

Specific Direction revoking Specific Directions 4 and 4a

(competitive procurement of
central infrastructure (LINK))

August 2025

Specific Direction revoking Specific Directions 4 and 4a (competitive procurement of central infrastructure (LINK))

1 Recitals

Whereas:

- 1.1** The Payment Systems Regulator (PSR) gave Specific Direction 4 in June 2017. In March 2019 it varied Specific Direction 4 by giving Specific Direction 4a.
- 1.2** Specific Direction 4 imposed requirements on the operator of the LINK ATM Scheme (LINK), in particular that contracts for central infrastructure services had to be competitively procured. SD4a varied those requirements.
- 1.3** In light of changed circumstances relating to the feasibility and benefits of carrying out the above competitive procurement, and following the consultation on revoking SD4 of 26 June 2025 and the statement on revoking SD4 and SD4a of August 2025 the PSR has decided to revoke Specific Directions 4 and 4a.

2 Powers exercised

- 2.1** The PSR makes this specific direction in accordance with section 54(3)(c) (Directions) of the Financial Services (Banking Reform) Act 2013 (the Act).
- 2.2** The PSR has had regard in particular to the following provisions of the Act:
 - a. sections 49 to 53 (General duties of Regulator)
 - b. section 62 (Duty to consider exercise of powers under Competition Act 1998)

Direction

NOW the PSR gives the following specific direction to the operator of LINK:

3 Revocation of SD4 and SD4a

- 3.1** Specific Direction 4 (Procurement: LINK) and Specific Direction 4a (varying Specific Direction 4) are revoked on 25 August 2025.

4 Application

- 4.1** This specific direction applies to the operator of LINK.

5 Citation

- 5.1** This specific direction may be cited as Specific Direction revoking Specific Directions 4 and 4a (competitive procurement of central infrastructure (LINK)).

Made on 11 August 2025

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