

Scheme Name – National Revenue Protection Service

DCP 054 Working Group

Scheme evaluation against agreed criteria

1. How will the scheme operate

The scheme would develop a National Revenue Protection Service (NRPS). This would include a NRPS agent who would determine strategies to improve the investigation, detection and prevention of theft. This would include handling theft reporting, operating mechanisms to detect theft and investigating suspected consumers. The NRPS agent would be responsible for the development of the national strategy for theft detection as well as for the holding and processing of data needed for the efficient operation of the service. It could also offer field services to those parties unable to run a national field force of agents capable of attending site.

2. How will the scheme be funded?

The costs of the scheme would be borne by the industry. The NRPS would attempt to recover money from customers who had stolen energy; subject to legislative and practical considerations the NRPS would also attempt to recover its own costs from the offending customer. Any costs not borne by the consumer would be borne by the industry. It is also reasonable to suppose that the NRPS agent would have some form of profit incentive, based around the amount of money recovered.

3. What are the rewards/expected benefits of the scheme?

The service would support costs being allocated to the parties responsible and implementing a consistent and cost effective approach to theft.

4. What will the coverage be?

National.

5. When could the scheme start?

As soon as funding and governance arrangements are resolved, and after the tender process for the NRPS agent.

6. How would the scheme be implemented?

It would be a centrally administered scheme that could sit within the DCUSA or be a stand alone.

7. How will performance be measured?

Performance would be measured by an independent body looking at the work undertaken by the national field force and any services provided individually.

8. How will the scheme be monitored/audited?

Auditing would be carried out by an independent body looking at the work undertaken by the national field force and any services provided individually

9. How will reporting work under the scheme?

Yet to be decided

10. What Governance framework is required-where will the scheme sit?

Governance could sit as a stand alone agreement or form a schedule to DCUSA.

11. Are there any disadvantages of implementing this scheme?

This scheme could take a considerable amount of time to implement and be costly.

DNOs currently provide a revenue protection service for most suppliers and those suppliers who do not take the DNO service procure their own or provide in-house. Arrangements would have to be put in place to allow the NRPS to replace these revenue protection service providers.