



Update from UK

Gavin Straughan – Vice Chairman
August 2024

Gavin Straughan

Vice Chairperson, UKRPA
Haste

Gavin Straughan is currently serving his third year as Vice Chairperson of the UKRPA and has been an active committee member for the past five years.

With over seven years of experience in the Utilities Industry, Gavin has specialised primarily in Revenue Protection. He brings a diverse background in logistics and sales to his role.

Gavin is the Head of Business Development and Joint Head of Metering at Haste Ltd, where he helps oversee the provision of Revenue Protection Services among a range of other services for various energy suppliers and Distribution Network Operators (DNOs).



Who we are

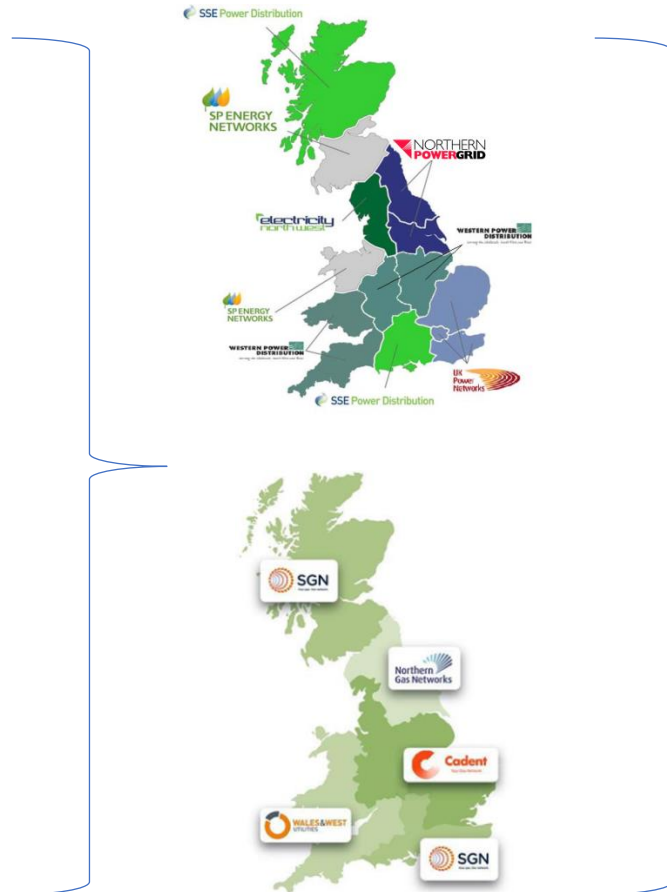
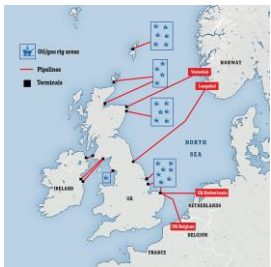
The UKRPA is a voluntary trade association, which was established in 1998 to provide a forum for the exchange of information, best practices, and discussion of matters of common interest related to Revenue Protection across the UK.

The Association represents the interests of its Members (drawn from a wide spectrum of organisations throughout the energy value chain) who work collaboratively with stakeholders to maintain safe and fair industry standards.

Today's Topics

- How does it work?
- Numbers
- Current largest threat

Generation – Distribution – Supplier – Consumer

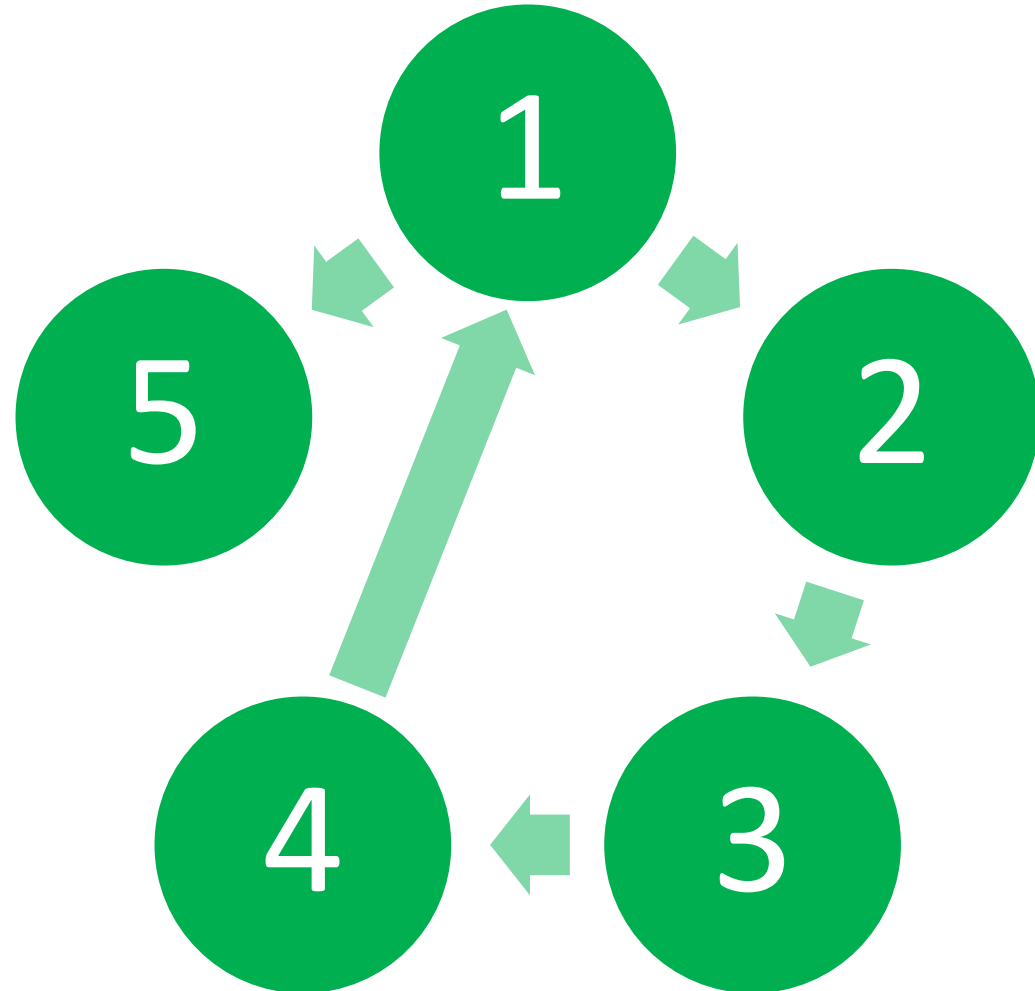


Revenue Protection

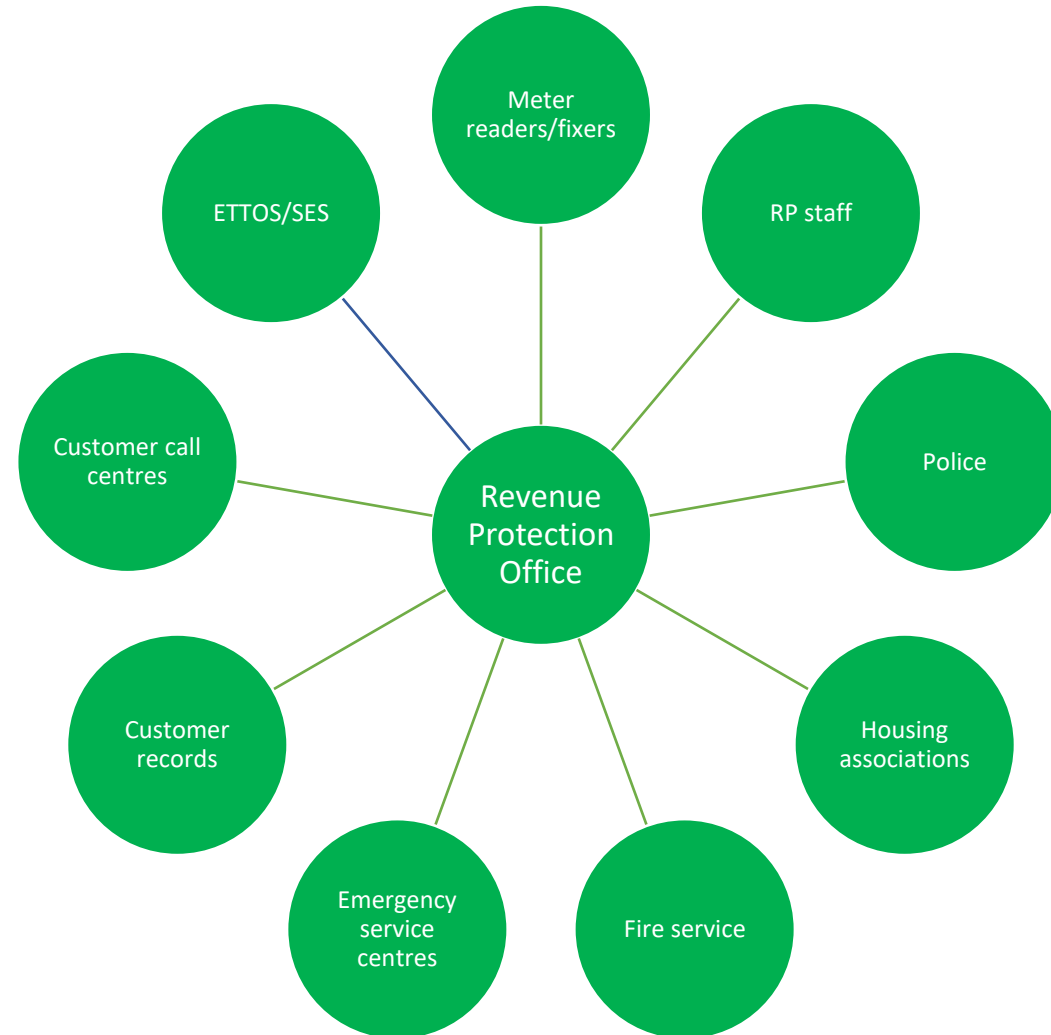


The Cycle

1. Supplier/DNO provide leads
2. Send to RPS
3. Investigation
4. Outcome sent to Supplier/DNO
5. Outcome sent to Regulator

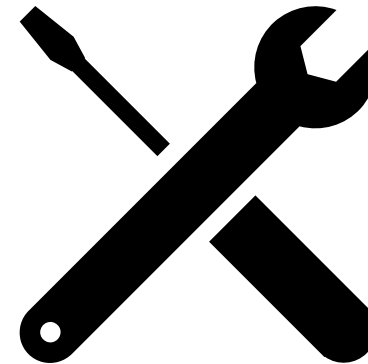


Leads..



Investigation

1. Door knocks
2. Warrant of entry
3. Meter Point investigation
4. Rectify
5. Report back to Supplier/DNO



Numbers - How much is being stolen?

Estimated on unit prices 2022:

£1,400,000,000

R32,513,150,408

Unit prices have significantly increased since 2022 as well as suspected theft... So what is it now??

Numbers

OFGEM:

- 2021-2022 - 17,423 confirmed cases reported against a target of 41,000 – 42%
- 2022-2023 – 16,581 confirmed cases reported against a target of 41,000 – 40%

Crimestoppers:

- Tip-offs reported to them:
 - 2019 – 4,840
 - 2024 (Jan-Jul) – 7,078
- Estimated 250,000 cases go unreported a year.

Challenges

Freeman of the Land Sovereign Citizens

The "Freeman of the Land" movement in the UK is a pseudo-legal belief system where individuals claim they can opt out of government laws and regulations by asserting that they are only bound by their personal interpretation of common law. They often reject the authority of the state, including taxes, bills, fines, and court rulings, based on misinterpretations of legal concepts. However, these arguments have no basis in actual law and are consistently dismissed by UK courts.

Freeman of the Land

The use of social media is having a massive effect on misinformation being spread, we are aware of some Facebook and Telegram sites that have over 30,000 members and there are countless groups and sites that you can join.

Their beliefs and threats of violence are continuing to rise and we have had many instances of groups of people being called to addresses to confront Revenue Protection Agents when they are trying to investigate. They are even attending court and attempting to arrest the judges ... Because they believe they live outside of the law!

Video

Here is an example of the extreme activity we are facing on a daily basis.

