

# Minutes

## Wholesale Distribution Steering Group (WDSG)

14 September 2020

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

Attendees: **Bank of England:** Sarah John (Chair), Elisabeth Bertalanffy-Fournier, Ronan McClintock, Camilla Pegg, Molly Galligan  
**UK Finance:** Eric Leenders, Phillip Mind, Russell Saunders  
**Barclays:** Tim Allen  
**Lloyds Banking Group:** Otto Benz  
**HSBC:** Sue Yarham  
**NatWest Group:** Richard Talbot  
**Santander:** Robert White  
**HM Treasury:** Mario Pisani  
**Post Office:** Russell Hancock  
**Virgin Money UK:** Dougie Belmore  
**G4S:** Paul Van Der Knapp  
**Vaultex:** Phil Vaughan  
**Royal Mint:** Anne Jessopp  
**KPMG:** Simon Walker, Oliver Kirby-Johnson

Apologies: Nick Butt (Bank of England), Julie Carruthers (UKF), Kevin McMullan (Danske), Julie Fitzgibbon (BOI), John Garrett (AIB)

### Item

#### 1. **Standing agenda items**

- **July 2020 minutes:**

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

- **Sharing information on stakeholder engagement:**

No updates were noted.

#### 2. **Summary of Public Consultation Responses**

The Bank presented the summary of responses to the public consultation. A total of 12 responses had been received which broadly agreed that without some action being taken the current wholesale cash distribution system would not remain efficient or effective against the backdrop of declining cash volumes. There had been varying levels of support for the utility, though it was noted that much of this variation was directly related to some outstanding questions on the design. The Bank highlighted a number of recurring themes in the responses which included VAT, staff TUPE arrangements, treatment of coin, the service catalogue and the proposed timeline.

UKF noted that there was a growing desire from members to understand the commercial implications of some of the design issues on the table, and establish whether there is a version of the utility model that can achieve broad support from a commercial perspective. It was agreed that this discussion would require the involvement of corporate finance specialists from each institution. UK Finance agreed to facilitate a discussion between the members.

KPMG updated the group on the model development work and felt that most of the key issues identified with the utility model can be addressed in the detailed design work which will come in the next phase of development.

WDSG members had confirmed that they would have the information required to carry out an evaluation of the business case and make a decision to fund the next phase of the work by the revised decision point at the end of November.

**3. Review Action Log**

Actions were reviewed and closed where applicable.

**4. AOB**

None.