

MHHS SIT Advisory Group (SITAG) Headline Report

Issue date: 19/12/2024

Meeting number	SITAG 011	Venue	Virtual – MS Teams
Date and time	18 December 2024 10:00-12:00	Classification	Public

Actions

Area	Action Ref	Action	Owner	Due Date
Settlement Testing Extension Proposal	SITAG11-01	Programme to return the Settlement Testing TIMEOUT proposal to January's SITAG for approval to allow PPs further time to consider the associated risk profile.	Programme (Stuart Scott)	29/01/2024

Decisions

Area	Decision Ref	Description	Rationale
Minutes and Actions	SITAG-DEC43	The Chair, acting with delegated authority of the MHHS Senior Responsible Owner (SRO), approved headline report of the SITAG meeting held 20 November 2024 with no amendments.	The Programme invited objections to the approval of the document, to which none were received.
Settlement Testing Extension Proposal	SITAG-DEC44	The Chair, acting with delegated authority of the MHHS Senior Responsible Owner (SRO) approved the proposed extension to SIT-F Settlements Testing presented and discussed at SITWG (and FTIG) for 7 additional weeks running up to Friday 21st February 2025.	The exit criteria for SIT B have not been met, necessitating an extension. The proposal for the extension of SIT-F Settlements Testing had been brought to SITWG and FTIG previously, and concerns had been raised and noted in the pack for SITAG members. The Chair invited objections to the approval of the proposed extension to SIT-F Settlements Testing, to which none were received.
	SITAG-DEC45	The Chair, acting with delegated authority of the MHHS Senior Responsible Owner (SRO) approved the proposed delay to the start of both the SIT Non-Functional and SIT Operational test phases, in line with the presented Plan on a Page, as a result of agreeing more time for the	The exit criteria for SIT B have not been met, necessitating an extension. The proposal for the extension of SIT-F Settlements Testing had been brought to SITWG and FTIG previously, and concerns had been raised and noted in the pack for SITAG members. The Chair invited objections to the delay to the start of both the SIT Non-Functional and

		completion of Settlement Testing (as per SITAG-DEC44 above).	SIT Operational test phases, in line with the presented Plan on a Page, as a result of agreeing more time for the completion of Settlement Testing, to which none were received.
SIT Operational Test Scenarios and Test Cases Theme 3	SITAG-DEC46	The Chair, acting with delegated authority of the MHHS SRO approved SIT Operational Test Scenarios and Test Cases Theme 3 (v0.3), excluding DIP onboarding and offboarding tests.	Both batches were issued for industry consultation, with Batch 1 in October and Batch 2 in mid-November. The consultations concluded successfully, and the scenarios were brought to the SITWG for recommendation. During the SITWG discussions, it was agreed to exclude the DIP onboarding and offboarding tests from the approval process. These tests will be brought back for approval after additional work is completed. The Chair invited objections to the approval SIT Operational Test Scenarios and Test Cases Theme 3 (v0.3), excluding DIP onboarding and offboarding tests, to which none were received.

Key Discussion Items

Area	Discussion
Minutes and Actions	<p>DECISION: The headline report of the previous meeting was approved with no amendments (SITAG-DEC43 – recording timestamp 00:01:55).</p> <p>Programme provided an update to action SITAG10-03 mentioning that the risk to migration testing related to DIN1140 is still under review. There has been an initial internal programme meeting, and the design team has met with St. Clements and published further clarification on the Knowledge Base</p> <p>The RECCo representative expressed concerns that the clarification and change related to DIN1140 may require code changes and further action beyond publishing information on the knowledge base.</p> <p>The Large Supplier representative sought clarity on the timing and mentioned concerns raised by some suppliers.</p> <p>Programme responded that there would be a session set up in the new year to run through the design changes further. Programme mentioned that an objection to the design had been received through the design mailbox, and a response was sent back to the objector, stating that the design had not changed but was clarified. The design documents will not be updated until the session in January, where a determination will be made on how to proceed.</p>
Settlement Testing Extension Proposal	<p>Programme presented the background, explaining that settlement testing had been running for 11 weeks and was initially planned to finish before Christmas. However, the exit criteria for SIT B have not been met, necessitating an extension.</p> <p>Programme provided an overview of the Settlement Testing Extension Proposal. The proposal included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extending settlement testing to 21 February 2025. This extension would involve an additional week for stabilisation post-Christmas and three extra sprints of two weeks each.

- The extension would have implications for SIT non-functional and operational testing, as these phases use the same environment as settlement testing.
- The proposal included a TIMEOUT approach, suggesting that if settlement testing was not completed by 21 February 2025, it could be stopped based on a risk-based decision. This approach aimed to balance the risk of further delays against the certainty of later test stages occurring.

Programme noted that there were concerns from several parties about the TIMEOUT principle and the potential need for additional settlement testing after the proposed end date.

To mitigate risks, participants have been asked to conduct their own risk assessments and prioritise important tests within the seven-week extension.

The Programme is considering asking parties to raise a change request (CR) to investigate the possibility of providing a sandbox environment for additional tests post-operational and non-functional testing.

The timeline view showed that extending settlement testing to 21 February 2025 would still leave a five-week contingency period at the end of SIT operational testing, with no impact on the critical path.

A representative from Avanade raised a risk related to the seven-week delay to the start of non-functional testing. They emphasised the need to note this risk and ensure that the Programme accepts it if no mitigation is found.

Programme responded that there is an ongoing activity between the Programme, the DIP provider, and Elexon to see if there is a way to start non-functional testing earlier than the later date proposed. If this can happen, it would help mitigate the risk. However, this position is not yet concluded, so the Programme's current position is to ask for approval for the later date while acknowledging and accepting the risk.

The RECCo representative sought clarifications on the new dates for SIT non-functional and operational tests, which were confirmed to start on 24 February 2025 and 03 February 2025, respectively.

The group discussed the need to update the Programme plan to reflect these new dates and ensure that all participants were aware of the changes.

DECISION: The Chair, acting with delegated authority of the MHHS Senior Responsible Owner (SRO) approved the proposed extension to SIT-F Settlements Testing presented and discussed at SITWG (and FTIG) for 7 additional weeks running up to Friday 21st February 2025 (**SITAG-DEC44 – recording timestamp 00:18:12**).

DECISION: The Chair, acting with delegated authority of the MHHS SRO approved the proposed delay to the start of both the SIT Non-Functional and SIT Operational test phases, in line with the presented Plan on a Page, as a result of agreeing more time for the completion of Settlement Testing (as per SITAG-DEC44 above) (**SITAG-DEC45 – recording timestamp 00:18:12**).

SRO noted the Programme's recommendation of a guaranteed fixed end date of 21/02/25 for Settlement Testing.

This approach has been proposed at SITWG to provide a greater level of certainty for when SIT Non-Functional and SIT Operational will commence and balance the benefits associated with providing additional time to Settlement Testing against the risk of delaying the later stages of SIT.

	<p>This approach means that if any Test Cases are not passed by the extended end date, further additional time will not be provided, and Settlement Testing will be allowed to TIMEOUT with an accepted risk profile by all parties.</p> <p>The approval of the TIMEOUT approach is contingent on allowing PPs further time to consider the associated risk profile and a decision will be taken on this at the SITAG in January 2025 when any additional information is available to support this decision.</p> <p>ACTION: Programme to return the Settlement Testing TIMEOUT proposal to January’s SITAG for approval to allow PPs further time to consider the associated risk profile (SITAG11-01).</p>
<p>SIT Operational Test Scenarios and Test Cases Theme 3</p>	<p>Programme introduced SIT Operational Test Scenarios and Test Cases Theme 3, which is divided into two batches: Batch 1 (Service Management) and Batch 2 (DIP Onboarding, BCDR, etc).</p> <p>Both batches were issued for industry consultation, with Batch 1 in October and Batch 2 in mid-November. The consultations concluded successfully, and the scenarios were brought to the SITWG for recommendation.</p> <p>During the SITWG discussions, it was agreed to exclude the DIP onboarding and offboarding tests from the approval process. These tests will be brought back for approval after additional work is completed.</p> <p>The RECCo representative flagged that there were ongoing conversations about additional tests that might require separation. Programme confirmed that these additional tests would be gathered and brought back to the group for approval.</p> <p>The Large Supplier representative raised a question about the governance and naming of the batches to ensure clarity. Programme suggested that the batches might be amended or given new names (e.g., Batch 2A) to reflect the inclusion of additional tests.</p> <p>Programme clarified that the additional tests would be brought through the SITWG and SITAG in January.</p> <p>DECISION: The Chair, acting with delegated authority of the MHHS SRO approved SIT Operational Test Scenarios and Test Cases Theme 3 (v0.3), <i>excluding DIP onboarding and offboarding tests</i> (SITAG-DEC46 – recording timestamp 00:25:05).</p>
<p>SIT Test Progress Update</p>	<p>The Programme provided an update on SIT Test Progress, as per the latest FTIG briefing.</p> <p>Programme provided an update on the progress of SIT Functional and SIT Migration, mentioning that they were in the middle of Sprint 8 and heading towards the end of it.</p> <p>Despite a significant defect affecting If-36, which blocked several tests, the team managed to keep the velocity high. The fix for the defect was implemented and deployed, and early returns were positive.</p> <p>Programme mentioned that the targets for Sprint 8 were uplifted from Sprint 7, recognising potential teething troubles post IR 8.4. Despite these challenges, most cohorts exceeded the targets for Sprint 8.</p>
<p>Regression Approach</p>	<p>Programme provided an update on the regression approach, noting that the team is in the middle of internal reviews for the regression test approach and plan. They initially thought they could finalise a strong and considered plan, but there are still wrinkles and complexities being worked through at the LDP and SRO levels.</p> <p>Due to the ongoing complexities, some of the dates for reviews have been modified. The plan is to bring the regression test approach to an extraordinary SITWG in February, following an industry review starting on 20 January 2025.</p>

	<p>The changes to the review dates do not affect the critical path. The team is preparing for test scenario identification and data load before the regression period.</p> <p>If the regression test approach and plan are successful at the extraordinary SITWG, they will move to an extraordinary SITAG on 27 February 2025.</p>
SIT Functional Rationalisation	<p>Programme explained that the functional and migration rationalisation was one of several initiatives aimed at making efficient use of participants' time, especially given the pressures to meet dates and CR055.</p> <p>The rationalisation process focused on test cases with the exact same requirements. The team identified an initial list of 60 test cases and conducted a rigorous review to determine whether they should remain in scope or be descoped.</p> <p>The review process involved collaboration with code bodies, and the final list was reduced to about three test cases.</p> <p>The reviewed test cases were presented in an industry walkthrough, and ongoing conversations with code bodies were mentioned to finalise whether these three test cases should remain in scope for qualification purposes.</p> <p>The discussions and final decisions will be completed in January, with the aim to bring the recommendations to the SITWG and SITAG for approval.</p> <p>The RECCo representative inquired about the ongoing work around test optimisation, which involves a significant number of tests being rationalised. Programme confirmed that these efforts would be brought through the SIT process, with significant work expected in January.</p> <p>The Programme is pulling together all changes to scope into a single document to ensure clarity and transparency. This document will be a living document, updated as needed, and will be brought through the governance processes.</p> <p>The Large Supplier representative raised a question about whether there were similar expectations of work being done around rationalisation and optimisation for non-functional and operational testing, as had been done for functional and migration.</p> <p>Programme responded that the gaps identified for functional, and migration had been closed before starting non-functional and operational testing. Programme mentioned that the team had optimised these tests well, going over them with a fine-tooth comb in a similar manner to the functional and migration tests.</p>
IPA Updates	<p>IPA provided update on Test Assurance status and settlement plan recommendations. No comments or questions were raised from SITAG members.</p>
Programme Milestones related to SITAG	<p>The Programme ran through Programme Milestones related to SITAG. No comments or questions were raised from SITAG members.</p>
Top Programme Risks related to SITAG	<p>The Programme introduced the top programme risks related to SITAG.</p> <p>The Large Supplier representative raised a question about the current score on the first slide of the risks overview. They asked if the amber colour indicated a RAG (Red, Amber, Green) status or if it was just a colour, as everything seemed to be marked as high risk but amber.</p>

	<p>Programme clarified that the amber, red, and green statuses were based on the score in the RAID log. If a risk score goes above a certain threshold, it is marked in amber and as high, and if it goes above another threshold, it is marked in red and as critical.</p>
<p>Summary and Next Steps</p>	<p>The Secretariat confirmed the actions captured in the meeting.</p> <p>The Large Supplier representative raised a question about the end-to-end Helix testing settlement activity that was supposed to start in the new year. They asked if the timing of this activity would change given the extension of the settlement testing or if it would run in parallel.</p> <p>Programme responded that the original start date for the Helix testing settlement activity was January, but it has been updated in the plan to start in early February instead. The first couple of weeks will run alongside the transition phase, which will not be impacted by the extension of the settlement testing. The activity will then continue through to April or May, and this update will be reflected in the next Programme plan.</p> <p>The RECCo representative mentioned that the meeting invites for the SITWG had not yet been updated to reflect the new dates. Programme confirmed that the new invites for January's SITWG would be updated by the end of the day.</p>

Date of next meeting: 29 January 2025

Attendees

Chair

Chris Welby

MHHS SRO

Industry Representatives

Graham Wood

Jonny Moore

Lijo Louis

Rinu Varghese (on behalf of Santosh Vasudevan)

Shaun Brundrett

Stacey Buck

Large Supplier Representative

RECCo Representative

Medium Supplier Representative

Elexon Representative

Small Supplier Representative

IDNO Representative

MHHS

Anne Robinson

Dominic Mooney

Jason Brogden

Keith Clark

Kiran Raj

Lewis Hall

Paul Pettitt

Roger Robar

Stuart Scott

PMO Governance Support

Test Manager

Programme Industry SME

MHHS Programme Manager

SIT Functional Test Lead

MHHS Programme Manager

MHHS Design Lead

Test Management Lead

MHHS Systems Integration -
Industry SME

Other Attendees

Paul Daniels

Renata Yussupova

Sinead Quinn

Taylor Thorpe

Avanade

IPA

Ofgem

IPA

Apologies

Gavin Gallimore

Richard Marriot

James Murphy

Terri Hamilton

Confirmed not filling seat

Confirmed not filling seat

DCC Representative

NGESO Representative

Supplier Agent Representative (Independent
Supplier Agent)

DNO Representative

I&C Supplier Representative

Consumer Representative