

Terms of Reference for the EBA Working Group on Open Banking

(formerly called Electronic Alternative Payments Working Group)

Background and context

The EBA's activity stream on electronic alternative payments focuses on payment innovation taking place in the consumer and retail e-commerce space and the challenges of the changes this innovation entails.

Driven by technology and customer needs and accelerated by PSD2 XS2A, Open API and Open Banking are becoming a strategic consideration in our industry today. Therefore, the working group proposes to continue its exploration along this direction for the coming 12 months.

Following the EBA Board discussion on 7th July 2016, the Board decided to continue the activities of the Electronic Alternative Payments Working (e-APWG) Group under a new umbrella heading that will better reflect the areas of focus of the working group to the broader open banking agenda. To this end the e-APWG is to be renamed Open Banking Working Group (OBWG).

Areas of Focus

The OBWG will continue to examine and report on payment innovation taking place in the consumer and retail e-commerce space and the implications/challenges of the changes this innovation entails.

The groups objective is to help the EBA membership gain a deeper understanding of the changing structure of retail commerce and payments including, for example, the impact of electronic alternative (e-AP) payment products on traditional cash, cards and ACH payments, the implications for underlying payments infrastructures, developments in payments propositions in the services space and the emergence of Fintech and other categories of players in the payments ecosystem.

Activities to be undertaken

Examples of activities to be undertaken in 2016-2017 include:

1. Development of support materials (PowerPoint, animation) to aid local communication and webinars in order to create further awareness of our Open API and Open Banking information paper and continued monitoring of industry initiatives.
2. Analyse business implications and opportunities on AS-PSPs of RTS standards upon publication by European Banking Authority (expected latest by August), and understanding the perimeter of the collaborative space in that regard.

3. A review of the e-APWG set of papers to include an overarching paper that pulls the strands (e-AP user requirements, DCSI, Digital Identity and Open API and Open Banking) together. Such publication could be delivered by December 2016.

The activities proposed will be positioned in relation to the activities of the EBA association, including:

- the existing PSD2 task force,
- the research activities around crypto-technology
- the Open Forum on Open Banking to be established in 2H2016.

Deliverables produced by the OBWG could also be presented to the Open Forum on Open Banking.

Communication activities

Through discussions with its members and focused investigations on new paradigms, the OBWG will identify and develop information and/or opinion papers on major strategic topics, emerging business models, best practice and implementation considerations.

The objective will be to share the work to a wider audience. Hence open banking could be a topic for EBAday-related activities and the focus of an EBA School.

Membership and organisation

The number of Working Group members should number circa 30. Members of the Working Group are designated by the Board from amongst existing Board members as well as among representative delegates and industry experts at the level of EBA members and Associate members.

The Working Group will be chaired by an EBA Board member and facilitated by EBA staff with the support of other resources as are required and approved by the Board.

Frequency and duration

The Group will continue its work for an additional one-year period and in an appropriate form for further periods, as further deliverables are approved by the EBA Board. The Working Group will interact through a combination of conference calls and webinars and/or physical meeting on a 6-week basis.