

The roll-out of smart meters

Government's role

Government is involved because:

- Benefits fall to multiple actors
- Suppliers have a business case for 20-30% of the market
- Energy Services Directive compliance

The Government and smart metering

- 2006 Energy Review
- November 2006 preliminary metering and billing consultation
- May 2007 Energy White Paper
- July 2007 Energy Demand Research Project
- August 2007 consultation on metering and billing issues in EWP

What we consulted on

- Advanced metering for larger SMEs
- Display devices for domestic customers – new and replacement and free on request for two years
- Additional historic consumption information on bills
- And a call for evidence on the Government's smart metering vision

Advanced metering for business

- Carbon Trust trials showed cost-effectiveness of advanced metering for larger business users
- Advanced metering for non-half-hourly electricity customers in profile classes 5-8 and non-daily read gas customers using over 73,200 kWh per annum
- Delivered on new and replacement basis, with process largely completed by 2012

The Government's Vision

“Our expectation is that within the next 10 years, all domestic energy customers will have smart meters with visual displays of real-time information that allow communication between the meter, the energy supplier and the customer.”

Smart metering for the smallest businesses

- Businesses in electricity profile classes 3 and 4, and with gas consumption of less than 73,200 kWh, and any based in domestic premises will be treated with the domestic sector
- This is focus of our most detailed work since consultation ended

State of Play & Next Steps

- Considering responses to consultation and further material
- Finalising Impact Assessment to aid Ministerial decisions – need information encompassing approaches to roll-out, timeframe and technology
- Government response to consultation in March