

# PUBLISHED REPLACEMENT EU ACT INITIAL ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT

**DSC REF: DSC/10a/2025**

## **Published Replacement EU Act**

[Directive \(EU\) 2026/706 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2026 amending Directive 2014/32/EU as regards measuring systems for electric vehicle supply equipment and compressed gas dispensers, and electricity, gas and thermal energy meters](#)

This Directive replaces Directive 2014/32/EU; Protocol Annex 2, Heading 13 Measuring instruments

## **Summary of the Act**

Directive (EU) 2026/706 updates the EU Measuring Instruments framework to cover EV charging systems, compressed gas dispensers (including hydrogen), and thermal energy meters for cooling, and modernises requirements for electricity and gas meters to reflect smart functionality, DC measurement and alternative gases. It enters into force in early April 2026, must be transposed by 10 April 2028, applies from 10 October 2028, and contains transition periods (notably to 2030/2038).

It is a targeted technical amendment of the Measuring Instruments Directive 2014/32/EU (the 'MID'). In April 2016 the Measuring Instrument Regulations 2016 (MIR) implemented the Directive 2014/32/EU into UK law.

The scope and the associated essential requirements covered by the MID remained unchanged for more than 20 years. This means that the MID does not cover new measuring instruments which need brought into scope, and there is a need for further harmonisation in standards.

In view of this, and to avoid further fragmentation of the single market, a targeted technical amendment of the MID is considered necessary by the EU.

Proposed updates:

- Essential Requirements – defines standards of instruments;
- Gas Meters & Conversion Devices – updates technical requirements;

- Active Electrical Energy Meters – sets requirements for electrical meters;
- Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment – harmonises standards; and
- Thermal Energy Meters – sets requirements/conformity and brings air conditioning units into scope.

Changes since proposal stage:

1. Longer implementation timelines

Transposition deadline extended to 10 April 2028 and application from 10 October 2028 (longer than the 12/24-month placeholders in the proposal).

2. New transitional derogation for EVSE & compressed gas dispensers

Equipment placed on the market under national rules before 10 April 2030 can continue to be used.

3. Certificate validity clarified with fixed dates

Certificates issued before 10 October 2028 remain valid until expiry, but not beyond 10 April 2038.

4. Early notification of conformity assessment bodies introduced

Bodies may be notified—and issue certificates—before the application date if compliant.

5. Instrument numbering revised for legal clarity

Proposal's MI-003a/MI-005a replaced by MI-011 (EVSE) and MI-012 (compressed gas) with new Annexes added.

6. Display and data accessibility clarified (non-material change)

Final text specifies local/remote display options and consumer device access with tamper-evidence requirements.

### **Department(s) Responsible**

This is a reserved matter with the exception of electricity supply, transmission and distribution which is devolved to NI (Department for the Economy (DfE)). The Secretary of State for Business and Trade is responsible for enforcing the MIR in the UK with some exceptions that are the responsibility of the Secretary of State for Transport (taximeters and exhaust gas analysers).

The Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) (part of Department of Business and Trade) leads on this for the UK. DfE has limited enforcement

function on behalf of OPSS on some metrology functions but has no role in testing new instruments covered by this Directive.

The Department for Infrastructure (electric vehicle infrastructure, taximeters and exhaust gas analysers) will have an interest.

The Department for the Economy has interest in relation to energy matters and the NI Utility Regulator is responsible for regulating utility meters in NI. The Trading Standards Service has enforcement responsibility under MIR for equipment such as water meters, oil tankers, petrol pumps, automatic weighing instruments, length measures and capacity serving measures.

### **Initial Assessment of Impact**

Based on the UK Government Explanatory Memorandum, the proposed amendments to the Measuring Instruments Directive (MID) relate primarily to technical updates (e.g. requirements for remote-only displays, updates for smart meters, measuring systems for compressed gas including hydrogen, and direct current meters for EV charging). These measures are largely technical, intended to reflect technological developments and ensure consistent standards across the Single Market. The amendments ensure that emerging technologies (e.g. hydrogen fuel dispensers, DC meters for fast EV charging, and remote-only displays) are appropriately covered within updated EU metrology requirements.

The UK Government EM highlights the inclusion of transition arrangements allowing continued use of previously approved instruments for a defined period.

The Directive is technical in nature, safeguards and transition periods apply, and no quantified data on impacts is available at this stage.

### **UK Government Explanatory Memorandum**

The UK Government Explanatory Memorandum (EM) outlines proposed technical amendments to the EU Measuring Instruments Directive (MID) 2014/32/EU. The purpose of these amendments is to update metrological standards to reflect technological developments and ensure consistency across the Single Market. Key areas of change include electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE), compressed gas dispensers (including hydrogen systems), smart utility meters, and direct current (DC) electricity meters. These updates focus on accuracy requirements, conformity assessment routes, and essential technical specifications.

The EM highlights that the amendments allow for remote-only displays for certain utility meters and EVSE, bring DC meters used in fast charging into scope, and introduce specific requirements for compressed gas dispensers. Hydrogen is

explicitly included for the first time. These changes are characterised as technical, reflecting the evolution of metering technologies rather than policy-driven alterations.

The EM also notes that transition arrangements would permit continued use of instruments certified under current MID rules for a defined period, ensuring continuity for businesses. The UK Government does not identify significant policy divergence or broader social or economic impacts arising from the proposal.

### **Analysis by the European Commission on its Impact Assessment**

The proposal is not accompanied by an Impact Assessment, as it is a technical and targeted amendment of the MID to adapt it to technological progress.

Article 47 of the MID empowers the Commission to adopt delegated acts. However, this empowerment is limited in scope to punctual amendments of the instrument-specific Annexes. Thus, the MID does not include an appropriate empowerment for the Commission to amend more generally the Annexes and the scope of the MID and to adapt it to technological progress.

### **Departmental Engagement**

DfE has engaged with DBT to prepare briefing and previous committee engagement is noted at [COM/2024/561 Proposal for a DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Directive 2014/32/EU as regards electric vehicle supply equipment, compressed gas dispensers, and electricity, gas and thermal energy meters.](#)

DfE also sought views of DfI, OPSS/DBT and the Utility Regulator.

DfI commented:

*“DfI officials have indicated that the Department does not have a policy interest in the addition of electric vehicle supply equipment to the scope of the Measuring Instruments Directive 2014/32/EU. Whilst the Department continues to encourage the switch to electric vehicles as a key element of the decarbonisation of Transport, we do not own, operate, maintain or regulate the commercial charge point market. DfE are currently consulting with the Utility Regulator on the socialisation of connection costs and will at some point be considering the introduction of smart metering. DfI officials feel that the energy supply element in proposed replacement Act would sit with DfE and the Utility Regulator/SONI and NIE Networks.*

*With regards to taximeters and exhaust gas analysers, these are already covered by the existing Directive so are not impacted by the new proposal to widen its scope”.*

OPSS commented:

*There has been no formal assessment of impact undertaken by the UK Government for the new Directive. This is because it will not apply in GB as a result of the UK’s withdrawal from the EU, but will apply in NI under the Windsor Framework. However, during the process of developing the new EU Directive the EU held a public consultation as well as other stakeholder engagement activities.*

*Timings - Directive (EU) 2026/706 will enter into force on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2026 (the twentieth day following its publication in the Official Journal). Most of the changes made to the Measuring Instruments Directive (MID) by the new Directive will apply in Northern Ireland 30 months later on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2028. The new requirements must be implemented in NI legislation by April 2028 (within 2 years from entry into force). The UK Government will lay a Statutory Instrument to implement these changes in Northern Ireland, using powers in the Product Regulation and Metrology Act 2025 to amend the Measuring Instruments Regulations 2016 (MIR. These regulations will be made using the negative procedure.*

*We are reviewing whether implementing further similar measures would benefit Great Britain, taking into account any implications for the UK internal market and for UK businesses who are trading with the EU, and output from a Call for Evidence that we plan to issue later this year.*

*The new Directive updates the measuring instruments framework to EVSE, compressed gas dispensers, DC electricity meters, modern gas meter measurement (including hydrogen, energy conversion devices and gas calorific value determining devices) and thermal energy meters for cooling. The final text brings more measuring instruments (DC meters, EVSE + charging cables) in scope of the MID for the first time. The changes reflect modern performance requirements and technological developments so the Directive better reflects digitalised, automated and emerging energy systems. Some quick details:*

- *Several horizontal safeguards introduced – including explicit no retrofitting provisions for existing instruments in use, and provisions allowing early designation of notified bodies and early certification (for use by early adopters with instruments meeting the requirements of the new Directive).*

- *Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE): includes detailed accuracy classes & operating conditions. Also explicitly states no retrofitting obligations for existing charging stations and brings charging cables into scope.*
- *Electricity meters Direct Current (DC): explicitly and repeatedly integrates DC electrical energy meters (such as used in fast EV charge points) of the MID, amending existing definitions, operating ranges, electromagnetic environments, and testing requirements.*
- *Display and access to measurement results: introduces options for manufacturers on how different measuring instruments can display measurement, to improve accessibility of results. Gas and electricity meters can contain either a local display or remote display, and EVSE and compressed gas dispensers have a third option of using either a consumer or end-user device. The new Directive amends the existing definition of ‘direct sales’ to account for the remote display option, and amends the indication of result requirements to ensure the indication of result, no matter the display option used, is clear, unambiguous and tamper proof.*

*In line with the Government’s commitment to ensuring Northern Ireland traders have unfettered access to the rest of the UK internal market, these new measures will in no way impede the movement of qualifying Northern Ireland goods from Northern Ireland to Great Britain. Such goods will also continue to benefit from the market access principles set out in the United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020. Accordingly, so long as those goods meet Northern Ireland standards, they can be sold anywhere in the UK internal market.*

#### *GB change to allow remote display for meters in ESAs*

*Following our 2025 consultation on [Measuring instruments display requirements for ESAs - GOV.UK](#), we committed in the government response to lay an SI to allow an option for remote displays for ESAs by the end of this year, to come into force in 2027. This was an industry ask. We also referenced the need to consider the EU’s TTA and approach for GB.*