

**MARKET TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME
ADVISORY GROUP (MTAG)
3rd MEETING**

**Wednesday 21 May 2003, Room 7abc
Ashdown House, 123 Victoria Street London.**

AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Agenda - Chair
2. Approval of minutes - Chair
3. Report on MTP progress
4. Demonstration of new MTP website
5. Policy Developments and MTP Aims for 2003/04
6. MTP Priorities for 2003/04 including discussion of Programme Development Agenda
7. Demonstration of What-If tool
8. Any Other business

Circulation: as below

Attendance:

Bob Ryder Defra/EBC (Chair)	Teresa Smallbone Independent
Deborah Brown, Independent	Peter Mallaburn, CT
Kelly Butler, EST	Samantha Kennedy, EST
Arnold Pindar, BSI	David Payne, DTI
Steve Andrews, DTI	Lindsay Coombs Defra/EBC5
Ian Kerrigan SEP	Chris Baker, Defra/EBC 6
Iris Rooney, Defra/SEP	Bernie Walsh Defra/EBC2
Paul White, AEAT	Jeremy Tait, AEAT
Chris Bryant, DTI	Martyn Webb, Defra/EBC6
John Lanchbury, RSPB	Christof Marx – AEAT
Ian Dixon DTI	

Apologies:

Rob Mynard, Defra WRc	Emma Chetwynd, OFGEM
Ted King, ODPM	Brenda Boardman, ECI
Maggie Gibbons-Loveday, TSI	

Proceedings

Bob Ryder welcomed those present to this meeting.

1. Adoption of the agenda

1.1 The agenda was adopted with one minor change which moved the demonstration of the What-if tool to the final item.

2. Minutes & actions from MTAG meeting of 19 June 2002

2.1 The minutes were approved as circulated.

3. Report on MTP Progress in 2002-2003

3.1 The Lead Contractors (AEAT) presented the MTP Annual Report for 2002-2003. This highlighted the substantial amount of work the MTP has completed, the success in expanding its capability and policy influence and, as a result, the ever-growing demands on the programme. AEAT emphasised that without significant collaborative effort in future and/or additional resources the Programme, far from being able to expand, would have to reduce its scope and the level of policy support that has been provided to MTAG policy 'customers' to date.

3.2 MTAG members expressed their appreciation of the work done by MTP. Arnold Pindar mentioned that the BSI has been working closely with the MTP this year in order to help identify where BSI should be concentrating its future efforts for developing standards and that he felt that this area of co-operation was extremely helpful.

3.3 David Payne explained the ECA work that MTP had carried out in developing specifications for the commercial refrigeration sector had started to result in large companies such as Sainsbury and Marks & Spencer specifying products of this standard and that the standards developed were also finding their way into the EU market place as well where the UK was increasingly being seen as the market leader.

3.4 Chris Baker emphasised the importance of MTP's role in signalling policy risks - areas where timely action would be needed in order to avoid future problems. One particularly good example was in respect of digital TV where the MTP had been able to influence the whole supply chain to develop more energy efficient set top boxes. Ian Dixon agreed that the MTP's signalling role had been helpful and enabled other government departments responsible for UK digital TV switchover to take account of this issue.

3.5 MTAG agreed that one of the most valuable aspects of MTP was its ability to demonstrate clearly what was happening in any particular sector and what the potential effects of any given action/policy could be.

3.6 Bob Ryder explained that the MTP fitted particularly well into the wider product policy and Sustainable Production and Consumption agenda and that it would be important for the UK to stay at the cutting edge, but that resource constraints were now putting this in jeopardy.

4. MTP Website

4.1 AEAT gave a quick demonstration of the re-furbished MTP website (www.mtprog.com). They explained that significant resources had been put into this area

in the past year because the old site had become increasingly difficult to manage and keep up to date and thus presented a risk to the continued credibility of the programme.

4.2 Jeremy Tait explained that the website was intended to be a complete representation of the MTP and provides access to all of the consultation documents, datasets, models and other available information.

4.3 MTAG appreciated the work done in this area and in general recognised the importance of keeping this site up to date and user-friendly.

5. Policy Developments, MTP Priorities for 2003/04 and Programme Development Agenda

5.1 Jeremy Tait reported that for 2003-04, the core funding available from EBC at present was dramatically reduced from historical levels. In response, he had identified 3 priorities as a guide to planning the year's work – to support the products policy agenda in the Energy White paper, to support EBC's work in respect of EU Regulations and to broaden the MTP's resource base.

5.2 He explained that while resource constraints would undoubtedly significantly reduce MTP's capability this year we would continue to seek to bring in additional resources for core activities and through collaborative projects in priority areas.

5.3 Within the key aims the following areas would need particular attention - the development of product standards, performance targets and maintenance of the MTP knowledge base.

5.4 David Payne asked what role MTP would play in respect of the latest revision of the Building Regulations and the EU Buildings Directive. Chris Baker explained that MTP had the analytical information that could help with policy delivery in this area but that we would need additional resources to provide any specific assistance. Jeremy Tait reported that the team had already had positive discussions with ODPM in this respect.

5.5 Peter Mallaburn asked how our work in respect of product standards etc influenced EU policy measures. Chris Baker explained that influencing EU policy was one of the more important aspects of the integrated policy delivery approach supported by MTP. The MTP had made a positive contribution both to the underlying thinking at EU and international levels, including via the MTPIF initiative and in its involvement with IEA projects, and by virtue of the policy to publish everything on its website. MTP had also informed the detailed negotiations on such things as regulatory measures and voluntary agreements. We used MTP as the preferred channel of communication and consultation on formal EU product policy measures and for the development of the Government's position on specific policy measures and issues (e.g. energy labelling). MTP had helped provide a mechanism for linking EU policy on product standards with related UK policy measures including EER and ECA. In some cases EU policy was in the lead, in others we had adopted standards into UK policy first.

5.6 Kelly Butler said that he saw the MTP as a key facility for the Trust's Energy Efficiency Recommended scheme and was concerned that if MTP work was cut back in

certain areas it could significantly impact on their ability to deliver EER where there was a heavy reliance of the MTP knowledge base information for setting EER levels.

5.7 Bob Ryder confirmed that support for EU activity would remain a key element of the MTP's work. In particular MTP work would allow the UK to be a key player in the EUP directive and help the UK with the wider IPP agenda.

5.8 Jeremy Tait and Paul White re-iterated that it would not be possible for MTP to continue deliver in all our existing areas without more expertise and funds and that greater efforts would be necessary to improve collaboration. The MTP had had to cut back in many areas – particularly marketing and communications support for water efficiency and the Programme Development agenda. However if additional resources did become available we had a number of projects ready to roll that had been placed on reserve lists.

5.9 A number of MTAG members suggested areas where MTP should be approaching others e.g. DTI in respect of smart metering and the EU.

5.10 Kelly Butler said that he had no problem with a collaborative approach but that this would not be possible this year because of the budgeting process. However he also pointed out that we all needed to be a bit smarter in our planning if we were to get the best for joint working.

5.11 The former Energy Efficiency Best Practice Programme (EEBPP) had been split into a number of elements including 3 programme elements (transport which was now with DfT), Action Energy (with CT) and Housing EEBPP (with EST). In addition there remained some non-programme elements including Defra energy efficiency policy support and research work. Iris Rooney suggested that MTP could consider the possibility of seeking support from that latter element, but only as part of the wider EWP follow-up process. She stressed that this would not affect any of the programmes run by the Trusts or DfT.

5.12 AEAT proposed a planning schedule for seeking co-operative funding for MTP.

ACTION: MTAG to consider where collaboration would be possible to ensure overlaps are removed.

ACTION: Lead Contractor to implement its proposed resource-planning schedule and to call a meeting in early September to consider proposals for co-operative funding for next financial year.

ACTION: EBC to put together a bid for resources from the EEBPP in respect of the Products Policy Agenda for the EWP.

6. Demonstration of What-If tool

6.1 Christof Marx gave a brief demonstration of the What-if tool. He explained that the Tool allowed access and manipulation of the complete MTP stock model and demonstrated the functionality of the Tool itself.

6.2 Many MTAG members expressed their approval of this tool and could see how it could be used in their areas of work or provide significant benefits if other adopted a similar approach.

6.3 Chris Bryant asked to what extent the information in the tool was being used by others. Chris Baker explained that, whilst the underlying information had been used and made available in a variety of forms, the new tool had only recently been developed to the stage where it could be issued to third parties without a 'driver'. The intention was to make this available via the website in due course. The current version was already available via the restricted area of the site and MTAG members were welcome to download this. We would be introducing subscription access at some point, to ensure control over the use of MTP information – mainly to ensure the information was up-to-date and to monitor who was actively using this.

6.4 MTAG members felt that more should be made of the tool and that efforts should be made to demonstrate it to more stakeholders.

ACTION: MTP Team to arrange demonstrations of What-If tool when opportunities arise.

7. Date of next meeting

7.1 17 July 2003 subject to a review in June.

ACTION: EBC to consider date for next meeting.

Environment, Business and Consumers Division
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
16 July 2003