

## Wholesale Retail Code Change Proposal (CP) 017

Modification proposal:	Wholesale Retail Code Change Proposal 017: Data Catalogue Updates – Postcode data item		
Decision:	Ofwat has decided to confirm these change proposals		
Date of publication:	23 February 2016	Implementation date:	Immediate

### Background

As part of the detailed works undertaken by MOSL and its IT system developer, anomalies across the code have come to light. It was discovered that the system currently has no space within the characters making up UK postcodes. Postcodes contain a space and this anomaly could lead to mistakes and the need for visual confirmation or data re-entry.

### The modification proposal<sup>1</sup>

MOSL proposed WRC017 to change Data Item D5009 to include a space within the UK postcode format.

### Interim Code Panel recommendation

At its meeting on 8 December 2015, the Interim Code Panel voted unanimously to recommend WRC017. Minutes of the meeting indicate Panel considered the change to positively impact on the efficiency and simplicity, cost-effectiveness and security of the code<sup>2</sup>. It also had a positive impact on the Market Terms.

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<sup>1</sup> The proposal is available at <http://www.open-water.org.uk/>

<sup>2</sup> Available at: <http://www.open-water.org.uk/>

## **Our decision**

After review of the supporting documentation we have concluded that the implementation of WRC017 is consistent with the Principals and Objectives<sup>3</sup> and will improve efficiency of the transaction system. We consider that confirming this change is consistent with our principal objectives and statutory duties.

## **Reasons for our decision**

We consider that the implementation of and WRC017 will contribute to effective codes and changes contained are correct and desirable.

**Adam Cooper**  
**Director, Retail Market Opening**

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<sup>3</sup> <http://www.open-water.org.uk>