

Vulnerability & Carbon Monoxide Allowance (VCMA)

Project Eligibility Assessment (PEA)

Crucial Crews - Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council & Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service

Hayley Tranter
June 2021



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

Section 1 - Eligibility criteria for company specific projects (excluding boiler repair & replacement)	
In order to qualify as a VCMA project, a project must:	
VCMA Eligibility Criteria	Criteria Satisfied (Yes/No)
a) Have a positive Social Return on Investment (SROI), including the potential to have a Net Benefit to the customers on the funding GDN's network(s);	Yes
b) Either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Provide a direct Net Benefit to consumers in vulnerable situations, or ii. Provide awareness on the dangers of CO, or iii. Reduce the risk of health issues caused by CO; 	Yes Provide awareness on the dangers of CO
c) Have defined outputs and deliverables;	Yes
d) Have defined outcomes, where considered appropriate by the GDN;	Yes
e) Relate to energy, or CO safety;	Yes
f) Go beyond activities that are funded through another price control mechanism or required through licence obligations; and	Yes
g) Not be delivered through other external funding sources directly accessed by a GDN, including through other government (national, devolved or local) funding.	No
Section 2 - Eligibility criteria for company specific boiler repair and replacement projects	
Condemned boiler repairs or replacements are eligible as VCMA projects where:	
a) A GDN has to isolate and condemn an unsafe boiler following a supply interruption or as part of its emergency service role;	NA
b) The household cannot afford to repair or replace the boiler, and;	NA
c) Sufficient funding is not available from other sources (including national, devolved or local government funding) to fund the boiler repair or replacement.	NA
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;	NA
b) Have the potential to have a direct Net Benefit to customers on the participating networks; and	NA
c) Involve two, or more, gas distribution companies.	No

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

Information Required	Description
Project Title	Crucial Crews – Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council & Norfolk
Funding GDN(s)	Cadent
Role of GDN(s) *For Collaborative VCMA Projects only	N/A
Date of PEA Submission	August 2021
VCMA Project Contact Name, email and Number	Hayley Tranter Hayley.tranter@cadentgas.com
Total Cost (£k)	Cadent FTE cost 1 x Level 7 FTE – £46.32 x 8 Hours = £370.56 1 x Level 6 FTE – £39.96 x 8 Hours = 319.68
Total VCMA Funding Required (£k)	£690.24
Problem(s)	<p>Every year its estimated that there are 60 deaths caused by carbon monoxide in England and Wales. This means that in any given year, c.30 Cadent customers may die through an incident related to CO.</p> <p>CO alarm ownership across our networks is between 60% and 70%.</p> <p>There is relatively low awareness of the causes and consequences of CO poisoning and this is in part demonstrated by the proportion of homes that still do not have a CO alarm installed or have their gas appliances serviced on a regular basis.</p> <p>Children are at much greater risk of being affected sooner by CO poisoning because they breathe faster than adults and therefore show the signs of CO much quicker.</p>
Scope and Objectives	<p>The 25 Fire and Rescue Services across Cadent's networks provide a range of fire safety education programs in schools. An example of this is Crucial Crews, which is run on an annual basis by Norfolk and Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue. This scheme is a collaboration with all the emergency services, and aims to educates children on fire safety, water safety, anti-social behaviour, and emotional wellbeing.</p> <p>It was recognised that Cadent and the FRS could collaborate and use the opportunity to incorporate Safety Seymour and/or The CO Crew into Crucial Crews and further raise awareness on how to keep safe from carbon monoxide.</p> <p>Before Covid-19, Crucial Crews was delivered face to face, through open days at local fire and rescue stations.</p>

	<p>With representation from the blue light services, stands would be created to allow children to move through a 'speed dating' set up and visit the different stands/presentations listening to each of the emergency services and contributors. Cadent were due to attend these sessions to provide CO alarms and key literature to distribute so that children could take them home to share their knowledge gained from the day and further protect themselves and their families</p> <p>Considering COVID-19, Crucial Crews have been adapted to an online learning tool and we wanted to use this opportunity to imbed the Safety Seymour and The CO Crew into these packages to extend their reach.</p>				
<p>Why the Project is Being Funded Through the VCMA</p>	<p>This project is within the criteria of VCMA in raising awareness of CO.</p>				
<p>Evidence of Stakeholder/Customer Support</p>	<p>There was overwhelming support from our customer and stakeholder communities to continue to work to keep our customers and the general public safe from the dangers of CO. Details of this engagement can be found within our RIIO-2 business plan.</p> <p>Working with children is a key strategy that our customers and stakeholders continue to support through our educational packages</p>				
<p>Outcomes, Associated Actions and Success Criteria</p>	<p>Cadent have seen Safety Seymour included in the Norfolk Crucial Crews</p> <p>https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/safety/norfolk-fire-and-rescue-service/in-your-community/crucial-crew</p> <p>This package will be shared in Primary schools across Norfolk and will be completed by 4,000 school children</p> <p>Furthermore, The CO Crew has been included in Welwyn Hatfield Crucial Crew</p> <p>https://one.welhat.gov.uk/article/10355/Crucial-Crew-Home-Learning-Pack</p> <p>This will be sent out to primary schools and will be completed by 1,300 school children.</p>				
<p>Project Partners and Third Parties Involved</p>	<p>Welwyn and Hatfield Council Norfolk Fire and Rescue Services</p>				
<p>Potential for New Learning</p>	<p>Using feedback provided back from the teachers and children we will develop our approach further.</p>				
<p>Scale of VCMA Project and SROI Calculations</p>	<p>5,300 children will directly receive the crucial crews 18,020 people will indirectly receive the CO messaging (Calculation based on the average household have 2.4 people living there.)</p> <p>Therefore 18,020 total people direct and indirectly educated</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="699 2033 1444 2098"> <tr> <td>Project costs</td> <td>£690.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Annual Social Return (gross)</td> <td>£9,252.21</td> </tr> </table>	Project costs	£690.24	Annual Social Return (gross)	£9,252.21
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	5 Year Social Return (gross)	£46,261.03
	Annual return minus project costs	£8,561.97
	5 year return minus project costs	£45,570.79
VCMA Project Start and End Date	June 2021 – 2026	
Geographical Area	Norfolk in Eastern Network (East of England) Welwyn Hatfield LA in Hertfordshire in North London Network	
Remaining Amount in the Allowance at Time of Registration	N/A	

**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: Sustainability and Social Purpose Team PEA Peer Review	
Date Immediate Team Peer Review Completed: 31/01/22	Review Completed By: Suzanne Callington Customer Safeguarding Specialist
Stage 2: Sustainability and Social Purpose Team Management Review	
Date Management Review Completed: 27/01/2022	Review Completed By: Philip Burrows Head of Customer Vulnerability Delivery
Step 3: Director of Sustainability and Social Purpose Sign-Off: Mark Belmega	
Director of Sustainability and Social Purpose Sign-Off Date: 10/03/22	
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: March 2022	
Date that Notification Email Sent to Ofgem: March 2022	