

Gas Distribution Discretionary Reward Scheme 2008-09 - Panel Members

Rhys Evans, Deputy Senior Director, Consumer Focus Wales.

Rhys is responsible for the communications and policy teams in Wales and was previously Acting Director of the Welsh Consumer Council. He studied Public Relations and Media at University before starting his career working in the communications department of a large music company in London.

In 2001 he moved to Wales where he took up the position of Account Manager with a Public Relations consultancy working with both private and public sector clients. He also worked as the Media Manager of a local University before joining the Welsh Consumer Council in 2004 as Head of Communications.

Malcolm Fergusson, Head of Climate Change, Environment Agency.

Malcolm Fergusson is Head of Climate Change at the Environment Agency. He leads the head office team dealing with both mitigation and adaptation policy. He was formerly a Senior Fellow at the Institute for European Environmental Policy, an independent policy institute. He has a background in computer modelling and forecasting, but now specialises in climate change, energy and transport policy issues in the UK and Europe. He was a peer reviewer of the IPCC Second Assessment Report, and in the UK, he has acted as Specialist Adviser on climate change to a House of Commons Select Committee, and contributed to the national Energy Review.

Gretel Jones, Consumer Affairs Policy Advisor, Age Concern England

Gretel joined Age Concern England in 1997 and is responsible for determining policy on a wide range of consumer issues. Current key issues she is working on are the alleviation of fuel poverty, the future of the post office network, rogue traders, the introduction of digital television and older drivers.

She has represented Age Concern on a number of external bodies including CORGI Council, Digital Television Consumer Expert Group and the Advisory body to the Office of Fair Trading's Consumer Codes Approval Scheme. Prior to that Gretel worked for Consumers' Association and then for Consumers International with responsibility for co-ordinating their input into product and service standardisation and related product safety issues. She also spent several years working as a consumer adviser and in consumer education before moving to work in a London local authority economic development department.

Derek Lickorish, Chair of the Fuel Poverty Advisory Group

Derek has 38 years experience in the energy industry. Derek now focuses on Fuel Poverty and Smart metering. He is currently Chair of the Government's Fuel Poverty Advisory Group and a Non Executive Director of Entity Holdings Ltd. He also has his own consultancy business.

Derek was employed by EDF Energy as their Chief Operating Officer, Customers Branch, for nearly 5 years and was previously the Customer Service and External Affairs Director at SWEB from 1996. Derek has held several executive positions as well as Senior Management and individual contributor roles. He has also served on the Boards of Private companies and Public and Private sector partnerships in a range of roles including deputy Chairman and Chairman.

John Williams, Chief Executive, Institute of Gas Engineers and Managers (IGEM).

John has been Chief Executive Officer of IGEM since January 2004 having previously been at the Institution of Fire Engineers where he was Professional Development Officer. He has worked within the Professional Body environment since retiring from the HM Forces [Army] in 1996 after serving for 22 years.

John trained in mechanical engineering. He is registered as an Incorporated Engineer with the Institution of Engineering and Technology and is a corporate member of the Institute of Directors.