

# Preparation and Submission of Smart Metering Deployment Plans

---

Publication date:	02 June 2026
Contact:	Victoria Wykeham
Team:	Retail Systems and Processes - Smart Metering
Email:	<a href="mailto:smartmetering@ofgem.gov.uk">smartmetering@ofgem.gov.uk</a>

---

This document is for energy suppliers who supply more than 20,000 domestic meter points. It provides guidance on the expectations and requirements for the preparation and submission of the initial Deployment Plans, as required under standard licence condition (SLC) 38 of the gas supply licence and SLC 44 of the electricity supply licence. It also provides guidance on the submission process and timeline and outlines the assessment criteria that the Authority will have regard to when considering whether to accept or reject a Deployment Plan.

## **Guidance** Preparation and Submission of Smart Metering Deployment Plans

© Crown copyright 2026

The text of this document may be reproduced (excluding logos) under and in accordance with the terms of the Open Government Licence.

Without prejudice to the generality of the terms of the Open Government Licence, the material that is reproduced must be acknowledged as Crown copyright and the document title of this document must be specified in that acknowledgement.

This publication is available at [www.ofgem.gov.uk](http://www.ofgem.gov.uk). Any enquiries regarding the use and re-use of this information resource should be sent to [psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk).

## **Guidance** Preparation and Submission of Smart Metering Deployment Plans

<b>1. Introduction</b> .....	<b>4</b>
Scope and purpose .....	4
Related publications .....	4
Future requirements .....	5
<b>2. Completing the Deployment Plan templates</b> .....	<b>6</b>
General guidance.....	6
Guidance for Template A - the Excel workbook.....	7
Guidance for Template B – the Word document .....	9
<b>3. Assessment approach and criteria</b> .....	<b>11</b>
Delivery priorities for initial Deployment Plans .....	11
Assessment criteria .....	12
<b>4. Submission process and timeline</b> .....	<b>15</b>
Submission process.....	15
Timeline for the first Relevant Period (this submission) .....	16
<b>Send us your feedback</b> .....	<b>17</b>
<b>Appendix 1 Definitions</b> .....	<b>18</b>

## 1. Introduction

### Scope and purpose

- 1.1 In May 2026, the new [Post 2025 Smart Metering Policy Framework](#) came into force. It requires energy suppliers to take all reasonable steps to:
  - a. complete the smart meter rollout by installing smart meters in all remaining domestic premises by the end of 2030,
  - b. pre-emptively replace all legacy Communications Hubs (Comms Hub) and SMETS1 smart metering assets by 2033, which would otherwise cease to function as a result of Wide Area Network (WAN) services ending, and
  - c. ensure smart meters in traditional mode are back working in smart mode for consumers as soon as possible and no later than 90 days from the date energy suppliers are first aware.
- 1.2 The new Post-2025 framework also requires energy suppliers to submit annual Deployment Plans to Ofgem, in which they must provide detail of the Annual Milestones they have set for each of the above obligations and outline the activities they will undertake to meet these milestones.
- 1.3 These requirements are set out in detail in [standard licence condition \(SLC\) 38 of the gas supply licence](#) and [SLC 44 of the electricity supply licence](#) (the Relevant Licence Conditions).
- 1.4 This guidance is intended to support energy suppliers in preparing and submitting the first Deployment Plan in 2026. It is relevant to all gas or electricity supply licence holders authorised to supply domestic premises, where the Relevant Licence Conditions apply to the Licensee (in that the licensee, together with its Affiliates, supplies gas or electricity to Customers at Domestic Energy Premises via, in each case, more than 20,000 Energy Meter Points).
- 1.5 Suppliers must have regard to this guidance when preparing and submitting their Deployment Plans as set out in paragraphs 15 of the Relevant Licence Conditions.
- 1.6 Suppliers will be required to publish the Annual Milestones set in their Deployment Plans prominently on their website no later than 1 September 2026. If a Deployment Plan is rejected and a revised plan is requested, suppliers will be required to publish their Annual Milestones on their website two weeks after Ofgem communicates that the revised plan has not been rejected.

### Related publications

- 1.7 Suppliers should read this guidance in conjunction with any directions issued by the Authority relating to the submission of the Deployment Plans.

## **Guidance** Preparation and Submission of Smart Metering Deployment Plans

- 1.8 Pursuant to the Relevant Licence Conditions<sup>1</sup>, the Authority issues, alongside this guidance, a Direction which takes effect on the 2 June 2026 - “Direction to Submit Smart Metering Deployment Plans”.
- 1.9 The direction issued directs:
- a. Additional data requirements for the Deployment Plan,
  - b. The format required for the submission of the Deployment Plan, including the two templates (further guidance on the templates is contained in Chapter 2),
  - c. The submission of the Deployment Plan templates via the secure workspace,
  - d. The date by which the first Deployment Plan is required to be submitted by, moving this date from 30 June 2026 to 15 July 2026, and
  - e. The dates by which, for an accepted Deployment Plan, the Annual Milestones must be published prominently on the supplier’s website.

## **Future requirements**

- 1.10 We intend to issue two further directions in late 2026 which will:
- 1.11 Set out the requirements for suppliers to prepare and submit to the Authority in early 2027 a Progress Report, to set out their performance and progress against the Annual Milestones established in this non-binding Deployment Plan (as outlined in paragraphs 17 of the Relevant Licence Conditions). Suppliers will have to publish this Progress Report prominently on their own website alongside the publication of their Annual Milestones.
- 1.12 Detail the requirements of the submission of a revised Deployment Plan for the next Relevant Period (2027 and onwards), which will be required to contain the first set of binding supplier Annual Milestones. This direction will directly supersede the 2 June 2026 direction.

---

<sup>1</sup> Including paragraphs 5, 8(e) and 19(f) of the Relevant Licence Conditions.

## 2. Completing the Deployment Plan templates

This section provides advice for suppliers to follow when completing both Deployment Plan Templates. Suppliers should note that failure to follow the below requirements may result in rejection of the Deployment Plan and a requirement for re-submission.

### General guidance

**2.1 Suppliers should note that failure to follow this guidance and meet the below requirements may result in rejection of the Deployment Plan.**

2.2 There are two templates which must be completed and both must be submitted:

- a. **Template A - Post 2025 DP\_Excel Template\_Relevant Period\_1** - an Excel workbook, which provides space for suppliers to provide data in relation to each question.
- b. **Template B – Post 2025\_DP\_Word Template\_Relevant Period\_1** - a Word document which requires suppliers to provide justification for the Annual Milestones they have set, and an explanation of how they intend to achieve the Milestones.

2.3 Suppliers must answer all questions.

2.4 The Deployment Plans should include data, information and/or explanations related to **domestic customers only**.

2.5 The Deployment Plans must be approved by the licensee's board of directors, and **both templates must be signed by a director of the licensee**, in accordance with paragraph 5 of the Relevant Licence Conditions.

2.6 The baseline data date for the 2026 Deployment Plans is **30 June 2026**. This has been set so suppliers can align their Deployment Plan forecasting and submissions with the DESNZ Q2 quarterly update, requiring a single portfolio data run to improve data consistency and quality.

2.7 The first Relevant Period within the Deployment Plan runs from 1 July – 31 December 2026. All subsequent Relevant Periods run from 1 January – 31 December.

2.8 Deployment Plans must include detailed plans for the next Relevant Period and longer-term forecasts covering future Relevant Periods. These forecasts should be indicative and based on reasonable assumptions. Suppliers must clearly explain the inputs, rationale, constraints and limitations of their longer-term forecasts, ensuring they support delivery of the relevant obligations without introducing unnecessary risk.

## **Guidance** Preparation and Submission of Smart Metering Deployment Plans

- 2.9 Suppliers may wish to refer to the Data Communications Company’s Communication Services Availability Statement when completing their long-term forecasts.
- 2.10 Suppliers will be required to submit an annual revised Deployment Plan for every calendar year proceeding the next Relevant Period, and in practice submission will be required in advance of the Relevant Period, i.e. before 1 January 2027. Ofgem will issue updated guidance and templates for each annual submission. Suppliers should review and update their forecast Annual Milestones over the time to reflect changes in customer churn, delivery experience, and underlying assumptions, ensuring that projections remain accurate and fit for purpose.
- 2.11 **All Annual Milestones set in this initial Deployment Plans submission (the first Relevant Period) are non-binding.** The Roll-out (Installation), Comms Hub replacement and SMETS1 replacement Milestones will be binding in Deployment Plan submissions from 2027 onwards, in that for each period commencing on or after 1 January 2027, the supplier must achieve the Annual Milestones set out in their Deployment Plans, per paragraph 16 of the Relevant Licence Conditions. Please see the below table for clarification:

<b>Annual Milestone</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2027 onwards</b>
Roll-out (installation)	Non-binding	Binding
Comms Hub replacement	Non-binding	Binding
SMETS1 replacement	Non-binding	Binding
Operational	Non-binding	Non-binding

## **Guidance for Template A - the Excel workbook**

- 2.12 **Completion requirements** - suppliers must ensure that:
- All cells highlighted in white are completed in full.
  - The guidance provided within each tab is followed.
  - Data is submitted in the required format and structure, without amendment to formulas or template design.
  - Validation checks are satisfied, including that the ‘checksum’ field does not display any errors.
  - The data provided is consistent with the information submitted in Template B.

## **Guidance** Preparation and Submission of Smart Metering Deployment Plans

- 2.13 **Data quality and integrity** – suppliers must ensure that all data submitted is:
- a. Accurate and complete, with no missing or inconsistent fields.
  - b. Internally consistent, including alignment between portfolio data and Annual Milestones.
  - c. Based on robust and up-to-date evidence, reflecting the latest available data at the baseline date.
  - d. Free from calculation and formatting errors.
- 2.14 **Alignment with Annual Milestone** – the data provided must support the Annual Milestones set out in the Deployment Plan:
- a. Portfolio data should provide a clear basis for the level and phasing of Annual Milestones.
  - b. Milestones should be consistent with the size and composition of the supplier’s portfolio.
  - c. Any significant step changes or non-linear trajectories must be supported by corresponding data inputs or assumptions.
- 2.15 **Use of assumptions** - where data relies on assumptions (for example, customer churn or portfolio changes), suppliers should:
- a. Ensure assumptions are reasonable, evidence-based, and clearly defined.
  - b. Apply assumptions consistently across the template.
  - c. Ensure that assumptions are reflected in both the data in Template A and the supporting narrative in Template B.
- 2.16 **Consistency with Template B** - Information provided in Template A must be consistent with the narrative set out in Template B:
- a. Annual Milestones in the Excel template must match those described in the Word template.
  - b. Key assumptions and drivers reflected in the data must be clearly explained in the narrative.
  - c. Any adjustments or scenario-based changes must be consistently applied across both templates.
- 2.17 **Common issues to avoid** – suppliers should take particular care to avoid:
- a. Missing or incomplete required fields.
  - b. Inconsistencies between different sections or tabs.
  - c. Misalignment between Annual Milestones and underlying data.
  - d. Errors in validation checks (including ‘checksum’ failures).
  - e. Unexplained discrepancies between Template A and Template B.

## **Guidance for Template B – the Word document**

- 2.18 **Template B** provides the narrative supporting the data submitted in **Template A**. It is a critical component of the Deployment Plan and will be used by Ofgem to assess whether the plan is evidence-based, credible, and deliverable.
- 2.19 Responses must go beyond high-level statements and provide clear, structured explanations that demonstrate how the Annual Milestones have been derived and how delivery will be achieved.
- 2.20 **Completion requirements** – Suppliers must ensure that:
- a. All required sections are completed in full.
  - b. You follow the guidance provided below each question.
  - c. Responses are submitted in the required structure, without amendment to the template design.
  - d. Responses must directly and fully address the question asked.
  - e. The narrative must be clear, concise, and specific.
  - f. The minimum word limit for each question is 250 words.
  - g. The information provided is consistent with the data submitted in Template A.
- 2.21 **Derivation and explanation of Annual Milestones** - Suppliers must clearly set out Annual Milestones for each Relevant Period and explain where requested:
- a. How the Annual Milestones have been derived, including the methodology used.
  - b. The key drivers underpinning the Annual Milestones (e.g. portfolio size, demand, operational capacity).
  - c. The rationale for any phasing or prioritisation of delivery.
  - d. Responses should demonstrate a clear link between portfolio data, assumptions, and milestone outputs.
  - e. Annual Milestones in the Word template must match those in the Excel template.
- 2.22 **Explanation of Assumptions** – suppliers must provide:
- a. Evidence supporting key assumptions (for example, customer demand, churn, or delivery capacity).
  - b. A clear explanation of how assumptions have been derived and applied.
  - c. Justification for any assumptions that materially impact delivery.
- 2.23 **Delivery strategy and sequencing** – suppliers must describe:
- a. Their overall delivery approach across the relevant Obligations and Relevant Periods.

## **Guidance** Preparation and Submission of Smart Metering Deployment Plans

- b. How activities will be prioritised and sequenced over time.
- c. How delivery will address known challenges (e.g. non-operating meters, underserved groups).
- d. Responses should demonstrate that the proposed approach is practical, coordinated, and aligned with achieving consumer outcomes.

### **2.24 Risks and mitigations** – suppliers must identify:

- a. Key risks to delivery (for example, operational, resource, or system constraints).
- b. The potential impact of these risks on milestone delivery.
- c. The mitigations in place to manage these risks.

### **2.25 Quality and clarity of responses** – suppliers must ensure responses are:

- a. Evidence-based, not descriptive or aspirational.
- b. Provide sufficient detail to allow Ofgem to understand and assess delivery plans.
- c. Clearly explain how the narrative supports the milestones provided in Template A.

### **2.26 Consistency with Template A** – suppliers must ensure that:

- a. Annual Milestones in the Word template must match those described in the Excel template.
- b. Key assumptions and drivers explained in the narrative must be reflected in the data.
- c. Any adjustments or scenario-based changes must be consistently applied across both templates.

### **2.27 Common issues to avoid** – suppliers should take particular care to avoid:

- a. Missing or incomplete answers.
- b. Providing limited or unclear justification for Annual Milestones.
- c. Relying on unsupported assumptions or outdated evidence.
- d. Submitting narrative which does not match the data provided.
- e. Failing to explain step changes or non-linear delivery profiles.
- f. Omitting discussion of risks or delivery constraints.
- g. Providing generic responses that do not directly answer the question.
- h. Unexplained discrepancies between Template A and Template B.

### 3. Assessment approach and criteria

This section sets out the delivery priorities that suppliers should consider in their initial Deployment Plans, the baseline requirements that all Deployment Plan submissions must meet and the substantive assessment criteria that the Authority will have regard to when considering whether to accept or reject a Deployment Plan. Suppliers should note that failure to consider the below assessment criteria may result in rejection of the Deployment Plan and a requirement for re-submission.

#### **Delivery priorities for initial Deployment Plans**

- 3.1 The new framework places increased emphasis on smart meter operability and pre-emptive asset replacement, alongside completion of the roll out. Suppliers should therefore ensure their Deployment Plans clearly demonstrate a focus on delivering reliable, accessible and high-quality smart metering services to ensure positive consumer outcomes.
- 3.2 Taken together, we recognise that the three new obligations represent a higher level of activity than seen over the previous five years. The number of installations required to meet the Annual Rollout Milestone alone between 2026-2030 is broadly comparable to the volume of meters installed under the previous framework (2020-2025). We acknowledge the practical challenges associated with delivering these obligations concurrently and, given the scale of activity required, suppliers are encouraged to adopt a targeted and prioritised approach to delivery, focusing activity first on areas which will have the greatest impact on consumer outcomes.
- 3.3 Our regulatory experience, including recent compliance activity on the previous rollout framework, non-operating meters and the replacement of Radio Teleswitch (RTS) meters, demonstrates that clear prioritisation, supported by transparent expectations and active engagement, leads to improved delivery outcomes and better consumer experiences. Therefore, progressing all obligations at the same pace may not be appropriate where this would reduce overall effectiveness or consumer benefit.
- 3.4 Suppliers should therefore demonstrate in their Deployment Plans how they will prioritise delivery that will support the following outcomes:
  - a. **Improved performance and reduced performance variation across suppliers**, including demonstrable progress in addressing individual areas of historical underperformance, particularly where there has been previous regulatory feedback or compliance action;

## **Guidance** Preparation and Submission of Smart Metering Deployment Plans

- b. **Improved access to smart meters for those who want them**, with a focus on meeting unmet demand amongst consumer groups who have historically fallen behind, such as prepayment meter customers and geographical regions with low levels of smart coverage; and
  - c. **Reliable and functioning smart meter services**, which is critical for enabling consumers to consistently receive the benefits of smart meter functionality and improve trust in the programme.
- 3.5 Suppliers should also demonstrate **how they have identified and applied relevant lessons learned from previous large-scale delivery programmes** (for example, the RTS replacement programme), including how these lessons have informed their prioritisation, sequencing, and approach to delivery.
- 3.6 Prioritising outcomes that aim to improve the quality and fairness of delivery is about sequencing, not reducing ambition. Suppliers must still meet all their obligations as set out in the licence conditions and, from 2027 onwards, achieve their Annual Milestones. However, by focusing on different priorities at different times, there is an opportunity to better align delivery with sustained consumer benefits and reduce the risk that structural constraints undermine performance.

## **Assessment criteria**

- 3.7 The Authority will have regard to the below criteria when considering whether to accept or reject a Deployment Plan.

## **Baseline Requirements**

- 3.8 A Deployment Plan will be rejected automatically if it does not meet the following criteria:
- a. Both Templates A (Excel) and Template B (Word) must be submitted within the designated Huddle workspace and named in the required format.
  - b. Submissions must be fully accessible and capable of assessment without any technical issues (including file corruption or inaccessible formats).
  - c. Both Template A and Template B must be signed by a director of the licensee, in accordance with paragraphs 5 of the Relevant Licence Conditions.
  - d. All questions must be answered and there must be no change to the format, design or formulas within the templates.
  - e. The baseline data date for the 2026 Deployment Plans must be **30 June 2026**.
  - f. For Template A, all data submitted must be complete, accurate, and in the required format with no inconsistencies. This includes passing all validation checks (including checksum checks).

## **Guidance** Preparation and Submission of Smart Metering Deployment Plans

- g. For Template B, all questions must be completed in full, with detailed, evidenced responses that directly address the questions asked.
- h. Both templates must be internally consistent - there must be clear alignment between the Annual Milestones and underlying portfolio data and the narrative provided in **Template B** must align fully with the data submitted in **Template A**.

### Standards for an acceptable Deployment Plan:

- 3.9 Once the baseline requirements have been met, we will then make a substantive assessment on whether the Deployment Plan is acceptable. A credible and acceptable Deployment Plan will demonstrate that it is evidence-based, deliverable, and clearly focused on achieving positive consumer outcomes.
- 3.10 We will consider whether a supplier has demonstrated that the Deployment Plan meets the following criteria:
  - a. **Clear, rationale and evidence-based milestones** – ambitious, realistic and achievable Annual Milestones which are supported by robust, up-to-date data and a transparent methodology.
  - b. **Credible assumptions and realistic phasing** - Assumptions are clearly defined, evidence-based, and applied consistently. Delivery profiles are realistic, with any step changes or non-linear trajectories clearly justified.
  - c. **A coherent and deliverable strategy** - The plan sets out a practical delivery approach, including how activities will be prioritised and sequenced across the relevant obligations, taking account of operational constraints and interdependencies.
  - d. **Appropriate prioritisation to improve outcomes** - The plan demonstrates a targeted approach to delivery, focusing effort on areas that will have the greatest impact on consumer outcomes as discussed in this guidance, including improving access to smart meters, reducing variation in performance, and ensuring reliable and functioning smart metering services.
  - e. **Consideration of risks and mitigations** - Key risks to delivery are identified and assessed, with proportionate and credible mitigation strategies in place.
  - f. **Learning from previous delivery experience** - The plan clearly demonstrates how lessons learned from previous large-scale delivery programmes (for example, the RTS replacement programme) and compliance actions have been identified and applied. This should include how these lessons have informed the supplier's approach to prioritisation, sequencing, coordination, and risk management.

## **Guidance** Preparation and Submission of Smart Metering Deployment Plans

### Acceptance, rejection and resubmission

- 3.11 Where we decide that the Deployment Plan has been approved, we will confirm this in writing.
- 3.12 Where we decide to reject a Deployment Plan, we will also confirm this in writing and will set out clear reasons for the rejection and highlight the areas that need improving.
- 3.13 The supplier will be required to re-submit a further Deployment Plan by the date specified in the correspondence, at which point we will re-assess the re-submitted Deployment Plan.

## 4. Submission process and timeline

This section outlines the details of the submission process and the timeline for the submission and assessment process.

### Submission process

- 4.1 Ofgem will establish a dedicated Huddle workspace for each supplier. We will engage with suppliers separately to provide access and ensure appropriate permissions are in place ahead of submission.
- 4.2 There will be a dedicated folder within the assigned Huddle workspace within which suppliers will be required to submit their Deployment Plans.
- 4.3 Suppliers must submit both **Template A (Excel)** and **Template B (Word)** using the prescribed file naming conventions set out below. These conventions are required to ensure consistency and facilitate efficient processing and assessment.

Template A (Excel):

**YYYY.MM\_Supplier name\_DP Excel submission\_Relevant period\_n**

Template B (Word):

**YYYY.MM\_Supplier name\_DP Word submission\_Relevant period\_n**

Where:

- “YYYY.MM” refers to the submission date (year and month)
- “Supplier name” is the full legal name or recognised trading name of the licensee
- “Relevant period\_n” refers to the Relevant Period number (e.g. “1” for the first Relevant Period)

- 4.4 For example, for the first Relevant Period (this submission), a supplier named “XXX” should submit files named:

2026.07\_XXX\_DP Excel submission\_Relevant period\_1

2026.07\_XXX\_DP Word submission\_Relevant period\_1

- 4.5 Suppliers are responsible for ensuring that:

- Both templates are uploaded in the correct format and to the correct location
- File names follow the required naming conventions exactly
- Submissions are complete and submitted by the specified deadline

## **Guidance** Preparation and Submission of Smart Metering Deployment Plans

4.6 Failure to follow the above requirements will result in an automatic rejection of the Deployment Plan and the supplier will be required to re-submit.

### **Timeline for the first Relevant Period (this submission)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Notes</b>
2 June 2026	Ofgem publishes the direction and guidance and issues Deployment Plan templates to suppliers	
15 July 2026	Supplier submission deadline	As set in SLC 44.5 (electricity) and/or SLC 38.5 (gas)
12 August 2026	Latest date by which Ofgem will communicate to a supplier if their Deployment Plan has been rejected, and a revised Deployment Plan is required.	Ofgem has 28 days from the submission date to determine whether to reject the Deployment Plan and require a revised plan.
1 September 2026	If a Deployment Plan is not rejected, this is the latest date by which suppliers must publish their Annual Milestones on their website for the first Deployment Plan.	Where revisions are required, we will write to suppliers and advise when they need to re-submit by, and Ofgem will have a further 28 days to re-assess.

## Send us your feedback

We are keen to receive your feedback about this guidance. We would also like to get your answers to these questions:

Do you have any comments about the quality of this guidance?

Do you have any comments about its tone and content?

Was it easy to read and understand? Or could it have been better written?

Do you have any further comments?

Please send your feedback to [stakeholders@ofgem.gov.uk](mailto:stakeholders@ofgem.gov.uk).

## Appendix 1 Definitions

### **Annual Milestone**

means the Annual Roll-out Milestone, the Annual Operational Milestone, the Annual SMETS1 Milestone, and the Annual CH Milestone.

### **Annual Rollout Milestone**

means, in respect of each Relevant Period up to and including the Domestic Roll-out Date, the total number of Domestic Premises in respect of which the licensee is the Relevant Gas/Electricity Supplier, at which a Smart Metering System is to be installed in the Relevant Period for the purposes of meeting the licensee's obligation under paragraph 33.2 of standard licence condition 33 for Gas and/or 39.2 of standard licence condition 39 for Electricity (Smart Metering System – Roll-out, Installation and Maintenance).

### **Annual CH Milestone**

means, in respect of each Relevant Period, the total number of 2G/3G Smart Metering Premises in respect of which the licensee is the Relevant Gas/Electricity Supplier, at which the Communications Hub, and any other device, forming part of the installed Smart Metering System is to be replaced for the purposes of meeting the licensee's obligation under paragraph 43.30 of standard licence condition 43 for Gas and/or 49.30 of standard licence condition 49 for Electricity (Smart Metering Systems and In-Home Displays — Operational Requirements).

### **Annual SMETS1 Milestone**

means, in respect of each Relevant Period, the total number of SMETS1 Domestic Premises in respect of which the licensee is the Relevant Gas/Electricity Supplier, at which a device forming part of the installed Smart Metering System is to be replaced for the purposes of meeting the licensee's obligation in paragraph 43.30 of standard licence condition 43 for Gas and/or 49.30 of standard licence condition 49 for Electricity (Smart Metering Systems and In-Home Displays — Operational Requirements)

### **Energy Meter Point**

has the meaning given to it in standard licence condition 39A for Gas and/or 45A for Electricity (Smart Metering Consumer Engagement)

### **Relevant Period**

means:

- the period 1 July 2026 to 31 December 2026 (inclusive – the 'First Relevant Period');

## **Guidance** Preparation and Submission of Smart Metering Deployment Plans

- for the purposes of matters relating to Annual CH Milestones, Annual Operational Milestones, and Annual SMETS1 Milestones, each calendar year commencing after the end of the First Relevant Period up to and including the calendar year ending 31 December 2033 (or such later date as may be specified in a direction by the Secretary of State); and
- for the purposes of matters relating to Annual Roll-out Milestones, each calendar year commencing after the end of the First Relevant Period up to and including the calendar year ending on the Domestic Roll-out Date.

### **Straight line trajectory**

means, for the remaining Relevant Periods:

- for each Annual Roll-out Milestone, that the licensee will by the end of each Relevant Period (other than the First Relevant Period) install  $1/x$  of the total number of Smart Metering Systems which the licensee is required to take all reasonable steps to install under paragraph 33.2 of standard licence condition 33 for Gas and/or 39.2 of licence condition 39 for Electricity (Smart Metering System – Roll-out, Installation and Maintenance), where 'x' is the number of Relevant Periods remaining until the Domestic Roll-out Date;
- for each Annual CH Milestone, that the licensee will by the end of each Relevant Period (other than the First Relevant Period) replace  $1/y$  of the total number of SMETS2+ Communications Hubs at Domestic Premises which are to be replaced by the licensee for the purposes of complying with its obligation in paragraph 43.30 of standard licence condition 43 for Gas and/or 49.30 of standard licence condition 49 for Electricity (Smart Metering Systems and In-Home Displays – Operational Requirements), where 'y' is the number of Relevant Periods remaining until the end of the last Relevant Period; and
- for each Annual SMETS1 Milestone, that the licensee will by the end of each Relevant Period (other than the First Relevant Period) replace devices in  $1/z$  of the total number of SMETS1 Smart Metering Systems at Domestic Premises in respect of which devices are to be replaced by the licensee for the purposes of complying with its obligation in paragraph 43.30 of standard licence condition 43 for Gas and/or 49.30 of standard licence condition 49 for Electricity (Smart Metering Systems and In-Home Displays – Operational Requirements), where 'z' is the number of Relevant Periods remaining until the end of the last Relevant Period.