

AUG Sub-Committee 2025-2026 Introductory Meeting

28 June 2024

Introductory meeting: Agenda



1. AUGE Team
2. Reminder: High-level approach and timetable
3. Assessment of focus areas
4. Proposed focus areas
5. Next steps
6. Appendix: Advisory Service update

Meet Our Team



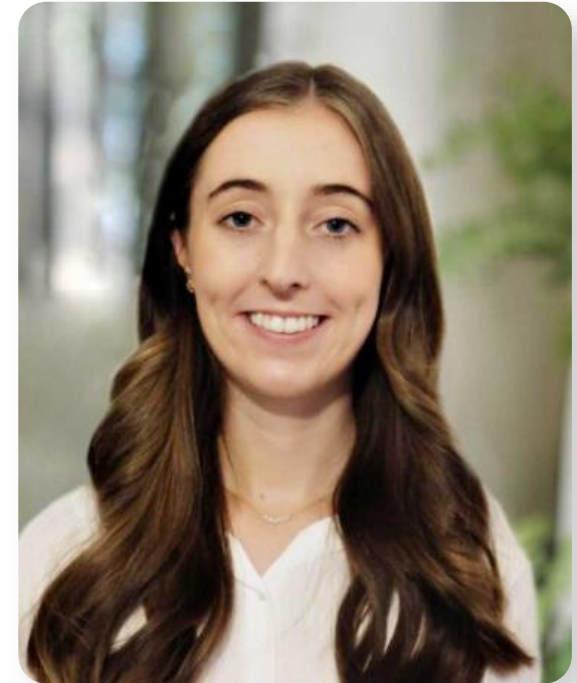
David Speake

Service Delivery Lead



James Hill

Methodology Lead



Sophie Dooley

Data and Modelling Lead

Approach to Allocation of Unidentified Gas

Our Methodology Principles and Ways of Working



Bottom-Up Determination

- We will quantify UIG for each identified contributor and add these together, rather than estimating overall UIG and apportioning it or using it as a means for differencing purposes

Polluter Pays

- We interpret “fair and equitable” to mean that UIG should be allocated (to Matrix Positions) in the same proportions as it is created

Line in the Sand

- We will only consider UIG that will exist at the Line in the Sand (the final Settlement position) and not UIG that exists temporarily prior to this

Ways of working

Open

Transparent

Collaborative

Impartial

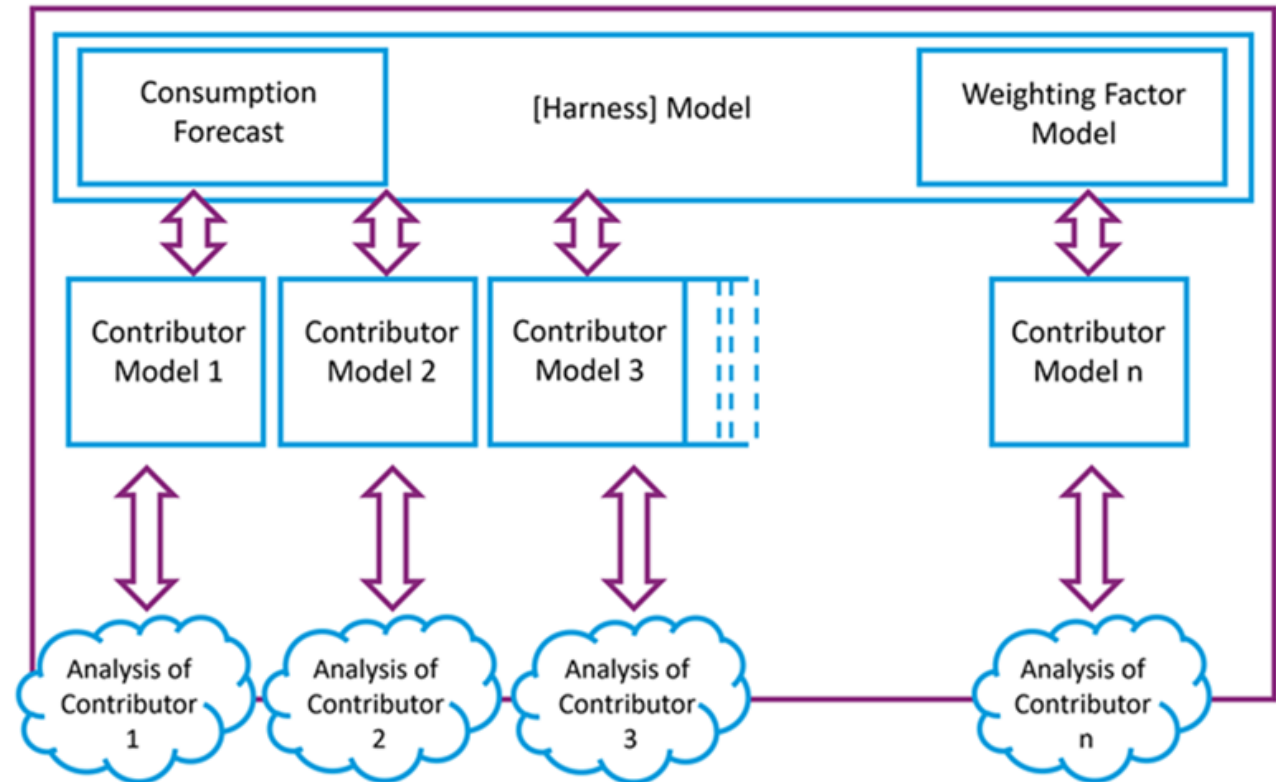
Balanced

Pragmatic

Models and Methodologies



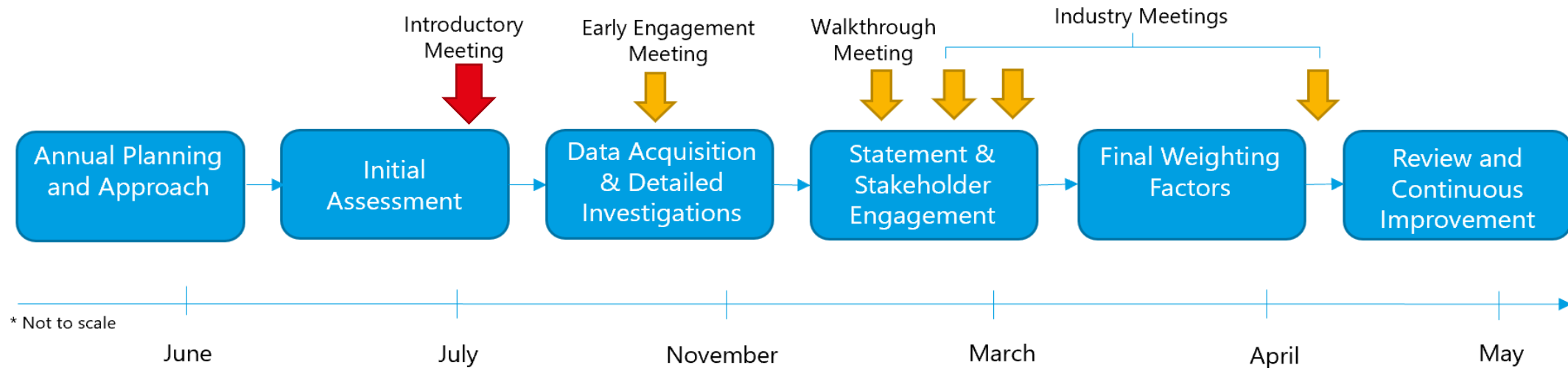
- ▶ We use a contributor-based model made up of an overarching harness model, linked to the separate contributor sub-models
- ▶ Each contributor model identifies and allocates UIG according to its own bespoke methodology
- ▶ The Weighting Factors are calculated within the 'harness model'



Delivery Timeline



We are now entering the data acquisition and analysis phase



Assessment of Focus Areas

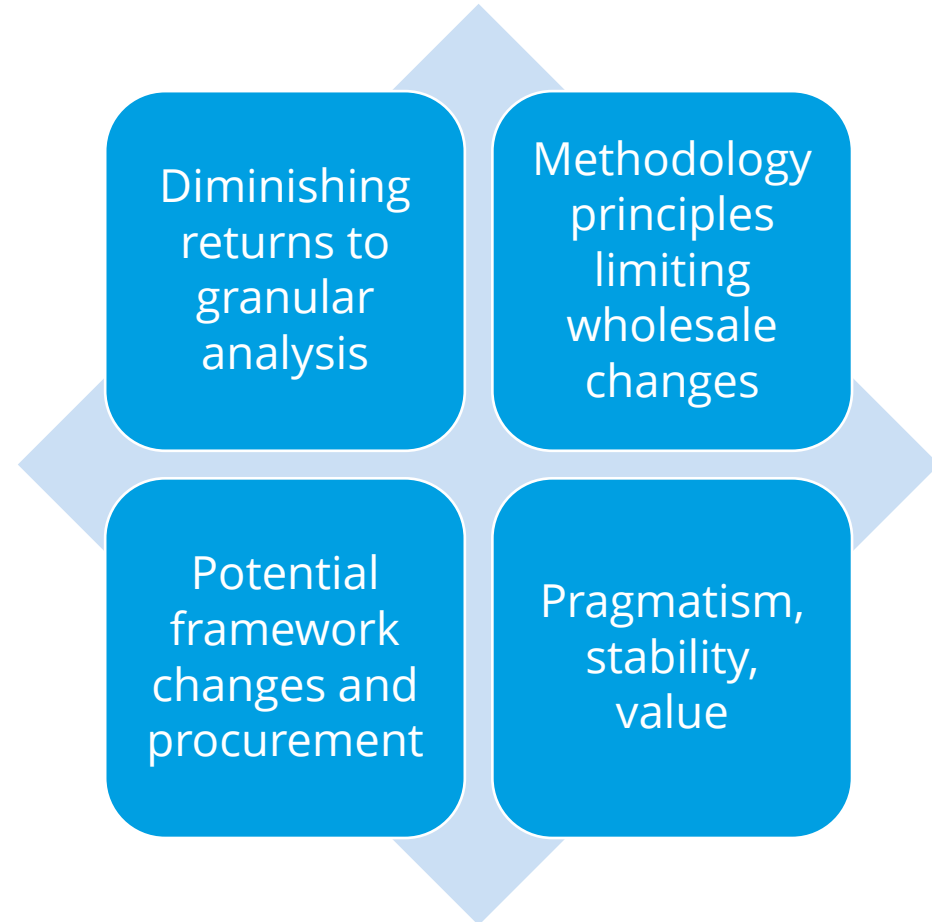
Context for 2025-2026 Gas Year



We have started Year 5 (final year) of contract

- ▶ New UIG contributors are hard to identify
- ▶ Minor improvements to methodologies and model are always possible
- ▶ Major changes have been investigated and discussed with stakeholders
- ▶ Assessment process for focus areas must cover more than existing contributors
- ▶ Changes to AUGÉ delivery framework have been proposed and are being actively developed

An **objective** but **pragmatic** approach is more appropriate than ever



Assessment for 2025-2026 Weighting Factors



We have reviewed all open considerations and gathered additional stakeholder feedback

The collage includes several key diagrams:

- ALIG Framework and ToR:** A central flowchart detailing methodology principles, consumption forecast, and data sources. It includes sub-sections like 'Focus on Actual UIG data', 'Consumption Forecast', 'Existing contributors', 'Investigated contributors', 'Uninvestigated contributors', and 'Data sources'.
- Planning - to do:** A section with various charts and matrices, including 'Agenda - ordering/...' and 'Uninvestigated Cont...'.
- Confidence Matrix:** A 2x2 matrix at the bottom right of the collage, with 'High confidence' on the y-axis and 'Low confidence' on the x-axis. A legend indicates 'Lower to High confidence quadrants'.

Contributor ID	Contributor	Score
010	Theft of Gas (total theft)	45
090	No meter read at the line in the sand	40
131	Consumption Adjustments (incomplete)	36
180	Unfound Unidentified Gas Contributors	35
150	Meterless Sites	22
080	Average Temperature Assumption	21
011	Theft of Gas (roll out)	18
210	Shrinkage Error	18
041	Consumption Meter Errors - Faulty Meter	16
042	Consumption Meter Errors - Extremes of Use	16
070	Average Pressure Assumption	16
160	Isolated Sites	16
200	Dead Sites	16
012	Theft Of Gas (last read)	13
120	Meter Exchanges	13
130	Consumption Adjustments (incorrect)	13
170	Incorrect Meter Technical details on UK Link	13
060	IGT Shrinkage	12
040	Consumption Meter Errors - Inherent Bias	11
110	CV Shrinkage	9
100	Incorrect Correction Factors	8
190	Issues with Xoserve system	7
050	Meter Errors at LDZ input	3
140	Meters with Bypass Fitted	3
020	Unregistered	3
025	Shipperless	3



We have discussed approach and focus areas with CDSP and some shippers

Discussion topics

Previous investigations

Open considerations

Consumption forecast

Existing contributors

Data quality and sources

Principles

Priorities

Challenges

Modification(s)

Themes emerging

RECCo theft work

Multi-year consumption forecast

Seasonal Normal weather re-baselining

AUG table structure

Certainty/stability

Temporary UIG

Consumption trends

UIG reduction

Framework changes/future of AUGe



Assessment approach means that outcomes may vary over time

- ▶ The Initial Assessment is a process for considering which contributors to UIG may warrant:
 - ▶ investigation for inclusion in our calculations
 - ▶ improvements in existing calculation or allocation methodology
- ▶ Potential contributors are identified by the AUGÉ, by the industry or by any other third party
- ▶ We assess ALL existing and potential contributors on the basis that refinements to existing contributors may give more 'bang for buck' than new investigations

There is value in identifying more UIG

1. Potential scale of the contributor

Higher potential UIG level gives rise to a higher ranking in our assessment.

There is value in investigating the unknown

2. Level of our prior knowledge

The scoring mechanism prioritises issues where we have more limited prior knowledge (and so greater potential to improve outcomes by investigating)

3. Quality of data previously available

Combined with scope to improve, this prioritises areas where data was previously poor but now may be better.

There is value in improving less robust methodologies

4. Strength of existing methodology

High confidence in our current methodology suggest our time might be better used elsewhere, ranking the topic down. Areas with low confidence in the methodology, or where no methodology exists will achieve a higher ranking.

There is value in focussing on areas with new insight and data

5. Scope to improve

To what extent can we envisage a credible way to improve the methodology from its current state? Could it be done in a timely, cost-effective manner with the resources and expertise that we have? The greater the scope to improve our approach, the higher the scoring.

(Potential) Contributors Assessed



- ▶ 26 contributors were identified for Initial Assessment
- ▶ During this stage, we have considered existing and potential methodology approaches at a high level
- ▶ In some cases we have analysed a new cut of available data sourced from CDSP to inform our assessment
- ▶ Contributors in **bold** have existing methodologies that impacted last year's output

Contributor ID	Contributor
010	Theft of Gas (total theft)
011	Theft of Gas (roll out)
012	Theft Of Gas (last read)
020	Unregistered
025	Shipperless
040	Consumption Meter Errors - Inherent Bias
041	Consumption Meter Errors - Faulty Meter
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130	Consumption Adjustments (incorrect)
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140	Meters with Bypass Fitted
150	Meterless Sites
160	Isolated Sites
170	Incorrect Meter Technical details on UK Link
180	Unfound Unidentified Gas Contributors
190	Issues with Xoserve system
200	Dead Sites
210	Shrinkage Error

Initial Assessment Results



- ▶ The output from this evaluation informs our early thinking on focus areas for the coming AUG year
- ▶ Highest scoring does not necessarily lead to investigation focus

Contributor ID	Contributor	Score
180	Unfound Unidentified Gas Contributors	44
010	Theft of Gas (total theft)	40
131	Consumption Adjustments (incomplete)	36
150	Meterless Sites	35
130	Consumption Adjustments (incorrect)	33
041	Consumption Meter Errors - Faulty Meter	24
070	Average Pressure Assumption	21
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120	Meter Exchanges	17
060	IGT Shrinkage	16
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110	CV Shrinkage	16

Contributor ID	Contributor	Score
012	Theft Of Gas (last read)	15
42	Consumption Meter Errors - Extremes of Use	15
170	Incorrect Meter Technical details on UK Link	15
140	Meters with Bypass Fitted	14
011	Theft of Gas (roll out)	13
210	Shrinkage Error	13
200	Dead Sites	11
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Proposed Focus Areas

2025-2026 Proposed Focus Areas



For 2025-2026 Gas Year we propose a focus on two contributor methodologies, our consumption forecast approach, and a continued consideration of theft data inputs and allocation outcomes

150 –
Meterless
sites (new)

160 – Isolated
Sites
(refinement)

Consumption
Forecast

Theft

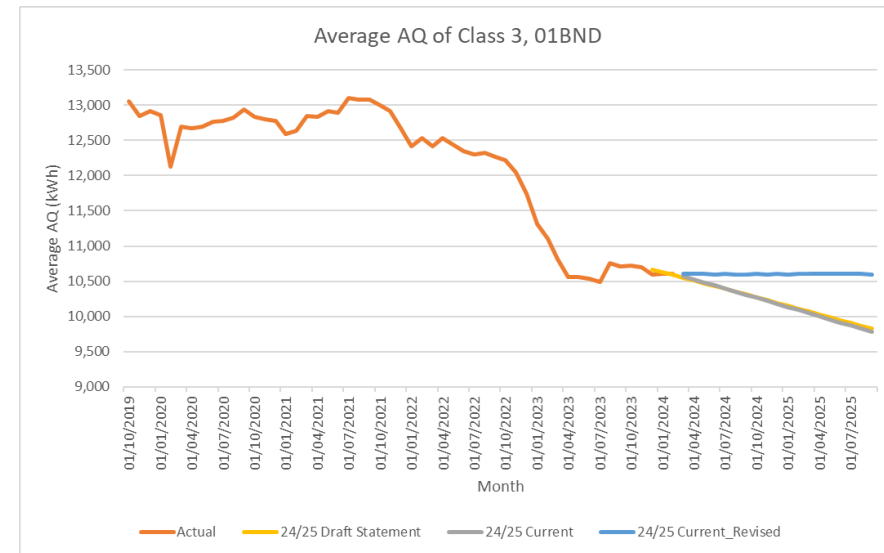
- ▶ We are no longer proposing a review of our overarching methodology principles in consideration of potential transition to new approach/framework
- ▶ Theft is a strong focus area, but we are not testing a specific new hypothesis this year
- ▶ All contributors will be subject to data refresh

Consumption Forecast



Consumption forecast will be a key focus this year

- ▶ A consumption forecast is an integral part of our model and is used in the calculation of the majority of our UIG contributors
- ▶ We will calculate a national forecast for the Target Year based on historical AQ values for each Matrix Position, but with particular focus on reasons why we might deviate from this approach like we did last year for certain matrix positions
- ▶ We will undertake a broader consideration of market factors other data sources and forecasts



- ▶ In anticipation of the potential application of Weighting Factors across more than one Gas Year, we intend to extrapolate the forecast beyond the usual timeframe and discuss options and outcomes with stakeholders

Multi-Year Consumption Forecast Considerations (1)



If we know that Weighting Factors are to apply for more than one year, should we do anything differently in anticipation?

- ▶ Modifications 0868 and 0873 has prompted consideration of whether there is a potential impact on the outputs required from this year's AUG process
- ▶ Latest output from 0868 workgroup suggests the next set of AUG factors may be valid for the next four Gas Years up to 2028-2029
- ▶ Options:
 - ▶ Do nothing – create the factors for the next Gas Year as normal (25-26)
 - ▶ Take a mid-point as the next Gas Year (either just 26-27 or second half of 25-26 & first half of 27-28)
 - ▶ Propose with a forecast for each future Gas Year and average it
 - ▶ Calculate Weighting Factors for each Gas Year separately and average those

Multi Year Consumption Forecast Considerations (2)



We have started to document questions and considerations

- ▶ When looking at a multi year forecast does the current process of forecasting based on history actually work?
- ▶ Many elements (such as profile factors) just get rolled forward
- ▶ Analysis of past forecasts and actuals show some divergence which when rolled out over multiple years is exacerbated, in the absence of the yearly 're-anchoring'
- ▶ There could be issues around forecasts going unrealistically high and low (cap and floor approach needed)
- ▶ Significant uncertainty around future of use of gas in Britain as we move through the energy transition
- ▶ Are we looking to base the next four years on only four years of immediate history – which includes Covid pandemic and energy crisis (i.e. unusual consumption patterns)
- ▶ Consideration of all the inputs into the individual contributor UIG calculations outside of the broader consumption forecast

Meterless Sites



Meterless Sites are a potential source of UIG not currently reflected in our model

- ▶ A Meterless Site is a Supply Meter Point that has a Shipper registered to it, does not have a meter held on UK Link. The subset of interest are when there has been an indication of metering activity taking place.
- ▶ 14,371 sites on the existing report, with a corresponding AQ of 242GWh
- ▶ Of these, 5,796 with meter removal or min confirmation start date before Apr 22, with a corresponding AQ of 93GWh (see table)

CDSP data: Meterless Sites by Matrix Position

		CLASS			
		1	2	3	4
EUC BAND	1BND	-	-	17	5,517
	1BPD	-	-	-	28
	1BNI	-	-	-	174
	1BPI	-	-	-	-
	2BND	-	-	1	17
	2BPD	-	-	-	-
	2BNI	-	-	-	31
	2BPI	-	-	-	-
	3B	-	-	-	5
	4B	-	-	-	5
	5B	-	-	-	-
	6B	-	-	-	1
	7B	-	-	-	-
	8B	-	-	-	-
	9B	-	-	-	-
		Total			



Any Supply Meter Point with a status set to “isolated” in the UK Link central industry database is excluded from allocation as part of standard settlement processes

Recap:

- ▶ Hypothesis: Some sites which are recorded as Isolated are in fact consuming gas
- ▶ Any such consumption will potentially create positive UIG, because allocation does not take place for Isolated sites
- ▶ Taking a recent snapshot of Isolated Sites alongside their rejected reads records, we analyse sites with a status update before April 2022
- ▶ The Statement for Gas Year 2024-2025 quantified the UIG for this contributor as 21 GWh

Proposal for investigation:

- ▶ Consider the *trend in Isolated Sites portfolios* to inform UIG position at the Line in the Sand *rather than using a proxy dataset*

Next Steps



Prioritised Data Request



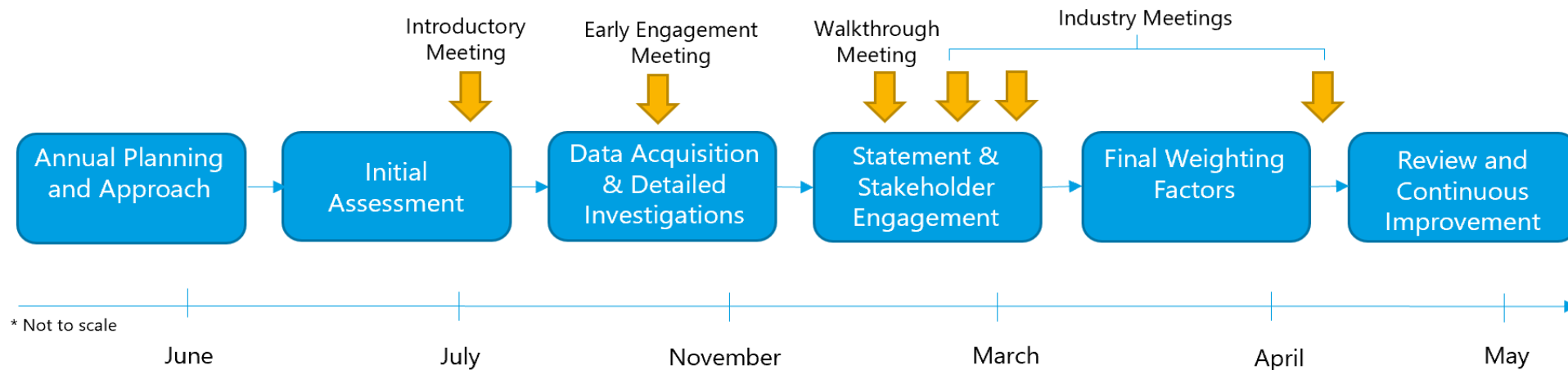
Contributor	Dataset
Theft	Shipper Theft Data
Theft	TRAS Outcome File Data
Theft	Current AMR Snapshot
Theft	Historical AMR Report
Theft	Telemetered Sites Report
Theft	Smart Meter Data
Theft	Retail Theft Data
Theft	Embedded AMR
Theft	Accepted Reads
Theft	Rejected Reads
Theft	Read Frequency
Unregistered and Shipperless	Snapshot Files (including MPR details)
Shipperless	Gas Safety Regulations visit data
Shipperless	Connection Details for Shipperless Sites
Shipperless	Shipperless AQ report
Unregistered	Connection Details for Orphaned Sites
Unregistered	Unregistered AQ report
Consumption Meter Errors - Inherent Bias	Meter Type and Age report
Consumption Meter Errors - Inherent Bias	Annual in-service Testing
Consumption Meter Errors - Faulty Meter	Faulty Meter Portfolio
Meter Errors at LDZ input	Measurement Error Register
IGT Shrinkage	Main Length
IGT Shrinkage	Leakage Rates
IGT Shrinkage	IGT Sites
Average Pressure Assumption	Sites with Volume Conversion Equipment Fitted
Average Temperature Assumption	Meter Location
No read at the line in the sand	Sites with No Reads after April 2020
No read at the line in the sand	AQ Corrections
No read at the line in the sand	Read Rejections
No read at the line in the sand	Reconciliation
No read at the line in the sand	Additional Reconciliation Information
Incorrect Correction Factors	Site Details
General Industry Information	AQ Change Report
General Industry Information	Throughput
General Industry Information	Daily Allocation Factor
General Industry Information	Offline Adjustments
Meters with a By-Pass Fitted	Meter By-Pass Portfolio
Isolated Sites	Isolated Sites Portfolio
Isolated Sites	Accepted Reads
Isolated Sites	Rejected Reads
Isolated Sites	Connection Details for Isolated Sites
Dead Sites	Dead Sites Portfolio
Dead Sites	Rejected Reads

- The Prioritised Data Request will be submitted to Correlia imminently
- 44 datasets in total including a handful for parties other than CDSP
- Correlia will deliver in priority order over the coming weeks
- Requests to other industry parties (e.g. DESNZ, RECCo) will be sent when appropriate

Next Steps



- Initial analysis from our investigations will be shared with the industry at the Early Engagement meeting on the 20th September 2024
- Engagement with stakeholders will continue throughout. We can be contacted at auge@engage-consulting.co.uk



Appendix: Advisory Service



Advisory Service - Scope



- ▶ Our Advisory Service is designed to provide stakeholders, including relevant industry groups, with expert advice from the AUGÉ
- ▶ We can use this service to provide additional analysis of other areas which do not fall under the Core Service or the Innovation Service
- ▶ Maximum 18 days per year June to May per contract

Ongoing Advisory Services (Update)



We continue periodic input to PAC

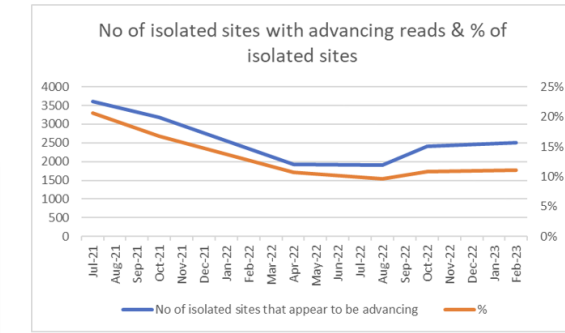
- ▶ Last AUGE year, we continued our regular formal insights exchange to the Performance Assurance Committee.
- ▶ We are attending the PAC meetings twice a year as a regular touchpoint, bringing each time an updated view of potential performance assurance issues identified through our work as AUGE.
- ▶ **Estimate 3 days' effort per year**

AUG PAC Issues Log (4)

AUGE Issue	PAC Risk	AUGE Investigation	Topic	Description	Impact (GWh) 2022-23	Impact (GWh) 2023-24	Other Metrics 22-23	Other Metrics 23-24
AUGE16	Site Classification	Prepayment Sites	Prepayment Sites	The number of prepayment meters recorded on UK Link is lower than the number in operation	Not Calculated	Not Calculated		
AUGE17	Site Classification	Number of Commercial sites	Number of Commercial sites	There are a number of non-domestic sites registered as domestic in EUC bands 1 and 2	Not Calculated	Not Calculated		
AUGE18	Site Classification	Number of sites with AMR fitted	Number of sites with AMR fitted	The number of sites with AMR recorded on UK link is lower than the number fitted	Not Calculated	Not Calculated		
AUGE19	Dead Sites	Advancing Dead Sites	Advancing Dead Sites	Dead sites have meter reads which show that the site is consuming therefore creating UIG	Not Calculated	19		1.4k MPRNs from pop. 6.6k MPRNs

AUGE 11: Isolated Sites

Isolated sites were being addressed but focus appears to have diminished



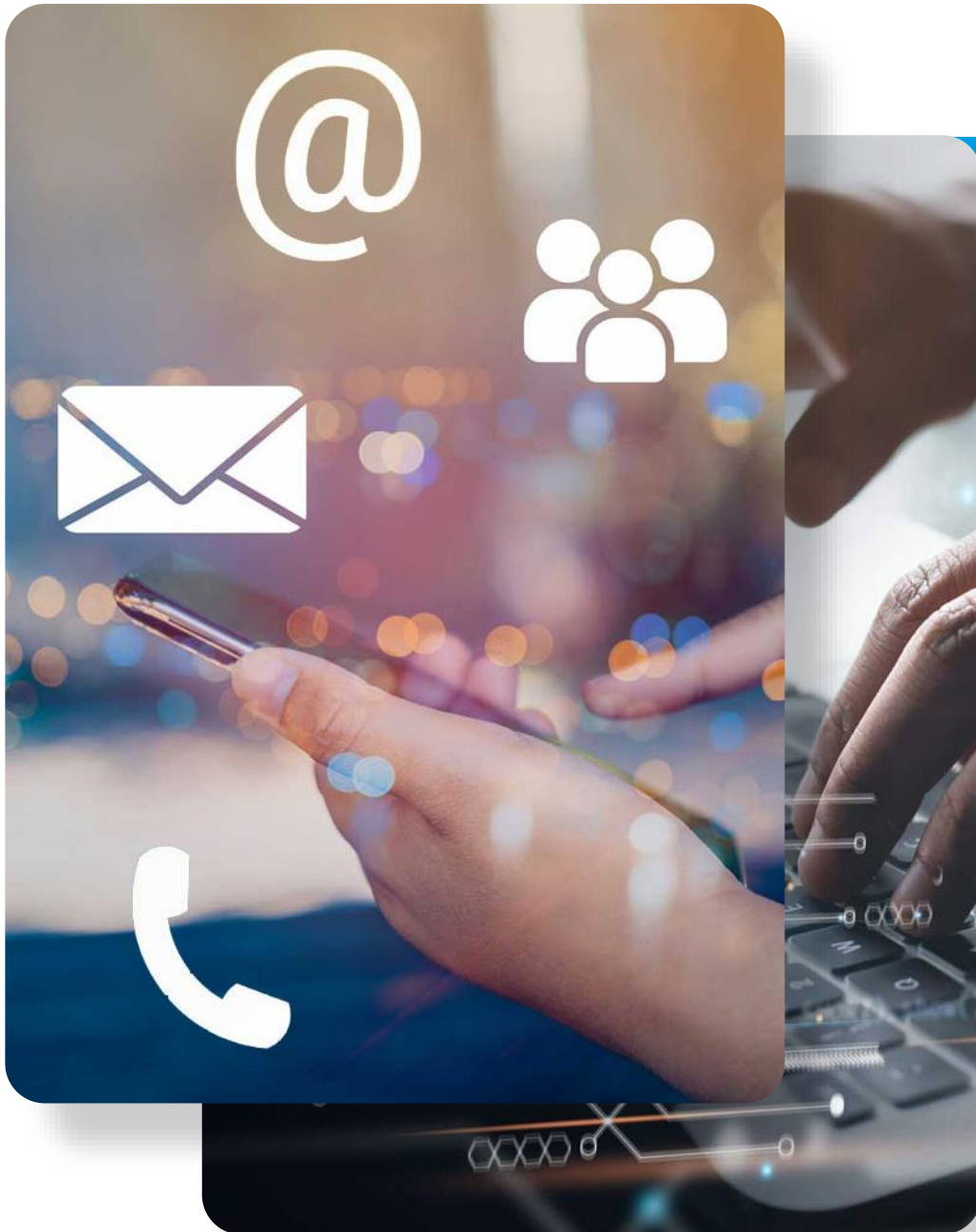
AUGE 16: Prepayment Numbers

Large numbers of (smart?) gas prepayment meters are not identified in CDSP data

Data from CDSP (May 2023)	Industry estimates* (Dec 2022)
▶ Class 3: 0.62m	▶ Smart: 1.31m
▶ Class 4: 1.63m	▶ Non-Smart: 1.81m
▶ Total: 1.69m	▶ Total: 3.13m

*Engage consolidation of various sources/validation: DESNZ, USwitch, DCC





Thank You

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