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Retail Energy Code Performance Assurance Board Paper

RECCo Metering Strategy 2026-2030: Strategic Direction, Priorities and Roadmap

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For Information	This paper provides an overview of the RECCo Metering Strategy 2026–2030, setting out six strategic priorities and a phased roadmap to modernise metering services, strengthen technical assurance, improve consumer outcomes and address emerging market risks. RECCo recommends that the Retail Energy Code (REC) Performance Assurance Board (PAB): • **Notes** the strategic direction and six priorities set out in the RECCo Metering Strategy 2026-2030; • **Notes** the phased roadmap for 2026-2030; and • **Notes** the proposed use of existing governance, risk and performance assurance arrangements to monitor delivery and escalate material decisions.
Appendices	RECPAB_26_1027_09_A: RECCo Metering Strategy 2026-2030

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1 Executive Summary

The Metering Strategy 2026-2030 updates the 2020 strategy for a market that is increasingly digital, data-driven and technically complex. It recognises metering as an enabler of consumer safety, accurate billing, settlement confidence, low-carbon technologies and operational resilience.

The strategy provides a risk-led framework for how RECCo will prioritise, govern and modernise metering services through to 2030. It defines where RECCo will lead, collaborate or prepare, while avoiding duplication of responsibilities held by other Code Bodies or REC functions.

Delivery is structured around six interconnected pillars:

1. modernised technical assurance;
2. a codified REC Metering Audit Framework;
3. evolution of the Safe Isolation Provider (SIP) ecosystem;
4. technology and long-term market review;
5. modernised digital metering services; and
6. strengthened governance and stakeholder engagement.

This paper is presented to the PAB for information. It does not seek approval of individual investments, procurements or delivery commitments. Any material initiative will continue through the relevant prioritisation, budgeting, change and governance routes.

2 Strategic context and relevance to the PAB

Metering underpins safe and compliant installation, accurate data and billing, consumer protection, switching, settlement confidence and the transition to a smarter and more flexible energy system. The strategy aligns metering activity with the wider REC focus on resilience, outcomes and consumer protection.

For the PAB, the strategy establishes a clear framework that alignsmetering risks with performance assurance insights and operating-plan activities. It also clarifies that technical assurance and audit focus on physical, technical and safety-critical activity, while performance assurance provides broader system-level oversight of trends, capacity, scalability and market outcomes.

3 Key metering risks

Horizon	Principal risks	Strategic response
Immediate	Audit consistency and confidence; meter data accuracy, configuration and lifecycle.	Refocus assurance on risk and safety-critical activity, strengthen calibration and use improved insight to identify issues earlier.
Medium-term	Safety and technical assurance capacity; SIP scalability and safety; digital process robustness; vulnerability and PSR information during site activity.	Modernise delivery models, scale capability and use Management Information (MI) and digital services to target oversight as volumes and complexity increase.
Long-term	Service delivery partner sustainability and complexity-driven systemic risk.	Support diversification and maintain adaptable governance and assurance frameworks.

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4 Metering Strategy delivery framework

The six pillars collectively link market risk, consumer outcomes and REC priorities.

Strategic pillar	Direction and intended effect
1. Strengthen and modernise technical assurance	Move from isolated audit outcomes towards data-led, insight-driven assurance, supported by KPIs, MI, learning cycles and stronger audit-pool resilience.
2. Embed a codified REC Metering Audit Framework	Standardise templates, calibration and accountability, with greater emphasis on physical, technical and safety-critical site activity and visible accreditation.
3. Evolve SIP and develop a mature ecosystem	Establish clearer scope, safety accountabilities, boundary guidance, onboarding, training recognition, ongoing assurance and data-led oversight.
4. Technology and long-term market review	Clarify where RECCo leads, influences or monitors, maintaining readiness for heat, hydrogen, future fuels, legacy transition and behind-the-meter developments.
5. Modernise digital metering services	Prioritise a Digital Audit System, improve the Metering Hub, centralise MI and dashboards, and develop proportionate API-enabled integration and tracking.
6. Strengthen governance and stakeholder engagement	Use structured stakeholder planning, surveys, published feedback, quarterly insights and internal capability-building to improve transparency and trust.

5 Phased roadmap

2026-2027: establish the foundations: Publish and roll out the strategy; roll out the Consolidated Metering Code of Practice (CoMCoP) Accreditation Logo; codify the audit framework; progress initial SIP expansion; monitor hydrogen trials and emerging heat regulation; and develop metering APIs, dashboards and feedback mechanisms.
2028-2030: mature the operating model: Deliver a cohesive REC-led metering governance model; mature digital audit and oversight; strengthen the SIP accreditation ecosystem; develop positions on future technologies and behind-the-meter activity; and embed insight-driven assurance.
Ongoing governance: Monitor delivery through MI, performance assurance insight, risk management and stakeholder engagement. Escalate material decisions, investment requirements and changes through established governance.

6 Implications for Performance Assurance

- Metering risks should be explicitly linked to relevant Performance Assurance Operating Plan activity and the Retail Risk Register (implemented from the 2026/27 strategic documents).
- MI and dashboards should be used to identify trends, recurring risks and root causes, supporting more proportionate and targeted interventions.
- Technical assurance evidence, including physical and site-based findings, should inform system-level performance assurance insight without blurring accountability between the two functions.
- PAB visibility should focus on material risk trends, assurance effectiveness, capacity and scalability, and whether planned mitigations are delivering improved consumer and market outcomes.

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7 delivery, resources and controls

No standalone financial approval is requested through this paper. Delivery will require RECCo capacity, specialist support and digital investment. Any material expenditure, procurement, code change or delivery commitment will be subject to the appropriate business-case, budgeting, prioritisation and governance process.

Key delivery controls include phased sequencing, clear ownership, monitoring of assurance capacity and supplier dependency, management of cross-code and policy dependencies, proportionate digital design, and transparent stakeholder engagement.

8 Next steps and reporting

- Publish and communicate the Metering Strategy and associated roadmap.
- Confirm ownership, dependencies and governance for each pillar and initiative.
- Integrate relevant metering risks and measures into MI, performance assurance insight and delivery reporting.
- Provide the PAB with proportionate updates where activity materially affects performance assurance priorities, market risk or consumer outcomes.

REC PAB DECISION
RECCo recommends that the Retail Energy Code (REC) Performance Assurance Board (PAB): • **Notes** the strategic direction and six priorities set out in the RECCo Metering Strategy 2026-2030; • **Notes** the phased roadmap for 2026-2030; and • **Notes** the proposed use of existing governance, risk and performance assurance arrangements to monitor delivery and escalate material decisions.

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