

## **5 LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS METERING SYSTEMS – RESULTS OF PROJECTS (AN435-2004)**

The committee is asked to note the completion of a national project, led and managed by Dundee City Council Trading Standards Service, to assess the accuracy of LPG (Liquefied Petroleum Gas) metering systems in use in Scotland.

### **Introduction**

LPG or 'Autogas' is an increasingly popular alternative fuel for motor vehicles, which is both cheaper and more environmentally friendly than traditional petrol or diesel. LPG metering systems in use at filling stations are not currently prescribed in terms of the Weights and Measures Act 1985, and no Scottish authority has the equipment necessary to test them. The equipment for this project, a coriolis meter and test rig, was hired from West Yorkshire Trading Standards Service.

Twenty authorities took part in the project as outlined below and testing took place between 2nd August, 2004 and 23rd September, 2004.

All costs have been met from a successful bid to the Department of Trade and Industry.

### **Results**

The results showed that meters in current use are generally accurate, within the inspection tolerance limits in the Liquid Petroleum Gas Association Code of Practice 19, which are plus or minus 2%.

One metering system in Angus and one in West Dunbartonshire were found to be defective and requiring repair, and the owners of the other one or two odd meters found to be outwith the accuracy limits were advised to have them recalibrated, without further enforcement action. This is in line with our aims of helping business comply with their legislative obligations through proportionate action. Otherwise, equipment was in good condition and well maintained.

	Max error %	Min error %	Mean error %
Aberdeenshire	+0.43	-0.06	+0.08
Aberdeen City	-1.30	+0.02	-0.17
Angus	+0.84	-0.14	-0.11
Argyll & Bute	-0.84	-0.25	-0.49
Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar	-0.60	-0.10	-0.40
Dundee	+1.63	+0.28	+0.61
East Ayrshire	-1.80	-0.04	-0.63
East Dunbartonshire	-0.96	-0.38	-0.67
Falkirk	-2.44	-0.22	-0.82
Fife	+1.80	+0.20	-0.09
Glasgow	-1.08	-0.06	-0.29
Highland	-0.90	+0.10	-0.07
North Lanarkshire	-2.17	0.00	-0.64
Perth & Kinross	+0.60	+0.14	+0.36
Scottish Borders	+0.52	+0.04	+0.10
Shetland	-0.92	+0.08	-0.34
South Ayrshire	-1.05	-0.78	-0.95
South Lanarkshire	-1.16	-0.08	-0.50
West Dunbartonshire	-3.08	-1.40	-2.24
West Lothian	-0.97	0.00	-0.36