

Meeting Date/Time: 30<sup>th</sup> September, 12:00–14:00

Location: Ofgem, 9 Millbank

# Minutes

## Smart Metering Implementation Coordination Group (ICG)

### 1. Welcome from the Chair

- Richard Leyland (chair) welcomed the group to the first ICG meeting.
- Daron Walker emphasised the importance of this group within the programme going forward. Sentiment echoed by Colin Sausman.

### 2. Terms of Reference

- In response to a question, it was noted that the discussions at the ICG will inform decisions made within the programme at various levels, including by the Programme Review Board and the Strategic Board.
- In response to a question it was noted that the intention is that the secretariat will bring formal reports and presentations on the progress of the programme to the meetings.

### 3. Roundtable – identification of strategic implementation challenges

- There was a discussion of some of the issues which members considered would be key to address during implementation, including:
  - a) Interoperability during the period before the establishment of the DCC;
  - b) Data communications and the need to make sure that adoption of interim solutions does not compromise choices of long term solutions.
  - c) Supply chain and technical specification risks
  - d) Realising consumer benefits.
  - e) Concept of a properly managed market opening where the rollout would include a pilot phase
  - f) Technical issues around the HAN – eg. Network issues, high rise buildings, etc.
  - g) Privacy and security of data.
  - h) Competition and the need to ensure there is an opportunity for wider involvement of the business community in smart metering.
  - i) Realising potential for workforce benefits eg through employment, training and development opportunities

4. Update from the central programme – report from Ofgem Programme Director (including forward look to following month)
  - Colin Sausman presented a slide pack updating members on the programme.
    - In response to a question about linkages to water metering and other potential public policy initiatives it was noted that the design proposals for communications and the DCC provided an enabling platform for potential future added value services to be proposed.
    - Point raised that programme momentum needs to be maintained. Detail of plans for Phases 2 & 3 is required.
    - In response to a question it was noted that DECC Ministers have policy responsibility for smart metering and the use of the specific powers in relation to smart metering provided in the 2008 Energy Act
5. Report from industry participants on their preparation programmes - progress and recent developments
  - Postponed to the next ICG meeting due to time constraints.
6. Perspectives on / Issues arising from expert groups
  - Item covered in previous discussions. It was noted that the expert groups had got off to a very positive start, with a very high level of commitment and constructive input from members.
7. AOB
  - Richard Leyland noted that the format and style of ICG meetings was likely to evolve over time to ensure it remained relevant to the needs of members. He asked for members to send any suggestions on format and content, or feedback on the first meeting to him and to Colin Sausman by 14 October

**Date of next ICG Meeting: 21 October 2010, 12:00 – 14:30**

**Location: Ofgem, 9 Millbank**