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Preparing your business for Market-Wide Half-Hourly Settlement (MHHS)

STAY AHEAD OF THE BIGGEST CHANGE IN UK ENERGY BILLING



What is MHHS and why should you care?

The UK's energy landscape is changing. By October 2026, all businesses will transition to Market-wide Half-Hourly Settlement (MHHS) – a system that settles electricity usage every 30 minutes rather than estimating usage.

Although the full rollout completes in July 2027, educating yourself about the process now means your business will:

- Be better positioned for competitive pricing
- Maximise savings opportunities

Why it matters

MHHS brings more transparency, with the overall goal of the MHHS programme being to support the UK's 2025 net zero ambitions. Through MHHS, energy suppliers will gain a greater understanding of the end user's energy consumption and be able to offer incentives to shift demand away in peak periods.

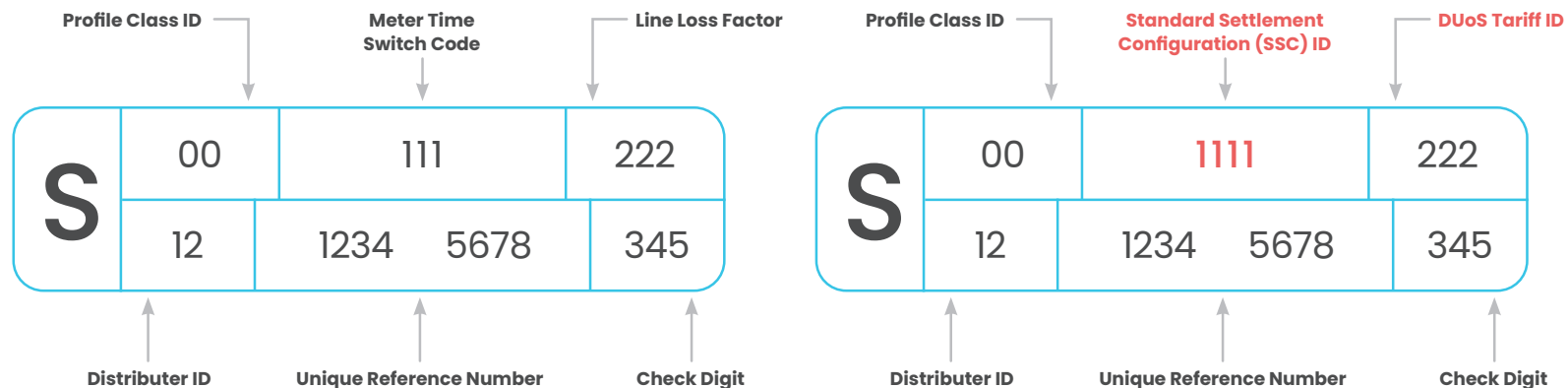
Supplying MHHS data

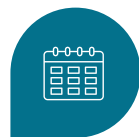
To comply with MHHS requirements, industry stakeholders are required to:

-  Record all customer energy use on HH (half-hourly) basis
-  Store energy data securely
-  Transfer data to central systems

Changes to MPANS

- **Bottom line will remain the same.**
- **Meter profile** – Migration to '00' – when completed all other profiles will be retired.
- **Meter Time-switch code** – Will be replaced by Standard Settlement Configuration due to all being HH, providing more accuracy.
- **Line Loss Factor** – will be replaced by the DUoS Tariff ID for their area, this confirms the DNO area and the tariff structure applicable to that meter – residential, commercial.





MHHS timeline

September 2025

- BSC (Balancing & Settlement Code) changes become effective.
- Central MHHS systems go live (the “engine” that processes half-hourly data).

For businesses and households: Suppliers and their agents must prepare for MHHS certification with upgraded billing and settlement systems to handle half-hourly data flows before migration begins. Customers may start to see differences to their billing with changes to the top line of their MPAN number coming into play.

October 2025 (Migration Window Opens)

- Migration of MPANs begins. First advanced (AMR) and unmetered sites, then smart meters once their suppliers and agents are certified.

For businesses: Larger commercial and industrial customers with advanced meters will start to be migrated first, moving from profile-based settlement to actual half-hourly data. This can unlock tailored time-of-use tariffs and demand-response opportunities.

For households: Early batches of households with smart meters may start being settled half-hourly. At this point, suppliers can offer more innovative tariffs.

October 2026 (Supplier Qualification Deadline)

- All energy suppliers must be certified (“MHHS qualified”) to operate in the new settlement world.

For businesses: Any business switching supplier after this date must be migrated to a supplier that is MHHS-qualified. Businesses may want to confirm their supplier’s readiness.

For households: From this point, all new domestic switches will be under MHHS. Suppliers may roll out more time-of-use tariffs or reward customers for shifting consumption.

May 2027 (Final Migration)

- All remaining MPANs (metering points) must be fully migrated to MHHS.

For businesses: Even smaller non-domestic sites with smart meters will now be settled half-hourly. Energy bills will more closely track actual usage patterns, creating opportunities to reduce costs by shifting demand.

For households: Every household with a smart meter will now be settled half-hourly. Those without a smart meter remain on estimates, but suppliers are incentivised to roll out smart meters more widely so that all homes can participate.

July 2027 (Accelerated Settlement Timetable Goes Live)

- The new, faster market-wide settlement timetable replaces the old lagged system.

For businesses and households: Energy consumption imbalances will be reconciled more quickly while settlement timeframes improve dramatically, meaning bills and costs reflect reality sooner. This improves cash flow predictability for consumers and suppliers. We can expect to see more dynamic products such as:

- Cheaper power when the grid has excess renewables
- Tariffs linked to wholesale market prices and time of use.



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What this means for your business

Most changes will take place behind the scenes, the impact on your business depends on the type of meters and services you use.



Your Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) meter might not be MHHS-ready

Even if you already have AMR installed, it may not meet MHHS requirements. Compliance requires action – and the closer we get to rollout, the longer the wait times will become. To get ahead of the curve get added to the wait list now by contacting us, and we will handle the rest.

- Inaction = risk
- Missed savings from smart tariffs
- Over/under billing due to outdated meters
- Unexpected downtime if your meter fails or becomes non-compliant
- Meter replacements are mandatory every 20 years – act before yours breaks

Those who chose not to adopt AMR through MHHS, will lose the potential for savings. If they avoid upgrading their meter, they can potentially lose functionality of the meter over time leading to inaccurate billing. In general, any meter needs to be replaced every 20 years as it reaches the end of its life span.



Meter Operators (MOPs) after MHHS

MOPs will continue to play a crucial role, but their responsibilities will evolve. Under the existing system, businesses with Half-Hourly (HH) meters engage MOPs, Data Collectors (DCs), and Data

Aggregators (DAs) to manage metering and data services. With MHHS, these roles are being redefined:

- Metering Services Smart (MSS) or Metering Services Advanced (MSA): These new classifications will replace traditional MOPs, focusing on the installation and maintenance of smart or advanced meters.
- Smart Data Services (SDS) or Advanced Data Services (ADS): These services will handle the collection, aggregation, and processing of half-hourly data, functions previously managed by DCs and DAs.

This restructuring aims to streamline operations and enhance the accuracy of energy data, facilitating more dynamic and flexible energy markets.

Why act now?

- Avoid the MHHS installation backlog
- Get access to new tariffs early
- Strengthen future contract negotiations with detailed consumption data
- Position yourself for smart energy tech (solar, battery storage, smart appliances)



What you should be doing today

Even if you're in a long-term contract, you can still act now. Here's how:

1. Book a TCR band check

Understand your kVA position and where savings are hidden.

2. Get an energy health check

Spot inefficiencies and build a strategy for MHHS.

3. Review AMR readiness

Upgrade now to avoid penalties and outages later.

4. Plan your renewal early

Future contracts will be more complex – be prepared.

How Consultiv can help your business

You're not just buying an energy contract – you're securing expert guidance through one of the most complex transitions the market has seen.

Our services

- TCR and kVA band assessments
- MHHS compliance checks
- Contract renewal planning with half-hourly data
- MOP, DC/DA & power factor analysis
- Strategic advice on smart metering

Don't wait – act now!

Contact us

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