**Example Diary Transcript (OM5)**

**OM5 Diary Entries**

#### Diary Entry 1 – Date and time: 6pm 26/9/16

I think the energy monitors are an excellent idea. In the context of reducing global carbon emissions, it is important that each of us has a greater awareness of our energy usage, and the consequent carbon emissions. The energy monitors will help us develop this awareness.

#### Diary Entry 2 – Date and time: 8:15pm 30/9/16

The budget feature is extremely useful as it enables us to keep track of our spending on electricity in relation to a pre-set target. It is also useful to be able to use the arrow keys on the monitor to read the spending for the week, the previous week and month to date. This feature will be particularly useful for low income families needing to monitor costs closely.

#### Diary Entry 3 – Date and time: 3:25pm 2/10/16

It is interesting to note the way in which electricity usage fluctuates with the operation of different appliances. The speedometer is a useful feature in this respect. The fan oven and kettle are our highest usage appliances. The washing machine also uses a lot of electricity but this fluctuates with different stages of the wash cycle. In terms of changing behaviour we would probably cease doing part loads in the washing machine and reduce the wash temperature. Also less use of the large fan oven and more use of the small oven and microwave.

#### Diary Entry 4 – Date and time: 7:30pm 6/10/16

On the monitor we have only been using the £ cost feature on the display. This is because we are not really informed about the other measures, kWh and Kg CO2. When the meters are rolled out it would be useful to receive an information leaflet on these other measures. In relation to CO2 it might be helpful to give an indication of the typical CO2 emissions for an average household. We would then have a benchmark against which we could measure ourselves. Also perhaps a target level of CO2 to aim for if we are going to reduce CO2 emissions.

#### Diary Entry 5 – Date and time: 10:20am 9/10/16

The kWh indicator will be useful in helping us to choose the right tariff for us. Price comparison websites work better if one has an accurate knowledge of annual usage in kWh. From this we will be in a better position to compare tariffs between energy suppliers.

#### Diary Entry 6 – Date and time: 11:15am 15/10/16

A concern for us is how will the energy companies use the information gained from the monitors? Presumably the monitors will feed information back to the supplier? How will the supplier use this information? Utility companies, since privatisation, are there to make a profit. Will the usage information enable companies to extract more profit out of the consumer through more creative tariffs for example?

#### Diary Entry 7 – Date and time: 7:45pm 20/10/16

We have noticed that only about 80% of our light bulbs are energy saving ones. So this exercise has prompted us to change these over to energy saving bulbs. Overall, we have been more conscious of our energy usage over the trial period. It has increased our awareness of the need for energy conservation.