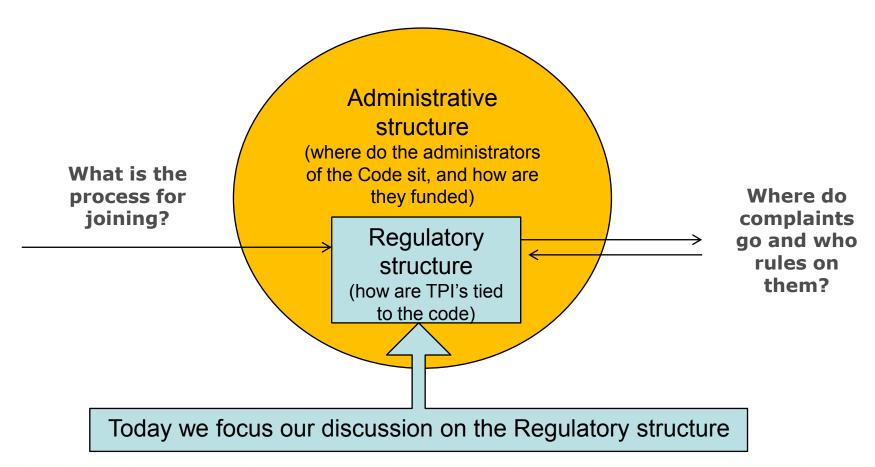
## Non Domestic TPI Code of Practice

**Regulatory Options** 

5th Session - 23rd May

# There are a number of decisions needed, other than on the contents of the Code





### ofgem Promoting choice and value for all gas and electricity customers

### Regulatory Options – There is a wide spectrum of options

Option 1 Code of Practice Voluntary Code of **Practice** 

Code of Practice SLC accreditation

Option 4 Licence TPIs

No cost to be a

Cost to be a member

A)

Minimal cost to be a member

High level of regulatory intervention

10

No Audits/Governance/No sanctions

member

Audits/Sanctions will be part of the code

Strong sanctions for bad behaviour /breaches

Strong sanctions for bad behaviour /breaches

Will cover ALL TPIs

May not cover all TPIs

May not cover all TPIs

Will cover ALL TPIs

Reliant on TPIs adopting the Code

Significant cost for a proportion of TPIs

Will require a change in both TPI/Supplier behaviour

Significant costs associated for TPIs

**Quick** implementation

Quick implementation

Longer implementation timetable

Longer implementation timetable



### **Discussion Option 2: "Narrow and Deep" Voluntary Code**

Narrow: Cost to belong to the CoP, would not include all TPIs

Deep: Strong auditing and monitoring regime

Would rely on strong consumer brand awareness, main sanction 'to be excluded from Code'

## Level of intervention – Low to Medium

- Cost to sign up to the code.
- Strict approach for accreditation.
- May be restricting for sole trader.
- Behaviours required in code are beneficial to the consumer

#### Practicality – Easy

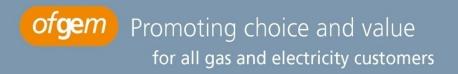
- Easy to implement
- Broad scope which should allow ease when implementing to current market processes

## Monitor and enforce – Will induce change

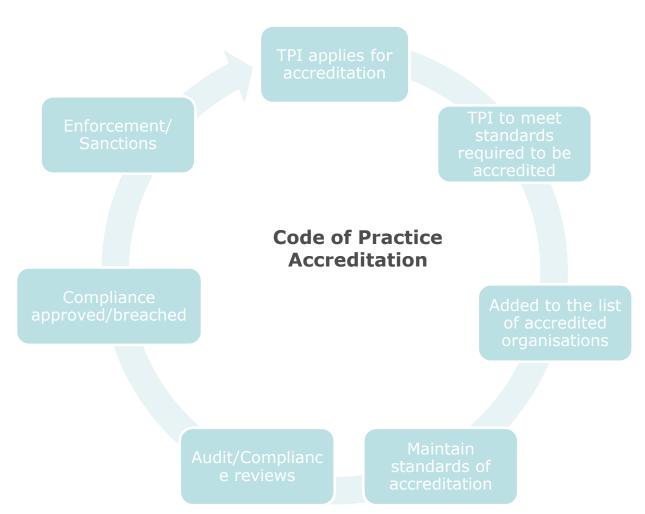
- Training records
- Regular audits of code members
- External audit by independent appointee
- Limited sanctions for bad behaviour
- BPMMRs will be an additional regulatory option

### BUT.....

- Would not capture all 'bad elements
- How much improve ment on now?



### **Accreditation life cycle**



## <u>Discussion Option 3</u>: "Broad and Shallow" Code of Practice backed by supply licence requirement to only use accredited TPIs

Broad: Minimal cost to join

Shallow: No auditing but investigation of complaints and very strong implications of

sanctions (risk to livelihood)

# Level of intervention -Medium

#### Practicality-Medium

### Monitor and enforce-Reactive

### BUT.....

- Minimal cost to sign up to the code.
- Lighter approach for accreditation.
- All TPIs would need to be registered and identifiable
- Less restricting for smaller entities than Option 2

- More difficult to implement than option 2
- •Behaviours required in code are beneficial to the consumers
- Require a change in supplier/TPI behaviour
- •Require up to date register and alerts to suppliers when a TPI is sanctioned.

- Training records
- Audits internally by code members
- No external audits
- Strong sanctions for bad behaviour
- BPMMRs will be an additional regulatory option
- Will this continue to highlight and capture rogue practices?



# Which option best aligns customer protection and proportionality? Some suggested Pro's and Con's

### Option 2

#### Intervention-Low/Medium

- Pros
- Easiest option to implement
- Quickest option to implement
- Broad scope of Code of Practice will cover the 'TPI'/'Consumer' Journey
- Cons
- Will not include all TPIs
- Strong auditing and monitoring regime Could be costly
- Will not capture all 'bad elements' of the market, if they don't join.
- Would rely on strong consumer brand awareness as a draw card for membership

## Option 3 Intervention - Medium

- Pros
- Stronger potential sanctions than option
- Smaller cost to become a member
- More acceptable level cost to TPIs?
- Wider TPI coverage
- Will reduce rogue practice long term
- Cons
- Could affect new market entrants
- Negative effect on competition if TPIs do not sign up to the CoP
- Less audit intervention may see an initial rise in rogue practice