

# SMARTER MARKETS PROGRAMME

## Update for the Smarter Markets Coordination Group (SMCG), May 2013

### Envisioning the future

The Programme team has been exploring what ‘smarter markets’ may look like, developing our thinking on what the Programme is aiming to deliver.

Over the coming months we plan to test these ideas with stakeholders, including the SMCG. We will also explore the role that the Smarter Markets Programme will need to play in successfully delivering this future.

#### Electricity Settlement

- In March 2013 we published an [open letter](#) setting out the way forward on reform of electricity settlement arrangements.
- Over the coming year we will scope out the problem that may require reform of existing arrangements and how best to address this.
- Depending upon the progress of our scoping work, we will consider publishing a consultation in Q4 2013 to seek views on our initial conclusions on the problem and next steps.

#### Change of Supplier

- Consumer research over the coming months will test consumers’ requirements for an improved transfer process.
- A series of workshops over the Summer will start to test potential scope and scale of the reform with technical experts.

### Under new management

There have been some recent changes to the senior management of the Smarter Markets Programme. Maxine Ferk has returned to Ofgem as Partner of Retail Markets and Research after a secondment to the Smart Metering Implementation Programme at DECC, and is the new Senior Responsible Owner (SRO) for the Programme. Grant McEachran has been appointed Head of Smarter Markets, after working on the RIIO T1 price control review, and is now the Programme Director.

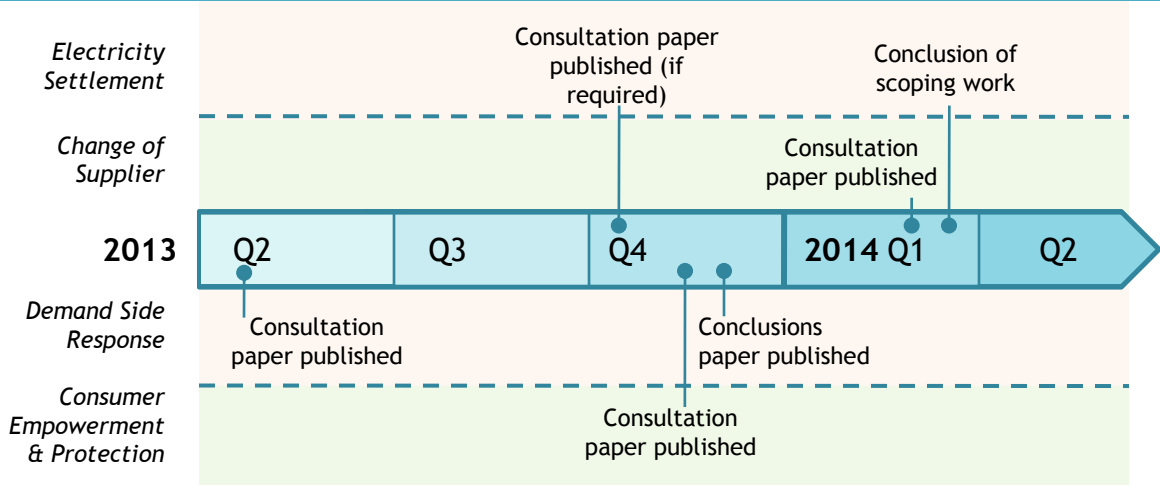
#### Demand-side Response

- In April 2013 we published a [consultation document](#) that identifies the main challenges for delivering the right environment for demand-side response. This eight week consultation asks stakeholders for their views on these challenges and how they could be addressed.
- Informed by responses to the consultation, we will identify whether further work is required in addition to relevant work already being progressed across Ofgem, industry and government.

#### Consumer Empowerment & Protection

- To build our evidence base, a [workshop](#) was held to collect stakeholders’ views on the risks and opportunities for the consumer from the deployment of smart meters.
- Work is progressing to deliver the consultation paper in Q4 2013.

### Public milestones for each project over the next 12 months



**Newsletter:** The Programme published its first [Smarter Markets newsletter](#) in February. This newsletter will be issued every six months, to give stakeholders an overview of progress and highlight how they can get involved.

**SMCG Membership:** In addition to the new Programme SRO and Head of Smarter Markets within Ofgem, two new members have been invited to join the SMCG: Lawrence Slade, from Energy UK, and Michela Beltracchi, from Opower. A new list of attendees will be circulated at the meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> May.