Automatic Gas Meter Reading.

Greater Manchester Police has installed devices across our estate to the gas meters at each property which log the gas used each and every half hour. The devices also send a meter reading directly to the gas supplier to be used on our utility bills. An online portal allows GMPs Sustainability team access to this data on a daily basis.

Not only has the system improved the accuracy of our gas bills ensuring that the readings are accurate rather than estimates, but it has also saved staff time in manually reading the meters once a month and collating the data. With accurate figures available, meaningful comparisons of gas usage each year can be done, and savings calculated.

Utilising the online portal, the Sustainability team have been able to identify areas where gas consumption is 'unusual', for example, sites that are unoccupied throughout the night yet are heated 24 hours a day or other where the heating is operational during the night, but not the day.

Situations such as those described are inefficient, and from this, appropriate works can be planned on site to reduce consumption to a lower level without compromising the comfort of the occupants on site. As an example, boiler controls have been installed or upgraded to ensure the buildings are heated efficiently to a suitable temperature. Controls can include everything from simple timer clocks and thermostats to outdoor temperature dependant sensors controlling the indoor temperature. At one site where a time clock was installed, costs have been reduced by 41% within the first three months with savings replicated across other small sites.





