

# Minutes

## Wholesale Distribution Steering Group (WDSG)

24 March 2020

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Location: **The Meeting took place via audio link.**

Attendees: **Bank of England:** Sarah John (Chair), Martin Etheridge, Mark McLintock, Menaha Yogendra, Kevin Finan

**UK Finance:** Russell Saunders, Eric Leenders, Philip Mind

**Barclays:** Tim Allen

**Lloyds Banking Group:** Otto Benz

**HSBC:** Sue Yarham

**Royal Bank of Scotland:** Richard Talbot

**Santander:** Robert White

**HM Treasury:** Derek Dunne (Alternate)

**KPMG:** Simon Walker

Apologies: Kevin McMullan (Danske Bank), Mario Pisani (HMT), John Garrett (First Trust Bank), Julie Fitzgibbon (Bank of Ireland), Dougie Belmore (Virgin Money UK), Russell Hancock (Post Office)

### Item

#### 1. Standing agenda items

- **February 2020 minutes:**

The group agreed the February 2020 minutes, and approved their publication.

- **Sharing information on stakeholder engagement:**

No updates were noted.

#### 2. Project Progress

KPMG provided a progress report on their work plan for developing the future cash distribution model. The following points were covered:

1. Since the last meeting, KPMG has focussed on finalising the business case and drafting its final report. Work has included:
  - a. Conversations with members to provide feedback on the financials of the business case;
  - b. Productive sessions with wholesale cash operators to ensure their business operations have been accurately reflected in KPMG's modelling;
  - c. A draft of the report has been produced and is going through review.

2. In light of the current pandemic, KPMG will be updating the business case to include a section on the potential impact of Covid-19 on the volume of cash transactions. They will be delivering a final draft of the KPMG report for accuracy checking to ISG members on 1 April 2020.

### **3. Public Consultation**

The members were comfortable with the proposed structure for the public consultation. Members agreed that progress should be made to produce a draft of the consultation document which could be issued at an appropriate time.

### **4. Planning to move into Phase 3a**

Given the impact of Covid-19 on resourcing, the Chair sought views from the members on whether to proceed with the current timetable or to temporary pause.

Members re-confirmed the importance of the project. However, the focus on live operational matters meant that members could not commit sufficient focus to the work of the WDSG at this time. All members agreed it would be sensible to temporary pause.

The group agreed that:

- UK Finance / KPMG should continue to complete the overall business case and final report
- UK Finance / KPMG should continue to work up plans for phase 3a as per the current timetable.
- The next WDSG meeting (20 April 2020) would be an appropriate time to reassess the timetable.

### **5. Review Action Log**

Actions were reviewed and closed where applicable.

### **6. AOB**

None.