

PSE Weekly Payments News Headlines 14 January 2022

Headlines:

Visa launches Visa Acceptance Cloud platform

Railsbank launches white-label BNPL package for retailers

Zilch is expanding to continental Europe

Qonto reaches a valuation of €4.4 billion

UK parliament launches a group to cover the crypto and digital assets sector

Visa is working with ConsenSys to bridge CBDC networks with existing payment rails

UK Open Banking marks fourth year milestone with 4.5 million users

News:

- [Visa announced a new platform, Visa Acceptance Cloud](#), which will let acquirers, payment service providers, POS manufacturers and IoT players move payment processing software from being embedded in each hardware device to being universally accessible in the cloud.
- [Railsbank has launched a white label BNPL package for retailers](#) in the UK and Germany. The solution will enable retailers to offer split payments in up to 36 instalments both online and in-store.
- [Zilch is expanding its footprint by expanding to continental Europe](#) in partnership with Mastercard.
- [Qonto has raised a €486 million Series D funding round to reach a valuation of €4.4 billion](#) in one of the largest rounds in the French tech ecosystem. The French neobank focuses primarily on small and medium companies, as well as freelancers, and currently operates in France, Germany, Italy and Spain.
- [The UK's parliament has launched a group to cover the crypto and digital assets sector](#). The cross-party group of MPs and Lords will act as a forum for parliamentarians, policymakers and the UK crypto sector to discuss policy and regulation of the industry.
- [Visa is working with ConsenSys to bridge CBDC networks with existing payment rails](#). The partnership would enable central banks to design their digital currency on Consensys' Quorum and then use Visa's infrastructure to distribute the currency via financial intermediaries like commercial banks.
- According to the OBIE, [UK open banking marks fourth year milestone with 4.5 million users](#). During 2021 there was a 60% increase in new customers (up from 2.8 million in December 2020) and 1 million new regular / active users are added every 6 months. At the end of 2021, cumulatively over 26.6m open banking payments had been made. An increase of more than 500% in 12 months.

