



Standards Group

2pm – 3pm Wed 7 Sept 22

Welcome & Agenda - Max

Time	Item	Who
14:00	Welcome & Agenda	Max
14:05	Group remit review	Max
14:15	Ofcom Standards for Broadband Consumer info: what next?	Max
14:20	Ofcom's Existing Definitions: review	Mike
	Amending Gold Standard to align with Ofcom paper: yes or no?	Mike
	Gold Standard: Full Fibre or Real Fibre? Hybrid Fibre / Cable / Part Fibre?	Mike
14:25	Applying for Gold Standard & update	Katie
14:30	Vulnerable Consumers & Social Tariff: should they be standard?	Max
14:40	Common Standards for Wholesale: Tech / SLA (Products), Commercials	Rob
14:50	Sum-up	Max
14:55	AOB, DONZ	Max

Standards Group remit review - Max

- What is the preferred approach for engagement with Group members? Is the Trello board useful? Mailing list & meetings? A mix?
- Looking at the current raft of issues captured in this meeting, do members feel the remit of the group is right, or needs some rebalancing?
- What are group members top priorities for this group?

Ofcom Standards / Broadband info - Max

Ofcom [position paper](#) “proposed consensus” – on hold since Feb 22

1. “gigabit-ready” vs “current generation”
2. Defined terms:
 1. Fibre/Full fibre/FTTP, Cable/Hybrid cable, Part fibre/FTTC/Cu-based or
 2. Fibre/Full fibre/FTTP protected terms

Underlying product	Description for customer
FTTC 40/10 services	‘current generation part fibre’
FTTP 40/10 service	‘gigabit-ready fibre’
DOCSIS 3.1 service over cable	‘gigabit-ready cable’
DOCSIS 3.0 service over cable	‘current generation cable’
G.Fast 150MBit/s service	‘current generation part-fibre’

Ofcom Standards: what next? - Max

- Ofcom voluntary code (on pause)?
- Policy push (again) via INCA / Ofcom bilaterals?
- DCMS / BDUK?
- BSG?
- Crystal Ball?

Ofcom's Existing Definitions - Mike

Connected Nations

- Full-fibre / full fibre
- 5G
- Gigabit-capable
- Gigabit speeds
- Upgraded cable
- DOCSIS
- Superfast

- Copper (ADSL)
- FTTC
- Hybrid fibre coaxial cable (HFC)
- FTTP
- FWA / FWA WISPs

Also GCs

INCA Gold Standard & Ofcom paper - Mike

Despite pause in Ofcom progress, should we amend INCA Gold Standards to align with the good ideas in the [Ofcom paper](#)?

- [INCA position paper in response](#)

1. Gigabit tick (cf TV Digital Tick)



2. Align terms

1. FTTP / Full fibre
2. FTTC / Part fibre / Copper-based
3. New > HFC / Hybrid cable / cable
4. FWA / Wireless



INCA Gold Standard: variations - Mike

Even Gold Standard INCA Members aren't consistent in their terms.

- Full Fibre or Real Fibre?



- Hybrid Fibre or Cable or Part Fibre?



- Does not aid clear comms.
- Settle on one term and use it consistently

INCA Gold Standard - Katie

- Current members
- New applications in process
- Apply here [Quality Mark Accreditation: Application Form](#)
- Info [INCA Gold Standard Scheme](#)
- katie@inca.coop or mike.locke@inca.coop can help



Vulnerable Consumers & Social Tariffs - Max

- Ofcom has always required proper handling of Vulnerable Consumers.
- Covid meant those who have problems paying should be included.
- RCPs must have a process for identifying Vulnerable / Social Tariff.
- DWP has announced API to identify consumers on benefits (but needs consumers to ask RCP to check).
- Ofcom is updating their guide for Vulnerable customers.
- Do we need to adopt these requirements into INCA Standards? (By reference or explicitly?)

Common Standards for Wholesale - Rob

Enabling a thriving Wholesale market means making it easy for your customers (Retailers) to buy.

- Will Retailers want different Product sets from each Wholesaler?
- Will Retailers want different SLAs from each Wholesaler?
- Will Retailers be happy with different commercials / Ts&Cs from each Wholesaler?
- What do scale Retailers think? Do you know?
- How did other markets address this?

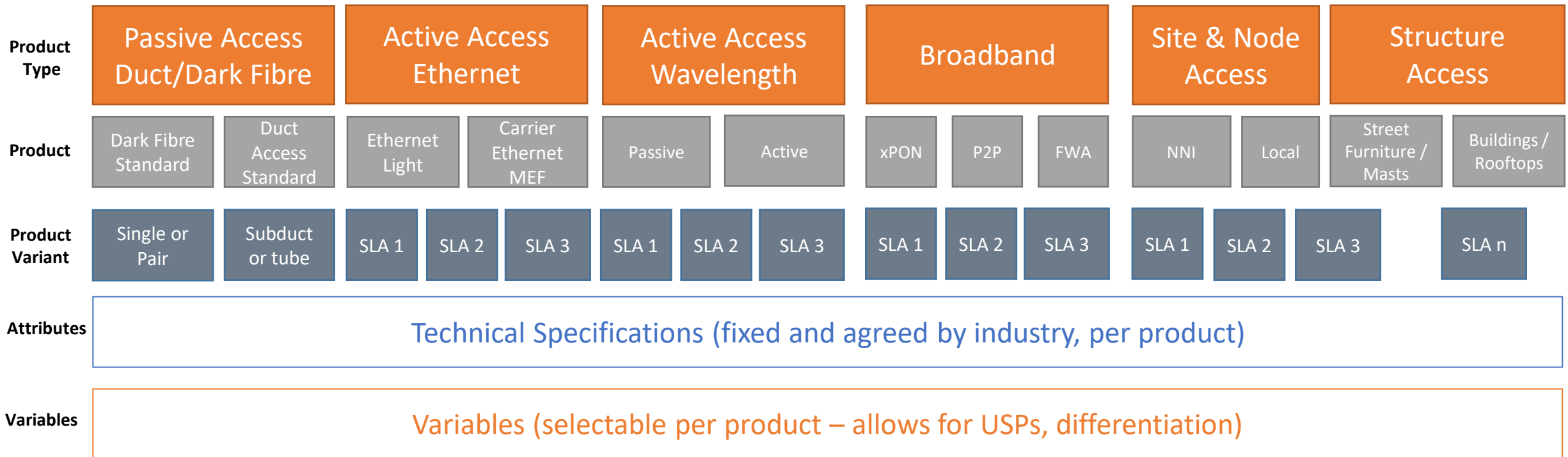
Problem: Getting to 100% Gigabit / Full Fibre - Rob

Infrastructure Sharing (Wholesale) can help ... but:

- There are over 130 alternative Network Operators (who have network)
- There are over 400 Service Providers (who may want network access)
- There are over 400 Local Authorities (many have networks/assets)
- There are many other asset owners (Fibre, Duct, Ethernet, Wavelengths)
- Each has their own process, workflow, approvals and products
- For Wholesale to be effective, there needs to be common agreements
 - This means a common set of:
 - Standard Product Specifications
 - Standard Terms & Conditions
 - Standard SLAs
 - Agreements to share infrastructure and services

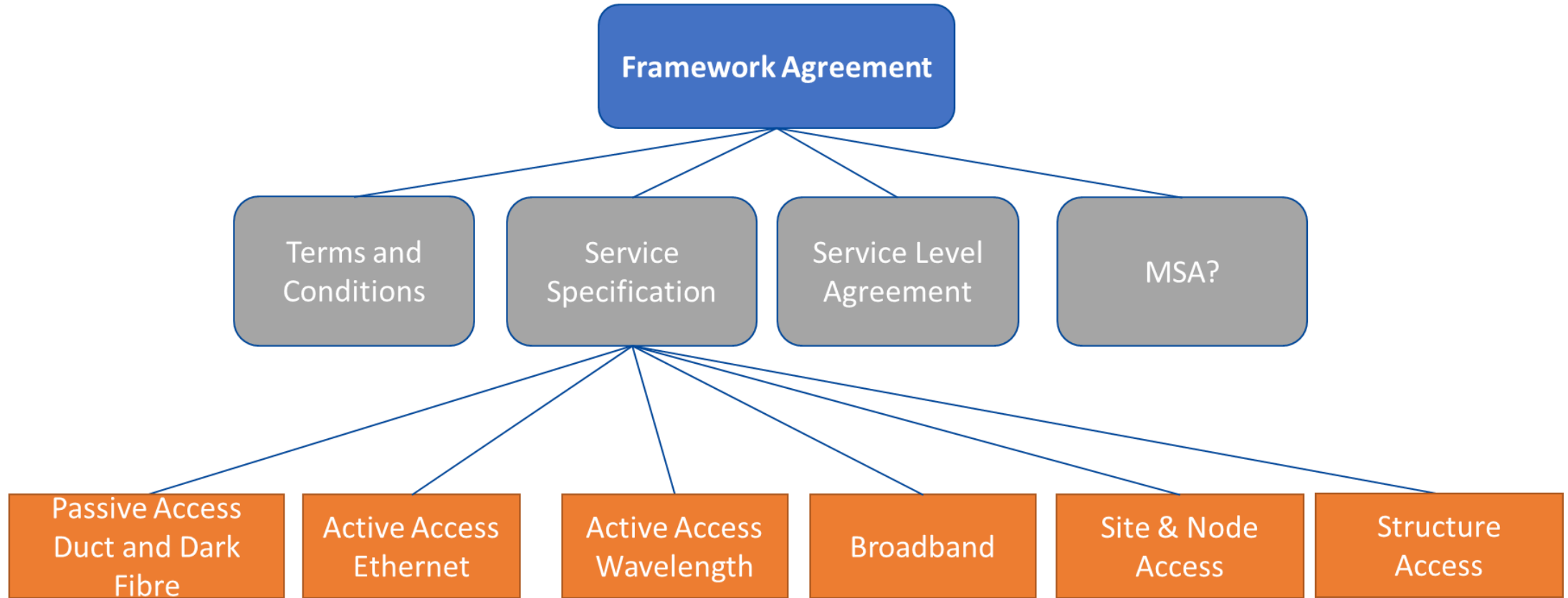
Wholesale Standards: Products - Rob

Project Gigabit compliant?)



Objective: can an Org buy a dark fibre, ethernet or w/s broadband service from multiple providers and know that the Product is the same across all?

Wholesale Standards: Agreements - Rob



Much of the work has been done separately and individually, but now needs to be brought together under an industry agreed specification

Wholesale Standards: Next Steps? - Rob

- Is this relevant and needed?
- Should INCA lead this?
 - Which Group? Switching & Wholesale? Standards? Policy? PIA?
 - If not INCA, who?
- Hubbub writing some standard docs
 - Based on industry best practice
 - Some good examples already out there
 - A requirement for BDUK Project Gigabit
- Review from INCA / market
- Agree, publish and adopt

Rob Leenderts rob@hubbubgroup.net

Sum-up - Max

Group remit

Ofcom Standards, Definitions: what next?

Gold Standard amends

Gold Standard terminology / names

Vulnerable Consumers & Social Tariff

Common Standards for Wholesale

AOB – Max / Katie

- DONZ