to the issue identified in this DIP CR. While some respondents agreed that the drafting reflects the intended outcome of reducing archive retention and associated storage costs, many expressed concern that the solution is too narrowly focused on deletion rather than broader optimisation of storage and indexing approaches. Several respondents questioned whether the red-lined changes sufficiently account for operational, audit, assurance, replay, and MHHS transition requirements, and highlighted the lack of supporting evidence demonstrating that a 90-day retention period provides an appropriate balance between cost reduction and operational resilience. A recurring theme was that alternative solutions — including lower-cost storage tiers, phased reductions, selective retention models, or longer retention periods — do not appear to have been fully explored before proposing the current drafting. As a result, support for the red-lined solution was generally conditional on further analysis, additional safeguards, and clearer evidence that the proposed changes would not create disproportionate operational or regulatory risks for market participants.
DIP Manager Response
The change indicated by the red line in the text was not significant: "two years" was replaced with "90 days." However, the impact of this change is substantial. Respondents expressed that, without further analysis, the solution fails to address their concerns. These concerns include the implications of implementing the change, how it would

affect those who have already been onboarded, the impact on individuals currently undergoing onboarding, and potential alternatives that could be considered.

While the text change may seem minor, the breadth of its impact is significant. This suggests that a solution needs to provide more details on how it will work in practice. One alternative could be to expand the text to clarify the retention period for different messages. This would help the DIP Manager understand the importance of various messages to its users. Additionally, it would allow users to define the business need for their retention.

One potential example of a future approach could involve differentiated retention periods based on the operational importance and business use of individual message interfaces. The illustrative example below is not a proposed solution, but demonstrates how a more proportionate and risk-based retention model could be explored collaboratively with DIP Users through future analysis and consultation.

An example (in red) of an alternative solution would be:

“9.6.4 The furthest a query can retrieve data is dependent upon the retention time set with each message channel. The table below sets the retention time for the message channel.

Interface	Interface Name	Retention time	Obligation
IF-001	Notification of Change of Supplier	123 days	
IF-002	Notification to New Supplier of Site Information	123 days	
IF-003	Notification of Reverse Migration and Deappointment	123 days	
IF-004	Comms Hub Information (Optional)	123 days	
IF-005	Metering Service MTD Updates to Registration	730 days	
IF-006	Notification of Metering Service MTD Update to Registration	730 days	
IF-007	Change of Energisation Status Outcome	730 days	
IF-008	Registration Service Notification of Change of Energisation Status	730 days	
IF-009	Notification of Metering Service MTD Update to Registration	730 days	
IF-013	MDS Defaults Applied	730 days	
IF-014	UTC Settlement Period Consumption Data (Warnings & Rejections)	730 days	
IF-015	Request Historic Consumption Replay (ADV Sites only)	730 days	
IF-016	HH Consumption History Replay (ADV Sites only)	730 days	
IF-018	Notification of Registration Data Item Changes	90 Day	

IF-019	Maintain MPAN Relationships	90 Day	
IF-020	Maintain MPAN Relationships Outcome	90 Day	
IF-021	UTC Settlement Period Consumption Data	123 days	
IF-022	LSS Period Data	123 days	
IF-023	LSS Totals Data	123 days	
IF-024	Supplier Advisory Notification to DS	123 days	
IF-025	Supplier Updates to Registration	123 days	
IF-026	Registration Service Notification of Supplier Data Chg	730 days	
IF-027	Consumption Amendment Request	730 days	
IF-028	Consumption Amendment Request Response	730 days	
IF-031	Supplier Service Provider Appointment Request	730 days	
IF-032	Supplier Service Provider Appointment Request Response	730 days	
IF-033	Registration Service Request for Service Appointment	730 days	
IF-034	Service Provider Appointment Request Response	730 days	
IF-035	Registration Service Appointment Status Notification	730 days	
IF-036	Registration Service Notification of Service Appointment & Supporting Info	730 days	
IF-037	Registration Service Notification of Service De-Appointment	730 days	
IF-038	Customer Direct Contract Advisory	730 days	
IF-039	Customer Direct Contract Advisory Response	730 days	
IF-040	Notification of Annual Consumption	730 days	
IF-041	Smart / Advanced Readings	730 days	

IF-043	Registration Service Notification of Change of Connection Type	730 days	
IF-044	Registration Service Notification of Change of Segment	730 days	
IF-045	Registration Service Reminder Notification	730 days	
IF-047	Notification of the Publication of a Downloadable Asset	730 days	
IF-050	EES Updates	730 days	
IF-061	MDR Start Request	730 days	
IF-062	MDR Start Request Response	730 days	
IF-063	MDR Stop Request	730 days	
IF-064	MDR Provide Consumption	730 days	
IF-065	MDR Request / Provide Meter Reading	730 days	
REP-002	Supplier report fo DUoS - aggregated data	730 days	
REP-002A	Embedded Network report for DUoS - aggregated data	730 days	
REP-002B	LDSO report for DUoS - aggregated data	730 days	
REP-003	BM Unit Allocated Demand Volumes to Suppliers	730 days	
REP-003A	Aggregated BM Unit Allocated Demand Volumes to Suppliers	730 days	
REP-004	Supplier Deemed Take Report	730 days	
REP-006	Aggregated Uncorrected volumes by CCC to Suppliers	730 days	
REP-007	VAS exception report to Suppliers	730 days	
REP-008	MDS Exception Report to LDSOs	730 days	
REP-009	EMRS report for Suppliers	123 Days	
REP-900	Distribution Invoice	123 Days	
REP-901	Aggregated DUoS Charges	123 Days	

The retention times in the table **are illustrative**. Retention periods for each message channel would need to be consulted with DIP Users and others.

Question: Will the solution in this DIP CR incur any costs to your organisation

Responses to this question suggest that many stakeholders believe the solution proposed in this DIP CR is likely to incur costs to their organisation, either directly or indirectly. A common concern was that reducing central DIP archive retention may require participants to implement their own local storage, retention, replay, or recovery solutions in order to maintain operational resilience, audit capability, and historic investigation support.

Respondents highlighted the potential for additional system development, operational process changes, governance activities, and ongoing storage management costs. Several parties also noted that there may be resource impacts associated with updating internal controls, compliance processes, and assurance arrangements. While some respondents considered these costs likely to vary depending on organisational size and existing capabilities, many questioned whether the proposal would genuinely reduce total industry costs or simply transfer costs from the central DIP service to individual market participants.

DIP Manager Response

The DIP Manager raised DCR0020 as a proactive change to ensure that the DIP remains economically efficient. As noted above, DIP Payees are responsible for the funding of the DIP.

Question: Do you agree with the implementation approach of this DIP CR?

Responses to this question indicate that stakeholders have significant reservations regarding the proposed implementation approach for this DIP CR. While some respondents acknowledged the need to address increasing storage costs and accepted that implementation may ultimately be necessary, many considered the proposed approach to be premature and insufficiently supported by evidence and operational analysis.

A recurring concern was that implementation during the MHHS transition period could introduce additional operational risk, particularly where defects, settlement issues, or replay requirements may only emerge after extended periods. Respondents also raised concerns regarding the lack of detailed operational processes, fallback arrangements, governance controls, and clarity around participant responsibilities following implementation.

Several stakeholders suggested that a phased implementation, transitional arrangements, or a longer retention period may provide a more proportionate and lower-risk approach. Overall, support for the implementation approach was generally conditional on further impact assessment, clearer governance, additional safeguards, and greater exploration of alternative solutions before proceeding.

DIP Manager Response

The DIP Manager acknowledges that the implementation of DCR0020 was compressed due to the costs associated with data storage. However, this concern needs to be balanced with wider industry activities – such as the MHHS qualification. To do this, the DIP Manager will defer this change to a later period.

Several respondents also highlighted the need to understand any potential impacts on audit, assurance, evidential integrity, settlement reconciliation, and wider regulatory obligations. The DIP Manager acknowledges that these considerations require further assessment before any future retention model can be implemented

Question: Do you agree with the implementation approach of this DIP CR?

Additional comments from respondents primarily reinforced concerns regarding the proportionality, timing, and evidential basis of the proposed change. Several stakeholders stressed that the DIP archive provides wider operational, assurance, and investigatory value than reflected within the consultation and cautioned against reducing capability during a critical phase of MHHS implementation and market stabilisation.

Several respondents requested that further analysis be undertaken before implementation, including a detailed cost-benefit assessment, legal and regulatory review, operational impact analysis, and evaluation of alternative technical solutions.

There was also a recurring view that the proposal risks transferring cost and operational burden from the central DIP service to market participants, potentially resulting in duplicated storage solutions and increased overall industry complexity. Some respondents recommended phased implementation, periodic review points, or interim retention arrangements to reduce risk while longer-term optimisation options are assessed. Overall, stakeholders encouraged continued industry engagement and additional evidence gathering before progressing with the proposed changes.

DIP Manager Response

The DIP Manager consulted on DCR0020, as reducing storage data in the DIP Archive has a significant impact on DIP Users. The feedback received indicates that there must be a balance between costs and operational resilience. Failing to achieve this balance could result in the loss of messages and hinder recovery from system failures. However, it is also essential to consider the business needs and reasons for this balance. The responses received so far have not provided detailed information on these business needs, likely because the DIP has been operational for less than a year. Many potential users of the DIP have not yet been onboarded, making it challenging to evaluate how to balance operational resilience with costs, as these factors remain unknown.

Next steps

To enable the unknowns to be investigated, the DIP Manager will:

- Seek implementation of this CR post M15.
- Gather evidence on how DIP Users interact with the DIP Archive, including trends, themes, replay activity, operational dependency, and archive usage.
- Collaborate with the MHHS Programme on how DIP Users, the DIP Manager, and the DIP Service Provider can support, educate, and develop standards for handling business operations where accountability to validate message delivery is managed by external organisations.
- Explore alternative technical and operational solutions, including different storage approaches, reduced indexing models, phased implementation options, and alternative retention periods.
- Consider legal, audit, assurance, and regulatory obligations associated with archive retention and historical data access.

Continue engagement with industry participants to ensure any future solution is developed collaboratively and supported by operational evidence and impact assessment. Postponing this change will allow the DIP Manager, along with stakeholders, to assess in the future how storage costs can be balanced with the support DIP Users need when accessing the DIP Archive. Additionally, it will allow the DIP Manager to provide further evidence on how DIP Users access and use the DIP Archive. Respondents to the consultation in principle agree that managing costs is part of the DIP Managers' stewardship of the DIP. However, a change that could have operational impacts needs to be investigated, developed, and consulted on alongside industry participants. This type of exercise should be undertaken once Users are operationally resilient. Thus, deferring this change supports those who responded to the consultation and ensures the DIP Manager has support for the costs of storage associated with the DIP archive.

Progression timeline (post-consultation)

DIP CR 0020 ‘Decreasing the Retention Period for the DIP Archive’ Further Assessment

Event	Date
Initial Assessment published	06/05/2026
Industry Consultation	06/05/2026 – 27/06/2026
Further Assessment	29/05/2026
Defferal	Post M15
Industry Consultation	To be determined
Final Assessment	To be determined
Decision	10 WD after Final Assessment
Implementation	To be determined