

Minutes of the 38th WIRS Provider Forum
LRQA, Remote meeting via MS Teams on the 6th July 2022

Venue: Remote meeting via MS Teams.

Time: 10.00am

Attendees:

Full Name	Abbreviation	User Action	Timestamp
Carter, Andrew	AC	Joined before	06/07/2022, 09:54:48
Whitehouse, Mark	MW	Joined	06/07/2022, 09:54:48
Owen, Steve	ST	Joined	06/07/2022, 09:58:28
Truran, Phil	PT	Joined	06/07/2022, 09:58:51
"\"Andy Bunten (Guest)\""	AB	Joined	06/07/2022, 09:59:28
Kevin Wilkinson	KW	Joined	06/07/2022, 09:59:37
Bill Jones	BJ	Joined	06/07/2022, 09:59:45
Paul Carter	PC	Joined	06/07/2022, 09:59:50
Matt Larham	ML	Joined	06/07/2022, 10:00:12
Morris, Steve	SM	Joined	06/07/2022, 10:00:46
Jim Duddridge	JD	Joined	06/07/2022, 10:00:58
Chad Paget	CP	Joined	06/07/2022, 10:01:05
Pateman, Ray	RP	Joined	06/07/2022, 10:02:10
Jed Garside	JG	Joined	06/07/2022, 10:02:38
James Bugg	JB	Joined	06/07/2022, 10:03:06
Paul Duke	PD	Joined	06/07/2022, 10:07:57
Bethany Graham	BG	Joined	06/07/2022, 10:08:00
William Welsby (MIHE-TMIET-MIOW-AIGEM)	WW	Joined	06/07/2022, 10:10:50
Denise McGlynn	DMcG	Joined	06/07/2022, 10:14:53
Ben Brownbill	BB	Joined	06/07/2022, 10:19:09

Apologies:

Jo Parker

Action list

Action	Date	Action
12	19/10/21	<p>DMex and their breakdown i.e. SLO's/Developer's/Customers.</p> <p>Operative Competency NCO(W).</p> <p>MW to add to his meeting with David Strang, the possible visibility of the actual data.</p> <p>Assurance of the data by Water UK?</p> <p>MW to speak with the successor to David Strang regarding the data and data assurance.</p>
14	08/03/22	<p>MW to prepare performance info from the Developer dashboard metrics to review at the next WIRSAP meeting.</p> <p>Not yet progressed. Subgroup volunteer list formed (see WIRSAP minutes). IAuditor used by LRQA. Keep action open to be progressed.</p>
15	06/07/22	Action 11 WIRSAP–Standards for pressure testing and chlorination DMcG to progress this action.
16	06/07/22	<p>GIRSAP Gas installations 250mm clearance issue.</p> <p>Action – MW to progress via GIRSAP taking into account the feedback noted above and review at a the next WIRSAP/WIRS UCP forums.</p>
17	06/07/22	<p>Graham Morley (UU) questionnaire.</p> <p>MW to confirm with Graham Morley of UU as to the new finish date. All to let MW know if they require a new link to the questionnaire.</p>

Minutes of the Meeting

1. Welcome, Introductions and apologies including any matters to be raised by WIRS Providers.

Introductions not completed due to the size of the attendee group.

Further areas covered during AOB.

2. Review of minutes from the last WIRS Providers forum (8th March 2022).

- 2.1. Action review (by MW).

Action 12 – DMEX. Assurance of the data by Water UK?

Table the question at the next WIRSAP meeting. MW to speak with the successor to David Strang regarding the data and data assurance.

Action 13 – Adoption codes working group.

Ops competency questionnaire sent out by Graham Morley (UU) via MW with closing date of 24th June. Graham Morley has subsequently reopened the questionnaire submission date (due to some water company's not completing in time). Email MW if you haven't received the questionnaire but would like to submit. Action closed.

Action 14 – Developer dashboard metrics.

Not yet progressed. Subgroup volunteer list formed (see WIRSAP minutes). IAuditor used by LRQA. Keep action open to be progressed.

Action 15 - Rejected mains commissioning tests

JB stated that the issue had been an isolated instance whereby somebody from Wessex water had not consulted their own DCS requirements regarding type 2 pressure test requirements vs Type 1. Action closed,

Action 16 - PowerPoint presentation slides regarding the Accreditation working group to be distributed.

MW was awaiting NCC meeting completion. MW to distribute. Action closed.

The minutes of the meeting were accepted as true and accurate.

3. Review of minutes from the last WIRSAP forum held on the 23rd March 2022.

- 3.1. Action review (by MW).

Action 1 – Standardisation of Auditing. LR now using IAuditor combined with PowerBI. Dashboard planned based on water company's requirements of WIRS data (see action 12). New WIRSAP chair now in place (Tim St. John of Bristol Water), WIRSAP needs to define what metrics are required to be reported.

Action 5 – WIRS ToR – WIP, now with LRQA to ensure consistency between schemes (GIRS/NERS). Draft still outstanding.

Action 6 – Barrier pipe and DCS – Mike Sloan has tabled this at NCC who then stated that the issue was an adoption code meeting issue. MW to speak with NCC chair to progress the way forward.

Action 8 – Commissioning of Water mains/flushing schedules (Developer/SLP responsibilities) – With NCC forum. MW to progress and feedback.

Action 11 – Standards for pressure testing and chlorination (WIRS extra scope?) – With Adoption Codes panel for further comments/approval. No response received from two emails sent by MW to the chair of the adoption codes panel. Anglian Water also concerned that issues are not being responded to. **DMcG to progress this action.**

Action 12 - All WIRSAP members – What does the WIRSAP want in terms of reportable metrics? See action 1.

Action 15 – Contestable vs non-contestable work on the LRQA website. MW stated that it was agreed as a way forward to just have one entry on the WIRS register and not discriminate between contestable and non-constable.

Action 16 – L5 DSM qualification.
DMcG/MW to progress this action at the next WIRSAP.

4. Industry updates

4.1. Accreditation Working Group - Operative Competency NCO(W).

MW stated that the Accreditation questionnaire already sent by Graham Morley of UU. DMcG stated that Ofwat are looking for a longer term solution. No metric as yet visible.

New apprentices schemes are covering mains, services and repairs.

PC stated that a review of the apprenticeship route by water company's meant they wanted mains and services. What skills should the apprentices have, and should it be for mains, services and repairs?

JB stated that it should dependent on what is specified within the WIRs requirements document.

PC asked if all apprentices should have the required quals/skills for all three criteria (mains, services and repairs)? And could the 'repair's aspects be carried out with secondments to water company's?

JB asked if a survey could be sent out via 'Survey monkey' for example regarding collation of feedback from the stakeholders/SLO's?

ML stated that SLO's operate predominantly within the Mains and services installation arena and that secondments to water companies will realise insurance issues as well as potential retention issues perhaps.

DMcG asked if apprentices should complete both mains and services? JB responded, Yes, achievable but cost implications/financially viable. BJ stated that a typical team would be constructed of the team lead (mains) and second man (services).

4.2. Non-Household Metering feedback to Water Companies

MW stated that this issue has been raised primarily by Thames Water. Under the MOSL/CMOS framework all non-households meters need to be notified within five working days to the respective/incumbent water company to process. If the information is not received within this time period, then the water company is potentially penalised financially, and this could be passed on. Therefore, the water companies are requesting that all non-household meter details are sent through within this time period (five business working days).

5. National Underground Asset Register – Jo Parker

No update given as JP was absent from the meeting. Review the progress update at the next WIRS UCP meeting.

6. Separation of utility apparatus on new development sites and proximity requirements

MW gave an overview of the recent edict from GIRSAP regarding the raising of major non-conformances should any gas apparatus be found within 250mm from other utility apparatus (without any appropriate mitigation). The existing NJUG illustration was also provided for comparison. This issue had been raised from feedback received by multi-lay self-lay companies at a recent UU Developer forum day.

MW raised the issue of large diameter mains and the separation issue from centreline to centreline.

BJ raised the issue about service strips/pathways now not being 2m wide and that most were not, therefore impossible to comply with this requirement. BJ stated that NJUG needed to be involved and consulted on this issue.

ML stated that on most sites excavation works were completed by the Developer's groundworker and therefore SLP's had little or no control and this would become a contractual issue. ML also made the point that this issue should be resolved via the Water designers and their design risk assessment requirements under CDM Regs. 2015. SM stated that some footpaths/service strips were 800mm wide. This means that it is impossible to comply.

Action – MW to progress via GIRSAP taking into account the feedback noted above and review at the next WIRSAP/WIRS UCP forums.

7. Issues to be raised at next WIRSAP Meeting (on 20th July 2022).

None received.

8. AOB

KW stated that the UU Graham Morley questionnaire link did not work. MW to confirm with Graham Morley of UU as to the new finish date. All to let MW know if they require a new link to the questionnaire.

9. Next WIRS Forum

Date of next meeting 9th November. Venue format to be confirmed near the time.