

**MARKET TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME ADVISORY
COMMITTEE (MTAC)**

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 8 February 2000

Present	Papers
Bob Ryder, DETR – Chair Deborah Brown, Ernst & Young David Payne, DTI David Simpson, SSE Tim Curtis, EST Paul White, ETSU Andrew Gilchrist, ETSU Paul Davidson, BRE Pernille Schiellerup, ECI Terence Ilott, DETR Lindsay Coombs, DETR Chris Baker, DETR Owen Emery, DETR – Secretary	ETSU Annual Report and Plan for 2000-2001

Membership matters

1. Apologies had been received from Brian Atkin, Frans Berkhout and Teresa Smallbone.

Minutes of MTAC(99)3

2. These were approved.

MTP Rationale, Aims and Objectives - Chris Baker

3. To set the scene for discussion of the Annual Plan, a brief review of the rationale, aims and objectives of the Market Transformation Programme (MTP) was presented (a copy of the presentation has been circulated by e-mail). The overall approach was becoming well established, with an increasing capability to influence and develop policy. It was important now to achieve a balance between maintaining the core functions, raising the Programme's profile, addressing and influencing wider policy issues, and delivering practical policy measures and initiatives. In particular, whilst the focus of the MTP remained on energy consumption, it was now beginning to address broader environmental issues such as water consumption and the ecolabelling agenda.

Annual Report and Plan for 2000-01 – Paul White

4. Paul White reviewed progress under the MTP in 1999-2000 and the proposed priorities and options and budget for 2000-2001, having regard to the broader, environmental (eg ecolabelling) agenda which the MTP now encompassed. MTP was constrained by the resources which were currently expected to be available. ETSU had therefore worked up a fully budgeted programme, together with a prioritised reserve list of additional items in the event of extra resources becoming available for the MTP during the year. The Committee was invited to comment on the proposals.
5. The Committee generally agreed the overall approach, balance and content. In particular, the Committee agreed that a priority should be to raise the MTP's profile and influence in wider policy areas (eg. input to Standards of Performance, ECA etc) and to continue its integration with the Energy Efficiency Partnership. It was important for the MTP to demonstrate the effects and value of all the activities and projects which it funded, and wherever possible quantified targets should be attached. There should also be a growing emphasis on work which would enable issues and information to be communicated more effectively to the public.
6. On budget priorities, there was provisional agreement to the proposals. It was accepted that the budget was severely stretched to cover all of the key areas, and that changing priorities could mean some items could have to be promoted or demoted during the course of the year.
7. The Committee questioned the need for the interactive policy model, given other priorities, and suggested that a clearer business case should be made. Chris Baker explained that, although presented as a discrete item, this was not a new or separate "model" but an inherent part of the core MTP information handling toolkit. It would provide a capability to test quickly the sensitivity of the outcome to numerical changes in simple assumptions - eg. implementation dates or minimum standards levels - and generally to enable practical "what-if" exploration of policy options. This development would also be needed to achieve the aim of making the information on the Web site more open to scrutiny and test, interactive and usable by other policy developers.
8. **ACTIONS: (1) Committee Members to e-mail Paul White by Tuesday 22 February with their comments on the Annual Plan document, focussing on the content, balance and priorities for the Programme in 2000-2001; (2) Paul White to produce a revised Plan for 2000-2001 with a view to adoption by MTAC at the next meeting.**

Date of next meeting

9. The next meeting would be arranged for June/early July. **ACTION: DETR to canvass suitable dates with Committee members.**