



Your Gas Network



GDN Collaborative Vulnerability & Carbon Monoxide Allowance (VCMA)

Project Eligibility Assessment (PEA)

NSPCC Collaborative GDN Project

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Cadent Gas Limited

March 2023

Updated Dec 2024

Gas Network Vulnerability & Carbon Monoxide Allowance (VCMA) Governance Document - Project Eligibility Criteria

Section 1 - Eligibility criteria for company specific projects (other than condemned essential gas appliance repair and replacement) In order to qualify as a VCMA project, a project must:	
VCMA Eligibility Criteria	Criteria Satisfied (Yes/No)
a) Have a positive, or forecasted positive Social Return on Investment (SROI), including for the gas consumers funding the VCMA project;	Yes
b) Either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Provide support to consumers in vulnerable situations, and relate to energy safeguarding, or ii. Provide awareness on the dangers of CO, or iii. Reduce the risk of harm caused by CO; 	Yes
c) Have defined outcomes and the associated actions to achieve these;	Yes
d) Go beyond activities that are funded through other price control mechanism(s) or required through licence obligations; and	Yes
e) Not be delivered through other external funding sources directly accessed by a GDN, including through other government (national, devolved or local) funding.	Yes
Section 2 - Eligibility criteria for company specific essential gas appliance servicing, repair and replacement projects In order to qualify as a VCMA project, unsafe pipework and essential gas appliance servicing, repair or replacement must meet the following criteria:	
a) A GDN has to isolate and condemn unsafe pipework or an essential gas appliance following a supply interruption or as part of its emergency service role;	N/A
b) The household cannot afford to service, repair or replace the unsafe pipework or essential gas appliance; and;	N/A
c) Sufficient funding is not available from other sources (including national, devolved or local government funding) to fund the unsafe pipework or essential gas appliance servicing, repair or replacement.	N/A
Section 3 - Eligibility criteria for collaborative VCMA projects In order to qualify as a collaborative VCMA project, a project must:	
a) Meet the above company specific and boiler repair and replace (if applicable) project eligibility criteria;	N/A
b) Have the potential to benefit consumers on the participating networks; and	Yes
c) Involve two, or more, gas distribution companies.	Yes

Gas Network Vulnerability and Carbon Monoxide Allowance (VCMA) Governance Document - Project Registration Table 2

Information Required	Description
Project Title	NSPCC Collaborative GDN Project
New/Updated	Updated December 2024
Funding GDN(s)	Cadent Gas Limited, Northern Gas Networks, SGN and Wales and West Utilities
Role of GDN(s) *For Collaborative VCMA Projects only	<p>All Gas Distribution Networks (GDN's) will provide the NSPCC with funding (as outlined below) to enable them to deliver three sub-sections of the project and employ a 3rd party to conduct an independent SROI investigation:</p> <p><u>Project Sub-sections</u></p> <p>A. Carbon Monoxide Safeguarding and Fuel Poverty Support; B. Training to Identify and Report Vulnerable Children and Families; C. Developing Safeguarding Standards for Gas Distribution Networks</p> <p>With regards to project subsection A, the GDNs will provide all of the necessary resources and training to enable NSPCC staff and partners to effectively issue clients with carbon monoxide awareness and signpost to fuel poverty advice.</p> <p>The NSPCC will provide the GDN's with the "It's Your Call" e-learning package, allowing networks to educate all employees and contract partners on the signs and actions to take when encountering suspected child safeguarding concerns.</p> <p>Finally, each GDN will work with NSPCC to implement the training and safeguarding standards elements of the project into their organisations. This will set an industry standard for how energy networks manage occurrences of suspected child mistreatment identified through their BAU and wider activities.</p>
Date of PEA Submission	March 2023 Updated December 2024
VCMA Project Contact Name, email and Number	VCMA Project Contact Name: Phil Burrows (Cadent Gas Limited) Email: phil.m.burrows@cadentgas.com Number: 07773 545451
Total Cost (£k)	<p>Total Costs: £595,719.00 (incl.vat)</p> <p>The project is split relative to the number of end users of each of the GDNs networks. The resulting costs to each network are as follows:</p> <p>Project Sub-section A: £81,000.00 (plus VAT)</p> <p>Project Sub-section B: £95,839 (plus VAT)</p> <p>Project Sub-section C:</p> <p>Year one: £55,650.00 (plus VAT)</p> <p>Year two: £34,650.00 (plus VAT) £20,000.00 (VAT exempt)</p> <p>Independent SROI Analysis: £22,090.00 (plus VAT)</p> <p>NSPCC project management and evaluation: £53,760.00 (plus VAT)</p> <p>CO alarm and logistics costs: £147,750.00 (based on a forecast of distributing 6,000 alarms)</p> <p>Carbon monoxide education training materials: £5,000 (plus VAT)</p>

	<p>Cadent: £296,670.23 NGN: £74,888.63 SGN: £151,502.01 WWU: £72,658.12</p> <p>Updated Dec 2024</p> <p>Total Costs: £505,964.91(exc. VAT)</p>
Total VCMA Funding Required (£k)	<p>Total Costs: £595,719.00 (incl.vat)</p> <p>The project is split relative to the number of end users of each of the GDNs networks, and volume of staff and subcontractors to be trained through the "It's Your Call" e-learning. The resulting costs to each network are as follows:</p> <p>Cadent: £296,670.23 NGN: £74,888.63 SGN: £151,502.01 WWU: £72,658.12</p> <p>Updated Dec 2024</p> <p>Total Costs: £505,964.91 (exc. VAT)</p> <p>Cadent – £273,468.58 NSPCC direct cost – £205,375.83, Alarms – £27,720, Fulfillment – £31,372.75, Certificates and Keyrings – £9,000</p> <p>NGN – £57,546.43 NSPCC direct cost – £47,993.18, Alarms – £3,339.00, Fulfillment – £6,214.25</p> <p>SGN - £115,396.34 NSPCC direct cost – £88,496.34, Alarms – £10,150.00, Fulfillment – £16,750</p> <p>WWU – £59,553.56 NSPCC direct cost – £45,749, Alarms – £6,066.06, Fulfillment – £7,738.50</p>

Problem(s)	<p><u>The Impacts of Fuel Poverty on Children</u></p> <p>Sadly 1 in 10 children in the UK have been neglected. Neglect is the most common type of abuse experienced by children and is present in the majority of serious case reviews. Parental stressors such as financial worries are a recognised risk factor for child maltreatment.</p> <p>Additionally, the effects of fuel poverty have been exacerbated by the Cost of Living and Fuel crisis(s), with families experiencing increased financial hardship due to rises in household essentials such as mortgages, groceries, energy, and fuel.</p> <p>Despite government intervention to introduce the £2,500 October 2022 price cap, the latest fuel poverty statistics reported an increase in fuel poverty, up 0.3% to 13.4% from the previous level of 13.1%.</p> <p>The ¹End Fuel Poverty Coalition reports that an estimated 7 million households fell into fuel poverty in October 2022, with the number expected to rise to 10.7 million in Spring 2023 when the current package of support runs out.</p> <p>Fuel poverty can have several adverse effects on children and their families:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long term exposure to a cold home can affect weight gain in babies and young children. • Children in cold homes are more than twice as likely to suffer from breathing problems. • Struggling with high fuel bills can have an impact on the mental health of family members. • Fuel poverty can lead to “heat or eat” scenarios where families must make the difficult choice of choosing between essentials such as food or heating. <p>This project aims to support UK families experiencing, or at risk of experiencing fuel poverty through the advice offered through the NSPCC's GCP2 (and Welsh equivalent) programmes. Families will be supported by GCP2 partners to access expert information on energy efficiency and income maximisation.</p> <p><u>The Threat of Harm Caused by Carbon Monoxide</u></p> <p>Carbon monoxide poisonings are still prevalent with over ²30.3 deaths and ³4000 A&E visits a year. Financial difficulties due to the aftermath of the pandemic, Cost of Living and Fuel crisis(s) can also mean that families can no longer afford to get appliances serviced and repaired. This is shown by demand for installing, servicing, and repairing boilers shrinking by 34 per cent during the year of the pandemic. This, coupled with many families not having the financial means to purchase a Carbon monoxide alarm greatly increases the risk of exposure to the dangers of CO.</p> <p>Additionally, ⁴NEA (2017) research indicates that the factors which expose households to the risk of fuel poverty (such as low-income, poor-quality housing and poor health impact heating and service behaviour) result in an increased risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.</p> <p>This project aims to support households at an increased risk of exposure to the dangers of carbon monoxide, through raising awareness of the signs, symptoms, and dangers of families supported by the GCP2 (and Welsh equivalent) programme. The families will be issued with carbon monoxide safety advice and will be able to access free audible alarms.</p>
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¹ <https://www.endfuelpoverty.org.uk/about-fuel-poverty/>

² <http://www.co-gassafety.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Statistics-sheet-presspack-Jan-2019-18.01.19.pdf>

³ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/260211/Carbon_Monoxide_Letter_2013_FinalforPub.pdf

	<p><u>Child Neglect and the Awareness of Support Services within the Gas Distribution Network Industry</u></p> <p>Many parental stressors such as the financial worries mentioned above are also a risk factor for child maltreatment and can lead to uncertainty of child safety. Living in poverty can have negative long and short-term impacts on children. It is associated with an increased likelihood of children experiencing emotional and mental health problems and is a significant factor on children's educational outcomes.</p> <p>Picking up the pieces of late intervention and the resulting social problems affecting young people costs the UK Government nearly £17 billion a year.</p> <p>Right now, vulnerable children and their families are living in unsafe homes across the UK, yet many adults are unsure where to go for advice when worried about a child's safety.</p> <p>Every month, gas engineers across the UK are presented with situations where children may be at risk of harm, but they lack the knowledge and confidence of how to report their concerns.</p> <p>Whilst there are measures in place to support vulnerable adults, there is less knowledge shared across the industry to help those out in the field or in customer's homes know how to spot the signs of child neglect, or where to go for help.</p> <p>The NSPCC Helpline responded to almost 85,000 reports of concerns for a child's welfare from members of the public last year. At its peak, the number of contacts increased by 48% compared with pre-lockdown levels. The Helpline provides adults with advice, guidance and support, and can act on their behalf if they have concerns about a child who is either being abused or is at risk of abuse.</p> <p>However, awareness of the NSPCC Helpline in the gas industry is low. It's vital that every employee, wherever they are in the UK, can contact the service to share their concerns and pass over the burden of responsibility. Collective action is required to make sure every child and family has a safe place they call home, and through this collaborative project, we can work together to keep children safe from harm.</p> <p>This project aims to raise awareness of the NSPCC helpline and share techniques on how to spot potential child mistreatment through delivering "It's Your Call" training to GDN staff and contractors.</p>
<p>Scope and Objectives</p>	<p>The project will look to collaborate with the NSPCC to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and their families that are reached via this project. This will be done through 3 sub-projects.</p> <p>The first will tackle carbon monoxide risks and provide fuel poverty support. This will be done through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing information about carbon monoxide risks and fuel poverty support through the wide reach of the NSPCC's GCP2 programme and its integration into various services and tools. The NSPCC will also share this information via a separate Wales delivery partner. This will provide benefit to the customers reached via this sub-project through increasing awareness on the CO dangers, signs, symptoms, and preventative measures. • Providing access to free carbon monoxide detectors for families identified through the NSPCC GCP2 programme and the Wales deliver partner. This will provide additional protection to at risk families supported through the project that are unable to purchase an alarm through their own means. <p>The second will provide 18,635 GDN staff with access to training to increase their awareness on spotting the signs of child neglect/abuse. This will be done through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educating all engineers, sub-contractors and contact centre employees via NSPCC e- learning to recognise and report signs of possible abuse and neglect. This will give GDN staff the confidence to report instances of concern and will ultimately provide greater support to children and families across all networks

⁴ <https://www.nea.org.uk/publications/understanding-carbon-monoxide-rise-in-households-vulnerable-to-fuel-poverty/>

	<p>The third sub-project will involve implementing child safeguarding standards across the GDNs. This will be done through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with each GDN to develop safeguarding standards and provide bespoke training for staff in the designated safeguarding roles. This will ultimately provide benefit to customers through ensuring GDNs are equipped to manage instances of child neglect and/or abuse that they come across in their wider roles throughout GD2.
Why the Project is Being Funded Through the VCMA	<p>The GDNs believe that this project meets all of the required VCMA eligibility criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Through employing Social Value Business as an independent evaluator, the GDNs believe that this project has the deliverables necessary to generate a positive SROI. More information can be found in the "<i>Scale of VCMA Project and SROI Calculations</i>" section of this document. The project will provide consumers with awareness of the dangers of carbon monoxide and reduce the risk of harm by making free carbon monoxide alarms available. An increased awareness of sources of fuel poverty support will help safeguard households at risk of experiencing fuel poverty. The project has defined outcomes and the associated actions to achieve them. Please see the relevant section for more information. The project goes beyond the activities funded through other price control mechanisms or required by license obligations. The unique way that the project is being delivered through the charity NSPCC and its various tools allows for carbon monoxide and fuel poverty advice to be integrated with child maltreatment and family safeguarding. This project will be delivered solely with VCMA funding. This project will provide benefits to customers living on all the participating GDNs networks.
Evidence of Stakeholder/ Customer Support	<p>The GDNs and NSPCC have sought the feedback of well-placed stakeholders that represent the interests of customers across all networks.</p> <p>Matthew Copeland, National Energy Action Head of Policy, and Public Affairs highlighted some key areas that the GDN's needed to consider prior to launching the project. This included "developing the NSPCC's capabilities on fuel poverty" and a "need to engage experts to ensure that the project worked as well as it could". However, Matthew commented that "<i>Overall it looks like a great project and NSPCC seems well placed to deliver it.</i>"</p> <p>A survey to 70 local authorities (involved in the delivery of GCP2 programme) revealed that the majority would find access to information and resources about carbon monoxide awareness and fuel poverty support to be very beneficial for the families they work with. There was resounding support for the NSPCC/GDN VCMA project.</p> <p><i>"It is crucial that all of us in society recognise we have a role to play in looking out for those young people for whom home may not always be the safest place. Through the GDNs, we have a unique opportunity to empower thousands of engineers with the knowledge and confidence to speak up when they have concerns about children."</i> - Peter Wanless, Chief Executive at NSPCC</p> <p><i>"The project has the potential to achieve a wealth of positive outcomes and impacts for children, families and communities that can lead to the development of wide reaching, sustainable and tangible social value and a true value legacy."</i> - Richard Dickins, Managing Director at Social Value Business</p> <p>NSPCC and the GDNs also sought feedback from past "It's Your Call" training participants, particularly those from utilities and customer facing industries.</p> <p>Positive feedback from an Electricity Northwest engineer after undertaking It's Your Call e-learning:</p> <p><i>"I've just done this training and must admit; it does make you think. Especially when I look</i></p>

	<p><i>back at all the houses that I've visited in previous past roles – many in a much worse state than the example given in the video. Something like this is never a waste of time".</i></p> <p>A Telecoms organisation engineer team leader commented: <i>"The feedback we have had from our team has been extremely positive. We have had people comment that they have worked in houses for 10+ years and thought they would spot the signs immediately, however having watched IYC their perspectives have completely changed, and they now feel much more educated and confident in how to spot signs and what to do thereafter".</i></p>
Outcomes, Associated Actions and Success Criteria	<p>This project is ambitious in its reach and types of support it looks to offer to both NSPCC clients and GDN customers. As such, the project is split into 3 sub-projects that have their own outcomes, associated actions and success criteria.</p> <p>Further detail is listed below, but in summary, the project aims to achieve the following outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NSPCC will receive more calls to the helpline from the sector and be able to keep more children safe. • GDN engineers feel more confident in spotting signs of abuse and acting. • Networks and individuals working for, and with GDNs, have a greater understanding of their role in society to keep children and families safe. • The GDNs set the standards for safeguarding across the energy sector. • More practitioners and families understand the dangers of carbon monoxide and know where to turn to help for fuel poverty. <p>Part 1 - Raise awareness on the signs, symptoms and dangers of CO and support families living in fuel poverty engaged through NSPCC's GCP2 programme and Wales delivery partner.</p> <p>Outcomes:</p> <p>This section of the project aims to achieve the outcomes of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realising an increased awareness of the dangers of carbon monoxide amongst engaged families and practitioners. This will be identified through recording the level of awareness from a sample of practitioners and families pre and post intervention to measure an improvement in understanding. • Providing support to families living in, or at risk of living in fuel poverty identified through NSPCC's network of local authority partners. • The project will result in increased ownership of carbon monoxide alarms, particularly in families that have an inability to afford the purchase of an alarm through their own financial means. <p>Associated actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The GDNs will work with NSPCC to incorporate CO awareness into their existing GCP2 programme. The GCP2 programme partners with local authorities to support referred families on a variety of topics. • The GDNs will work with NSPCC to roll out the CO awareness resources via a local delivery partner in Wales. • The GDNs will work with NSPCC staff/partners, equipping them to be able to signpost families to energy efficiency/income maximisation support. This assistance will include practical tips on how to stay warm, heat a home for less and 'handheld' links into expert 3rd parties. • Carbon monoxide alarms will be issued to families identified by the local authority practitioners and Wales delivery partner's practitioners. The issuing of alarms will be targeted at households unable to afford the cost of purchasing an alarm and/or the regular servicing of their gas appliances through their own financial means.

	<p>Success criteria</p> <p>Success for this arm of the project will be identified through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reaching practitioners and families across 92 local authorities with key messaging on carbon monoxide and fuel poverty. • Families engaged around carbon monoxide awareness reporting an increased understanding on the signs, symptoms, dangers, and preventative measures. • Achieving a significant increase in the ownership of carbon monoxide alarms in homes of NSPCC-supported families who are both unable to afford the cost of purchasing an alarm and the cost of regular gas appliance servicing. <p>Part 2 - Issue training to GDN staff to identify and report vulnerable children and families</p> <p>Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through issuing the NSPCC "It's Your Call Training" to all GDN employees and sub-contractors (approx. 18,500 individuals), awareness will be raised amongst the industry on spotting the signs of abuse and neglect and confidence increased to report concerns. <p>Associated actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSPCC to provide all GDNs with access to the "It's Your Call" training package. • The GDNs will work collaboratively with the NSPCC to implement the training into their current structures. <p>Success criteria:</p> <p>Success for this sub-project will be measured through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NSPCC supports the GDN(s) to implement a model that will deliver the training to its workforce. Each GDN may prioritise the training of operational colleagues, but all networks will work towards achieving roll-out of the training to its forecasted number of participants. • The GDNs and NSPCC will evaluate the effectiveness of the training and in particular: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The participants understanding of the content and satisfaction with the course; ○ The impact on the colleague since completing the course including improvement in confidence levels and awareness following the training; <p>Part 3 - Develop Industry Safeguarding Standards</p> <p>This arm of the project aims to achieve the following outcomes:</p> <p>Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSPCC will work with the GDNs to create a clear and consistent set of standards across the networks. This will ultimately result in placing the GDNs as leaders in child safeguarding across the utilities/energy sector. • This sub-project will create organisational change across the GDNs by embedding a child safeguarding culture alongside the GDN's established existing policies and procedures. <p>Associated actions:</p> <p>The associated actions to achieve this sub-project's outcome can be split by project year - Year 1 and Year 2</p> <p>Year 1 Associated Actions:</p>
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	<p>NSPCC will use Year 1 to work with each GDN to develop the appropriate child safeguarding industry standard(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NSPCC will conduct a mapping exercise in collaboration with individual GDNs to understand the current child safeguarding arrangements and training in place. • The NSPCC will draft a set of safeguarding standards for the Gas Distribution Networks as well as agree common language to be used in relation to vulnerable children/families. <p>Year 2 Associated Actions:</p> <p>NSPCC will use Year 2 to work with each GDN to help them achieve the industry safeguarding standards developed in Year 1 of the project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSPCC will conduct a training needs analysis to produce a safeguarding training strategy. • NSPCC will design, develop and deliver bespoke training for those staff taking a designated safeguarding role within each organisation. • NSPCC will develop the reporting procedures for the gas industry in conjunction with the NSPCC helpline and develop a pocket card for this purpose. <p>Success criteria:</p> <p>Success for this sub-project will be measured through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Success will be measured through the following indicators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ GDNs internal safeguarding policies reflect an increased level of awareness and competence in managing instances of suspect child abuse/neglect. <p>GDN staff performing a designated safeguarding role report increased levels of competence, skill and confidence in managing cases of suspected child neglect/abuse.</p>
Project Partners and Third Parties Involved	<p>The GDNs primary project partner will be the NSPCC.</p> <p>Third parties will also be involved in the delivery of the project, specifically Social Value Business and the NSPCC's network of local authority partners.</p> <p>Social Value Business will be responsible for conducting SROI forecasts and evaluations.</p> <p>The NSPCC's local authority partners will be responsible for delivering fuel poverty and carbon monoxide advice on behalf of the NSPCC through the GCP2 programme.</p>
Potential for New Learning	<p>This project offers the GDNs several opportunities for new learning, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback from an independent assessment of current safeguarding standards conducted by the NSPCC under sub-project 3. The NSPCC are industry leaders in this particular field of vulnerability, and they will be working with each GDN to improve internal standards. • Information on how receptive customers are to GDN-specific information offered as part of a wider service. The NSPCC will deliver advice on the dangers of CO and fuel poverty through their existing GCP2 programme. GCP2 also assists NSPCC families with other broader services designed to ensure that both parents and children are safe at home. The GDN's will receive feedback on the effectiveness of their messaging alongside other topics - this will influence future RIIO-GD2 projects. • The project will also offer GDNs an insight into the current awareness levels of staff on child neglect and abuse. The project then aims to improve awareness levels through the various methods named above. This may act as a catalyst for GDNs to assess organisational levels of awareness on other types of vulnerability.

<p>Scale of VCMA Project and SROI Calculations</p>	<p>The project will be delivered across all of the gas distribution networks over a two-year period.</p> <p>Scale of project sub-section 1 - Raise awareness on the signs, symptoms and dangers of CO and support families living in fuel poverty:</p> <p>Project sub-section 1 will be delivered through a network of up to 92 local authority partners. This sub-section of the project aims to reach approximately 18,000 individuals (9,000 GCP2 staff and 9,000 families supported through the programme). This element of the project will raise awareness of the signs, symptoms, and dangers of carbon monoxide, provide disadvantaged families access to carbon monoxide alarms, and educate households on sources of fuel poverty support.</p> <p>Scale of project sub-section 2 - Issue training to GDN staff to identify and report vulnerable children and families:</p> <p>Project sub-section 2 has a maximum forecasted reach of approximately 18,500 GDN staff, subcontractors and partners. This element of the project focuses on providing GDN staff and subcontractors with the NSPCC "It's Your Call" e-learning package. The "It's Your Call" e-learning will provide users with the tools to recognise and report instances of child mistreatment.</p> <p>Scale of project sub-section 3 - Developing industry safeguarding standards:</p> <p>The NSPCC will work collaboratively with each GDN to enable the industry to be more confident and responsive in protecting children through introduction of safeguarding standards, policies and procedures.</p> <p><u>Social Return on Investment Calculations</u></p> <p>The project's forecasted social return on investment has been calculated based on two approved methods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of Wales & West Utilities' SIRIO Social Return on Invest tool - this was used for the carbon monoxide safety and fuel poverty support elements of the project. • Insight from independent social value consultants at Social Value Business - this was used to evaluate the social value created by the child safeguarding elements of the project. <p>Investment = £595,719.00 Total Gross Present Value = £2,987,761.93 Total Net Present Value = £2,392,042.93 Social Return on Investment = £5.01: £1</p> <p>Using Wales & West's SIRIO Social Return on Investment tool, the GDNs calculated a total 5-year gross present value of £58,010.00 from the issuing of carbon monoxide alarms and educating customers on the signs, symptoms, and dangers of carbon monoxide.</p> <p>This 5-year gross present value was split between the financial benefit of cost savings to customers and the societal benefit of avoided NHS expenditure to treat carbon monoxide related illness and deaths.</p> <p><u>Social value created through the issuing of advice aimed at supporting households at risk of experiencing fuel poverty</u></p> <p>Using Wales & West's SIRIO Social Return on Investment tool, the GDNs calculated a total 5-year gross present value of £287,317 from the issuing of advice aimed at supporting households at risk of experiencing fuel poverty.</p> <p>This 5-year gross present value was attributable to the forecasted financial benefits of bill savings achieved through energy efficiency advice and supporting customers to access schemes such as the Warm Homes Discount.</p> <p><u>Social value created through the project's wider child safeguarding deliverables</u></p> <p>NSPCC and the GDNs have employed independent social value experts - Social Value Business to evaluate the project's social return on investment. As part of this activity, Social Value Business has produced a social return on investment forecast based on the project's objectives.</p> <p>Social Value Business has forecasted that a total gross present value of £2,650,000.00 will</p>
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be created by the child safeguarding deliverables of the project. This includes the "It's Your Call" e-learning element of the project, as well as the NSPCC's work with the GDNs to review and embed new child safeguarding standards.

Social Value Business provided the following factors to support its social value forecast of £2,650,000.00:

- Picking up the pieces of late intervention and the resulting social problems affecting young people costs the UK Government almost ⁵£17 billion a year. By helping engineers to identify children at risk and contacting the NSPCC Helpline, this will enable us to get families the help they need earlier, reducing the cost of ongoing support during a child's lifetime.
- The individual unit cost associated with domestic abuse is £630*. The research referenced below found that 37%* of domestic abuse sufferers reported fear, 22%* depression and 27%* anxiety/panic attacks. The cost to the police of domestic violence within the home is estimated £1,180* per incident and emotional cost of £22,630* (2017). Although these costs are not directly associated with children, the costs are real for each of the incidents recorded.

Source:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/918897/horr107.pdf

Updated Dec 2024

Total Costs= £505,964.91

Total Gross Present Value = £1,454,937.84

Total Net Present Value = £995,750.39

Social Return on Investment = £2.17

GDN Rulebook

Latest Version Date: 10-09-2024



Project information:		Results:	
Name:	nspec	Cost (discounted):	£459,187.44
WACC:	4.97%	Customer volume:	12833
Year of assessment:	2025	GPV:	£1,454,937.84
Start year of benefits:	2023	NPV:	£995,750.39
End year of benefits:	2025	SROI:	£2.17
Attribution:	0.00%		

Non-standardised activity inputs:	
Cost (discounted):	£0.00
GPV:	£1,325,000.00

Cost 24 / 25	£505,964.91
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The SROI has been calculated using the following information on the GDN Rulebook;

- 3833 individuals receiving a CO alarm.
- 4,500 individuals receiving CO safety advice 1:1
- 4,500 individuals receiving energy advice to help with fuel poverty

NSPCC had an independent company calculate an SROI for Safeguarding, this was added to the non-standard activity = £1,325,000

VCMA Project Start and End Date

Project Start Date: April 2023
Project End Date: March 2025

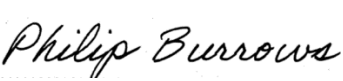
Geographical Area


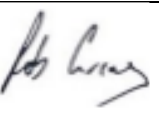
The project will take place across all four GDN's license areas.

Internal governance and project management evidence	<p>Updated Dec 2024</p> <p>The GDN's have worked alongside NSPCC to co-design this partnership and ensure that it aligns to the delivery of our collaborative Vulnerability Strategy and the VCMA governance criteria</p> <p>The SROI for this project has been calculated utilising the information shared by the NSPCC. Over the 12-month period they will support 4,500 customers with CO and energy advice to raise awareness and assist with fuel poverty. We have based the SROI on those figures which have generated a forecast 5-year SROI of £2.17 using the GDN Rulebook.</p> <p>The GDN's and NSPCC will meet quarterly to review outcomes, learn, share best practice, ensure the correct customers are being supported, and address any delivery issues.</p>
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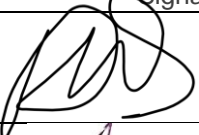


⁵ <https://www.eif.org.uk/report/the-cost-of-late-intervention-eif-analysis-2016>

Gas Network Vulnerability and Carbon Monoxide Allowance (VCMA) Governance Document - PEA Control Table

In order to ensure that a VCMA project is registered in accordance with the Ofgem VCMA governance document (incl. project eligibility assessment), the below table should be completed as part of the project registration process.			
Stage 1: GDN Collaboration Group PEA Review Date completed: Review completed by: Job title:			
GDN:	Name(s):		
Cadent	Phil Burrows		
NGN	Jill Walker		
SGN	Kerry Potter		
WWU	Sophie Shorney		
Stage 2: GD2CVG Panel Review Date review completed: Review completed by: Job title:			
GDN:	Name(s)		
Cadent	Phil Burrows		
NGN	Eileen Brown		
SGN	Maureen McIntosh		
WWU	Nigel Winnan		
Step 3: Participating GDN individual signatory sign-off			
GDN	Name(s)	Signature(s)	Date
Cadent:	Phil Burrows		30.03.2023

NGN:	Eileen Brown		27.03.2023
SGN:	Rob Gray		29.03.2022
WWU:	Nigel Winnan	<i>Nigel Winnan</i>	27.03.2023

Update December 2024

GDN	Name(s)	Signature(s)	Date
Cadent:	Phil Burrows		12/03/2025
NGN:	Eileen Brown		03.03.2025
SGN:	Maureen McIntosh		03/03/25
WWU:	Nigel Winnan	<i>Nigel Winnan</i>	3/3/2025

Step 4: Upload PEA Document to the Website & Notification Email Sent to Ofgem (vcma@ofgem.gov.uk)

Date that PEA Document Uploaded to the Website: 12/03/2025

Date that Notification Email Sent to Ofgem: 12/03/2025