



12.30-13.45 08 October 2015

Committee Room 5, Scottish Parliament

AGM and session on Smart Metering in Scotland

Convenor: Jim Eadie MSP

1. Attendees

A provisional list of attendees is attached to the end of this note. If you attended and are not shown on the list, please email Elaine Waterson (Elaine.watson@est.org.uk).

2. Introduction and approval of minutes from the last meeting

Jim Eadie MSP welcomed everyone to the AGM. He asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from the meeting on 18 June 2015 which had been circulated to members. There were no suggestions or corrections.

Sarah Boyack MSP agreed and Mike MacKenzie MSP seconded that the minutes represented an accurate record of the last meeting.

3. AGM business

Election of Office Bearers

The nominations for the positions of Convenor (x2) and Deputy Convenor (x2) were circulated to the membership. No one else was nominated, and the nominations filled the required number of posts, so there was no need for an election.

- Sarah Boyack MSP was moved for co-convenor by Jamie McGrigor MSP and Mike MacKenzie MSP.
- Jim Eadie MSP was moved for co-convenor by Jamie McGrigor MSP and Mike MacKenzie MSP.
- Liam McArthur MSP was moved for co-deputy convenor by Jamie McGrigor MSP and Mike MacKenzie MSP.
- Patrick Harvie MSP was moved for co-deputy convenor by Jamie McGrigor MSP and Mike MacKenzie MSP.
- Gavin Donoghue of Scottish Renewables and Elaine Waterson of EST were moved for the secretariat positions by Jamie McGrigor MSP and seconded by Sarah Boyack MSP.

Approval of Annual Return

The convenor asked if there were any corrections to the Annual Return which was emailed to group members in advance setting out the group's activities over the previous year and the financial benefits received by the group from the Energy Saving Trust and Scottish Renewables. There were no suggestions or corrections.

Sarah Boyack MSP agreed and Jamie McGrigor MSP seconded that the Annual Return represented an accurate record of the group's activities for the previous year.

Discussion of future work programme

The convenor invited suggestions for SPREEE's future work programme for 2015/16. A number of suggestions were provided as set out below:

- Support for renewables.
- Opportunities opened up by the roll out of smart meters (for the grid, for householders, etc.).
- The 'state of the nation' for energy efficiency and renewables – where have we got to?
- A spotlight on Orkney, including coverage of:
 - Renewables – 100% renewable power production in Orkney.
 - Community activity.
 - Marine test centre.
 - Relevant University of Edinburgh/University of Oxford research.
- Low carbon heat (including links to energy efficiency), which could include a session on work in Cowdenbeath, Fife where differed options for low carbon heat are being explored.
- National grid, future energy scenarios.
- On street electric car plug in for residential properties (ref: pilots in Edinburgh and Newcastle).
- Energy efficiency and fuel poverty – initiatives at community level (with a possible case study of activity in Renfrewshire).
- New build standards for the housing and commercial sectors.
- Wave and tidal power – a session to explore the future role of wave and tidal power.

The following individuals were mentioned as potential speakers:

- Richard Atkins
- Neil Kermode, European Marine Energy Centre

4. Presentation

The convenor then introduced the presenter – John MacNeil from Smart Energy GB.

John MacNeil, Head of Policy and Communications Scotland, Smart Energy GB (SEGB)

John MacNeil's presentation covered SEGB's role –an independent body, created by government, to “help everyone in Great Britain understand smart meters, the national rollout and how to use their meters to get their gas and electricity under control”, provided an update on progress with the smart meter roll out, detailed some of SEGB's current and planned activity, and outlined the benefits of smart meters to consumers.

If you would like a copy of John's presentation please contact the secretariat (Elaine.watson@est.org.uk).

Jim Eadie MSP thanked John for his presentation.

5. Questions

A range of questions were posed; please note that the intention of this meeting note is not to record a verbatim account of the meeting. Questions posed included:

- Jim Eadie MSP asked about smart meter uptake so far amongst businesses and households in Scotland and GB, and what the targets for uptake were.
- Mike MacKenzie MSP asked about the technical challenges for rolling smart meters out in Scotland's islands and whether smart meters will be installed in the places they are needed most.
- Mike MacKenzie MSP also asked about how much of the £6.2 billion savings would arise from people's enhanced ability to switch and how much would arise from people's lower energy use.
- Jamie McGrigor MSP asked whether or not people's old meters would be recycled and whether there was any scrap value in them.
- Charlie Blair asked about whether smart meters communicated with the grid.
- Paul Gill asked about the timeframe over which the savings would be returned to consumers.
- Mark Whittet asked what the annual saving per consumer would be, about likely refusal rates and about what would happen to those who refused the offer of a smart meter.
- Charlie Blair asked about whether the smart meter roll out also covered gas.
- John Maclean asked about who would own the smart meter once it had been installed.

6. Date and Topic of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on 10 December 2015 between 12.30pm and 2.00pm. The topic of the meeting has not yet been agreed.

For suggestions for correction of this note and to request copies of presentations, please contact the secretariat, Elaine Waterson (Elaine.waterson@est.org.uk).

9. Attendees

Name		Organisation
Neil	Anderson	Ledingham Chalmers
Barbara	Atterson	EAS
Charlie	Blair	
Sarah	Boyack MSP	Scottish Parliament
Colin	Campbell	Scottish Futures Trust
Michael	Cockburn	Aura Survey
Gavin	Donoghue	Scottish Renewables
Scott	Duncan	Local Energy Action Plan
Jim	Eadie MSP	Scottish Parliament
Paul	Gill	Environmentally Sustainable Systems
Robert	Girvan	Construction Industry Training Board
Patrick	Hogan	Bellenden
Agnes	Holmes	Ofgem
Nigel	Holmes	SHFCA
Steven	Jeans	Aura Survey
Ken	Macintosh MSP	Scottish Parliament
Mike	MacKenzie MSP	Scottish Parliament
John	Maclean	Spitfire Resources
John	MacNeil	SEGB
Jamie	McGrigor MSP	Scottish Parliament
Ben	Miller	SEGB
Paul	Mullan	Ofgem
John	Taylor	National Grid
Elaine	Waterson	Energy Saving Trust
Mark	Whittet	Scottish Energy News