



SSEN Distribution

OUR FLEXIBILITY ROADMAP

March 2024



Scottish & Southern
Electricity Networks

DSO Powering Change



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Who we are and our role as a DSO

The future energy system

If the UK is to deliver its net zero emissions target by 2050, the energy industry needs to embrace fundamental change in order to decarbonise transport and heat.

For this transition to be successful it requires:

Greater utilisation of **flexible energy resources**, across electricity, heat and transport.

A clear understanding of **the value flexible resources can provide** at any one time; and

Greater **real-time coordination in energy system operation** to ensure that flexible resources can be 'optimised' across the energy system as a whole.

These services are being provided through functions within the Distribution Network Operators called Distribution System Operators (DSOs), which have three core areas:



Our DSO Toolkit



Strategic investment

Provide the capacity on the network to deliver net zero by 2050.

Ensure that we're making appropriate use of Flexibility Services to deliver efficient whole-system solutions at the optimum time.



Flexibility Services

Solutions that enable us to use our existing network efficiently.

Acts as an investment signal for strategic investment.

Provides an interim solution if there are long lead times for strategic investment.



Access Products

Connecting customers now, but with some level of compromise.

Complemented by Flexibility Services or strategic investment to meet customers' full needs as soon as possible.

✓ Our role is to work in partnership to optimise our electricity networks through Flexibility Services, Access Products and strategic investment, data, and emerging technology to facilitate decarbonisation of transport and heat at maximum pace, and at a minimal cost to all communities and consumers.

✓ Our approach is tailored to local needs to drive a just and fair transition, advising and guiding our stakeholders in coordination with local communities to help them deliver net zero at maximum pace and minimum cost.

✓ Our Net Zero Strategic Plans will play a crucial role in delivering network capacity in the most efficient and effective way. This will enable us both to maximise the opportunities from and for flexibility providers to delay reinforcement through flexibility and also identify sites with whole system benefits for strategic investment where it can accelerate net zero outcomes in the long term.



Delivering our DSO strategy

Identify system needs

Release capacity

Optimise capacity



Distribution Network Options Assessment

How we make investment decisions in the context of net zero

Flexibility road map

How Flexibility is going to change over time



Operational decision-making framework

How we make dispatch decisions



Network visibility strategy

How we gather information about our network

How we are driving transparency and coordination



Data roadmap

Our plans for sharing data and what it can be used for



Data portal

Where to access our data

KPIs

How we measure our progress in an accessible way for others to measure

Capability roadmap

How we are building capability over time (including our Control room vision)

DSO Advisory Board

External advisory board to ensure fairness of decision making and delivery of our plans

About this document

The Flexibility Roadmap describes the tools we have available to support safe and efficient system operation. It sets out why and when we use flexibility across the full range of Flexibility Services, Access Products and Price Signals.

DNOA aims to enhance industry transparency by outlining our decisions to meet future capacity needs across our licence areas in the longer term.

ODM sets out the way in which we dispatch Distributed Energy Resources (DER) to meet short-term capacity needs.

This document has three sections. Our flexibility toolkit; the products developed for each element of the toolkit and how this is informed by Stakeholder feedback.

The end of this document includes how you can engage and help us to continue and evolve refine our approach.





Why flexibility is important

We are optimising the use of our network to accelerate our Net Zero plans and ensuring safe and efficient operation of the network.

We use flexibility to release more capacity and manage constraints on the distribution network. Flexibility allows us to maximise the use of the existing network, enhance the use of future infrastructure and accelerate connections. Flexibility is a critical tool in enabling the transition to Net Zero and is essential to ensuring we do this in a cost-effective manner.

We are committed to delivering the benefits of flexibility for our customers and unlocking additional value from our assets through the efficient use of flexibility. This roadmap shows how we are adopting best practice to accelerate this transition and deliver for customers and stakeholders. We are fostering broader participation in flexibility markets through standardisation of products and tools, we are improving our customers experience and evolving our flexibility products with a new market platform, we are innovating and trialing new approaches across Flexibility Services, Access Products and Price Signals, and we are collaborating with industry and regulatory partners to inform the development of the sector.



Our commitment to all customers:

SSEN is focused on delivering for the communities we serve, and doing our part to ensure a just energy transition is critical to this role. We understand that any evolution must serve the needs of all stakeholders and customers, including the most vulnerable. At every stage of development, we take time and care to consider how any changes to the way we manage the electricity distribution system may impact the most vulnerable in our society. We encourage community stakeholders to engage with us in this process, which has the potential to deliver savings for all customers, including vulnerable customers and communities, while also driving our journey towards net zero.

It is vital that we deliver flexibility markets and products that meet the needs of all our customers, including domestic and vulnerable customers. The experience we gained from using flex for many years and gained from specific research, such as our successful SAVE trial of community interventions to support peak shaving, continues to shape our approach to engaging with communities. The SAVE project won the Network Awards Stakeholder Engagement Initiative of the year award 2019. Building on this, we partnered with Flex Assure and the Association for Distributed Energy to define common standards of practice for companies delivering energy Flexibility Services to domestic and micro-business customers, encouraging good practice and accountability under the HomeFlex programme. This will increase communication between flexibility aggregators and consumers by streamlining a method of complaint and complaint resolution.

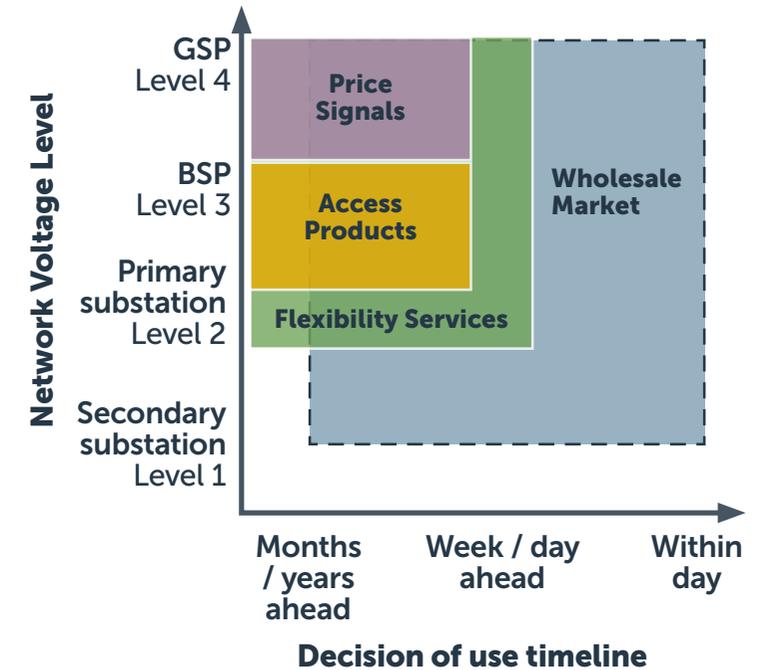


OUR FLEXIBILITY TOOLKIT



Our Flexibility toolkit

Our DSO Toolkit	What is it?	What do we use it for	Where is it used	When do we use it
 <p>Flexibility Service</p>	This is a contract arranged between a DSO and a DER allowing the DSO to request DER to vary usage at a specific time (generation or demand) in response to network needs. We refer to these DER as Flexibility Service Providers (FSP).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce, remove or defer the need for investment Manage network outages Respond to faults and urgent operational situations Accelerating Connections 	Level 2, 3 & 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year ahead Months ahead Week ahead Day ahead
 <p>Access Products</p>	Access Products allow customers to avoid delays when connecting to congested parts of the network using a range of connection options. They allow earlier customer connection by allowing the connected capacity to be temporarily limited by the DSO to manage network constraints.	Accelerating Connections	Level 2 & 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year ahead Months ahead
 <p>Whole-system Market and NESO Co-ordination</p>	Customers connected to our network and particularly those who already provide Flexibility Services for our network, also respond to wholesale market signals and provide NESO Flexibility Services. Our flexibility tool kit includes coordination with these whole system by designing our Flexibility Services and operating flexibility to maximise coordination.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole electricity system efficiency Managing wider GB system constraints 	Level 1, 2, 3 & 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year ahead Months ahead Week ahead Day ahead Within day
 <p>Price Signals</p>	Price Signals Influence behaviour of DERs by giving them signal on when to use or produce energy. These signals exist as part of the Distribution Use of System (DUoS) charges. The red, amber, green timing signalling through DUoS aims to give clear times where there is network congestion.	Reduce, remove or defer the need for investment	Level 3 & 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year ahead Months ahead



How our toolkit works together

We release network capacity through the efficient mix of Strategic Investment and Flexibility Services – our approach is set out in [our DNOA](#).

Where a new connection needs more capacity, we accelerate early connection using Access Products whilst we work to release the required capacity through the efficient mix of Strategic Investment and Flexibility Services (Note: in some cases, the new connector may choose to not trigger the creation of more capacity).



How we coordinate in the market and with the NESO

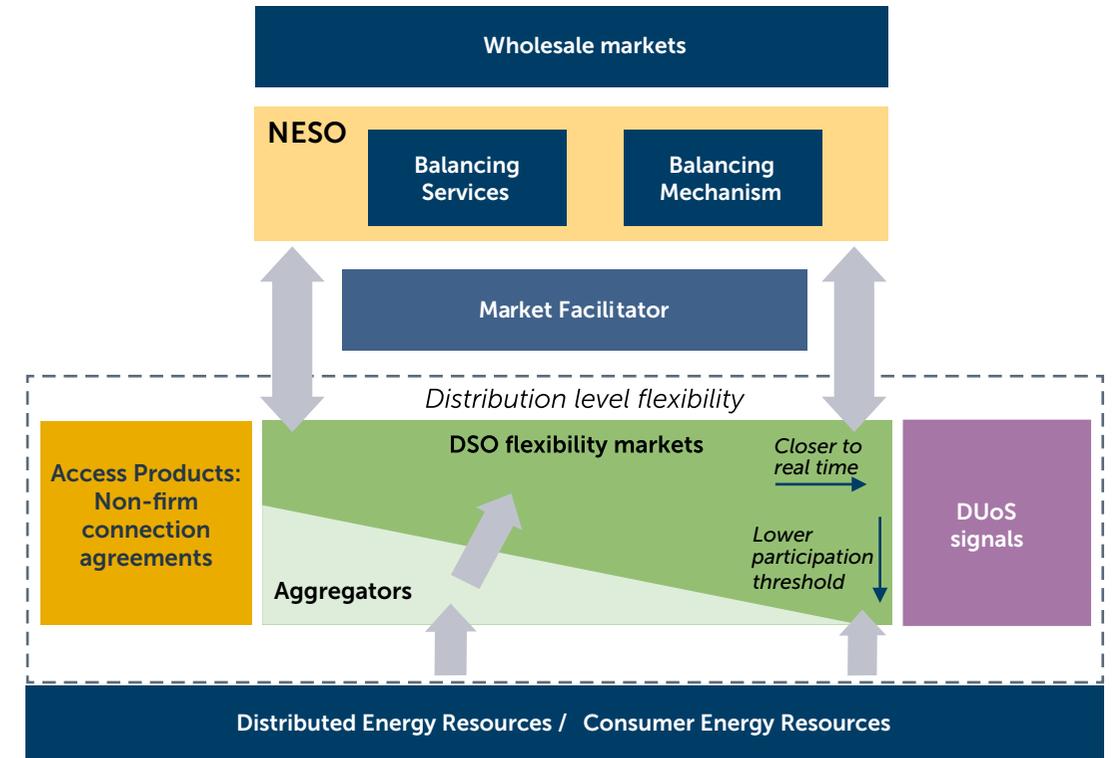
The NESO has been evolving its approach to maximise market access, resulting in CERs now beginning to participate in Balancing Services and smaller DERs via Virtual Power Plants entering the Balancing Mechanism.

Combining this with the expansion of our Flexibility Markets (with a 5 GW target by the end of ED2) it is essential coordination continues and evolves as the markets do.

Coordination is important in all parts of our process. From initial needs identification, where anticipation of customer behaviour is needed to identify where there is potential for network congestion. Through to the use of Access Products and the dispatch of services.

We recognise our customers are participating in other markets; they may also be operating under an Access Product and will be paying DUoS. We are continually looking to keep processes as simple as possible and maximise the ability for participants to do this seamlessly. Our Flexibility Services have been designed to support this with non-exclusivity clauses to enable stacking and alignment with the standardised ENA services. We expect this will allow providers to have the option participate in multiple markets whilst helping us.

The new Market Facilitator role will be vital in supporting this coordination as the complexity of these arrangements increase. We believe this role will support ease of data sharing with minimal conflicts and reduce the barriers for those looking to provide Flexibility Services with one system across all DSOs and the NESO.



We are leading and supporting the ENA's Open Networks portfolio of projects.

With standardisation of:

- Flexibility products
- Pre-Qualification
- Flexibility Contracts
- Dispatch API
- Settlement Process

And improved coordination through:

- Implementation of Primacy Rules
- Harmonisation of data shared between DSO and ESO
- Harmonisation of DER visibility

Our ODM framework explains how we provide information to NESO so they have visibility about the dispatch of our services and manage Access Products and can help inform their decision making. This process allows us to pro-actively coordinate our service to avoid conflict.



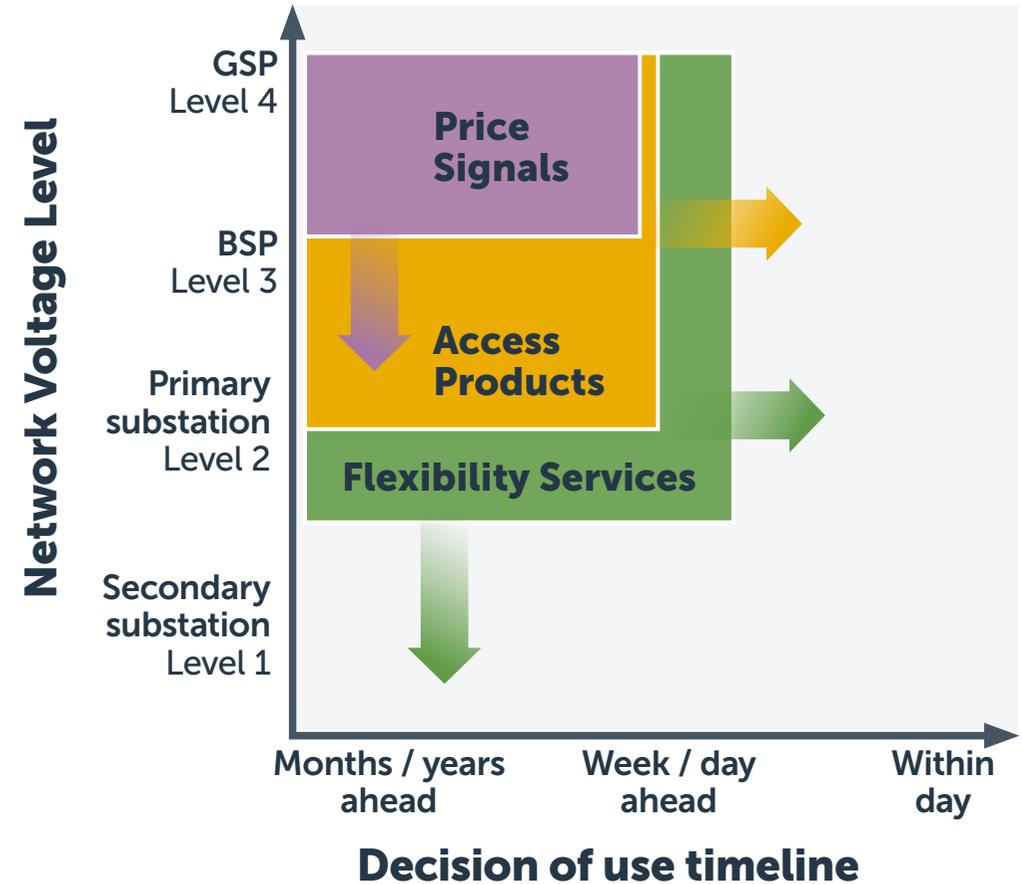


The evolution of our flexibility toolkit

The needs of our network are changing, and our flexibility tools will need to evolve with this change. This evolution is critical to ensure we continue to operate a network efficiently and safely.

We currently have limited ways to influence our Low Voltage network where our CER are connected. We do have Flexibility Services using CERs, however these are currently aggregated into larger volumes with the aim to influence power flows in the higher network voltages. Increasing Low Carbon Technologies (LCTs) at domestic level will require us to use Flexibility Services in our low voltage network.

The majority of our tools require us to make decisions in longer-term timescales. For example, our Access Products can be very dynamic in terms of when access to the network is possible, but the requirements are defined at the point of Connection Offer. Similarly, our Flexibility Services are procured seasons ahead or longer, with exact days of requirements confirmed in shorter timescales. We will need to complement our existing approaches with some shorter-term within day activity.



→ Arrows indicate the exploration of the potential for each solution on our current flexibility roadmap



Price Signals

Today's arrangements include DUoS as a key price signal. The red, amber, green timing-banded tariff components signalled through DUoS aim to indicate when there is network congestion.

As a singular set of tariffs applied across a licence area, DUoS does not directly address any specific network needs and is designed to give broad signals about when the network is typically congested, to encourage reductions in peak demand and generation and aid the releasing of network capacity.

We also anticipate Market-Wide Half-Hourly Settlement (MHHS) will change energy behaviours across our electricity network and is broadly expected to reduce network peaks and spread demand consumption across the day but will also lead to significant increases – for example at times when energy is cheapest to produce. In time, it is likely that the effects of MHHS will become a far larger influence on energy behaviour than DUoS

We consider use DUoS tariff Price Signals as a broad measure with long response times. The majority of the response to these signals is implicitly captured in our Distribution Future Energy Scenarios (DFES) as forecast network utilisation.

We are working with partners to explore how Price Signals influence customer behaviour through a range of innovation projects and are developing our forecasting capabilities to include forecasting of this expected customer response. We also encourage greater real-time awareness of local network usage through our provision of real-time open data through our NeRDA platform and published smart metering data which shows aggregated usage at the local LV feed level (i.e. total usage across a local street).

Our [CrowdFlex project](#) seeks to understand consumer demand and domestic flexibility to build interconnected models of consumer demand and flexibility. Whilst focused on Flexibility Services we expect the conclusions to be applicable to CER responding to Price Signals overall and will look to understand if these conclusions can inform price signal development.

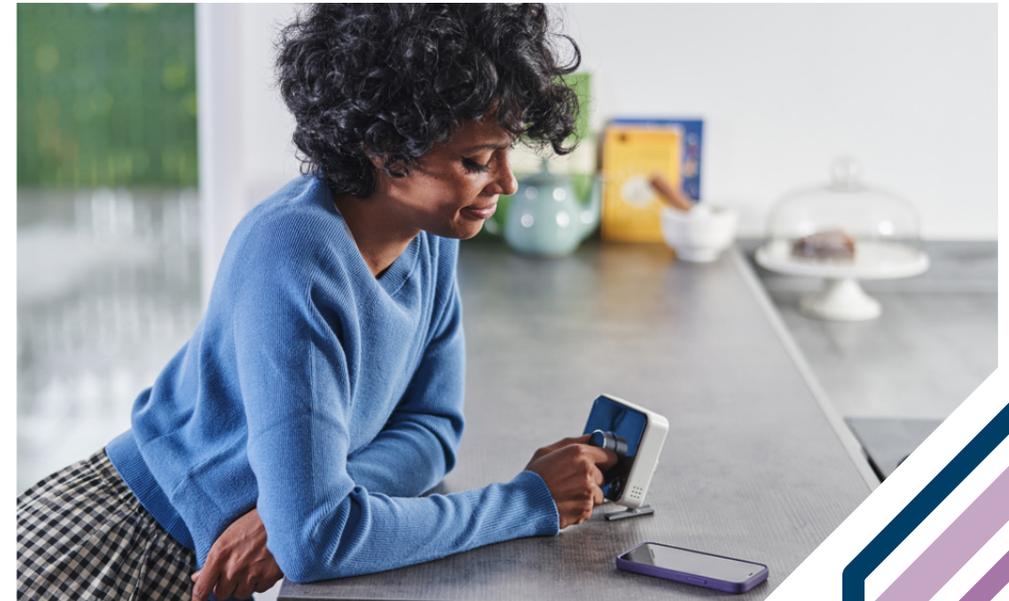


Types of network constraint

Fault level: when the maximum fault current exceeds what the network can safely manage during a short circuit event.

Thermal constraint: when the load on the network is greater than the ratings of our assets.

Voltage constraint: when the network voltages are either above, or below maximum or minimum acceptable voltage levels set out in the statutory limits.





Access Products and where they are used

Our Access Products are all focused on Accelerated Connections, with the aim to give customers the access and capacity they need in the fastest way possible when connecting to congested parts of the network. These services are typically used to resolve thermal constraints.

When we cannot give customers the full capacity they have requested due to network constraints, we will offer them four options that would allow a faster connection, each option has a slightly different variation of the Access Rights we can provide, this allows customers to make an informed choice. These four options are our standardised Access Products which were developed following Ofgem’s Access Significant Code Review (Access SCR). Our Access Products provide important signals to guide site specific and strategic reinforcement to remove congestion. We are actively promoting our Access Products to our largest customers and are developing more products for our smaller customers.

Under an Access Product, customers may pay less for their connection and/or obtain a faster connection in exchange for operating under a certain set of conditions either temporarily or indefinitely. Customers connected under an Access Product are paid for curtailment if we curtail them more than their agreed curtailment limit for that specific connection.

We also use Access Products to support connections where the transmission system is the limiting factor for connection. Our SWANS Active Network Management system is already operating to enable connections that would have otherwise been delayed by transmission network constraints and we have issued new connection offers to allow more customers to connect under NESO’s technical limits.

Product	Description
 OPTION 1: Offer for available Non-Curtailable Connection + interim Curtailable Connection + Curtailment End Date	This Offer option gives you access to as much electrical capacity as is available now and allows you to connect up to the offered level of Curtailment until the Curtailment End Date or, if this capacity is not available within the agreed Import Curtailment Limit, potentially to receive compensation (by way of Exceeded Import Curtailment Payments). Following completion of the Distribution Reinforcement Works you should have full non-curtailed access (subject to any other dependencies – such as the completion of any Transmission Works).
OPTION 2: Offer for available Non-Curtailable Connection + Reinforcement Completion Date	This Offer option gives you access to as much electrical capacity as is available right now, with a Reinforcement Completion Date from which you should have full non-curtailed access (subject to any other dependencies such as Transmission Works delaying access)
OPTION 3: Offer for available Non-Curtailable Connection + interim Curtailable Connection – no Curtailment End Date	This Offer option gives you access to as much electrical capacity as is available now and allows you to connect to the offered level of Curtailment or, if this is not available within agreed Import Curtailment Limit, potentially to receive compensation (by way of Exceeded Import Curtailment Payments). However, there is no offer of full non-curtailed access – you will not be able to connect for the full amount you originally applied for without restriction.
OPTION 4: Offer for available Non-Curtailable Connection only – no Reinforcement Completion Date	This Offer option gives you access to as much electrical capacity as is available right now, however, there is no offer of full non-curtailed access and so you will not be able to connect for the full amount you originally applied for.

Access Products



Flexibility service products and where they are used

We started using Flexibility Services in 2018 to respond to urgent events allowing us to keep customers connected and reduce reliance on diesel generators. Since this time, we are dispatching services for releasing network capacity and enabling project delivery and have started procurement for the acceleration of connections.

We will continue to use Flexibility Services to address all network needs when it is appropriate to do so.

We have been using the ENA's standard products of Secure, Sustain, Restore and Dynamic since inception. We have been working with the ENA and other DSOs under the Open Networks technical working group to update the standardised flexibility service definitions. The new products are defined by a) payment structure and b) when decisions are made about availability and utilisation within the procurement processes, rather than specific network needs or events.

The 'Operational Utilisation + Variable Availability' service product captures our previous Secure and Dynamic services and will initially be used in a similar way to support releasing network capacity and enabling project delivery. 'Scheduled Utilisation' aligns with our Sustain service. 'Operational Utilisation' aligns with our previous Restore service and used to manage Urgent Situations.

The majority of our Flexibility Service requirements are used to manage thermal constraints on our network. This can be in either high demand or high generation scenarios.

	Product	Description	Decision timescales	Payment
 Flexibility service products	Peak Reduction	This product seeks a reduction in peak power utilised over time. This response can manage peaks in demand.	Utilisation Instruction: At Trade	Utilisation
	Scheduled Utilisation	In this product, the time that flexibility is delivered has been pre-agreed in advance with the provider.	Utilisation Instruction: At Trade	Utilisation
	Operational Utilisation	This product allows for the use case where the amount of flexibility delivered is agreed nearer to real time.	Utilisation Instruction: Real Time or Week Ahead	Utilisation
	Operational Utilisation + Scheduled Availability	This product procures, ahead of time, the ability of an FSP to deliver an agreed change following a network abnormality.	Availability Refinement: Not allowed Utilisation Instruction: Real Time or Day Ahead	Availability + Utilisation
	Operational Utilisation + Variable Availability	This product allows for DNOs and the ESO to procure a level of contracted capacity, but then refine the requirements in terms of availability closer to the event.	Availability Refinement: Week Ahead or Month Ahead Utilisation Instruction: Real Time or Day Ahead or Week Ahead	Availability + Utilisation



The evolution of Price Signals and Access Products

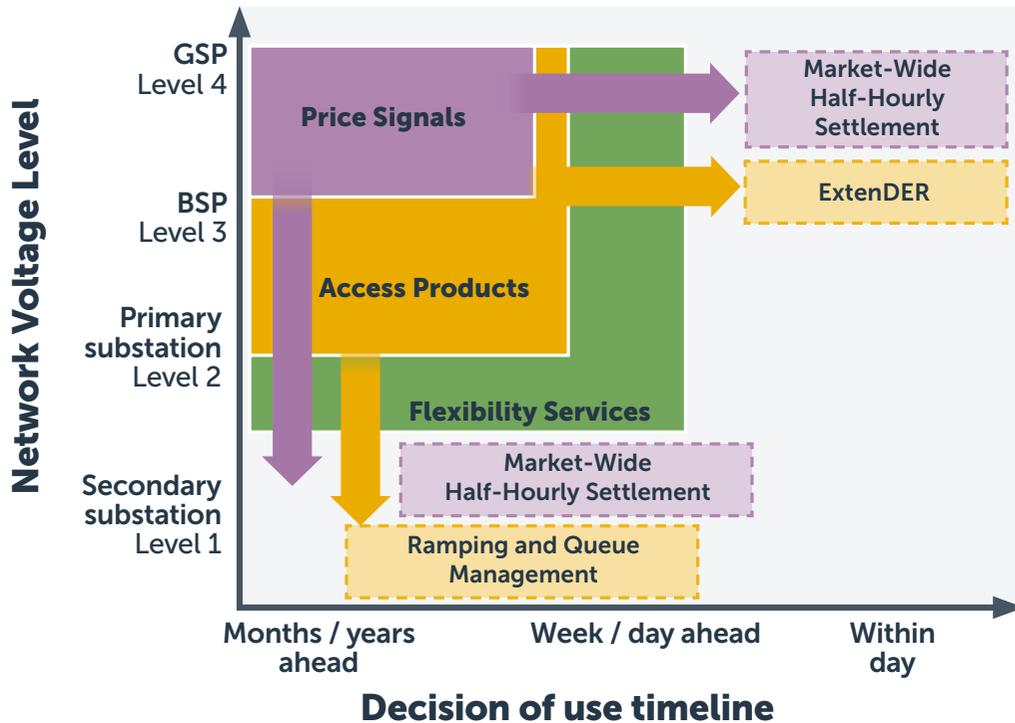
Price Signals

Regulatory reforms are underway that may impact the way Price Signals influence demand and generation on our network, and we continue to engage in these forums. These include Reform of Electricity Market Arrangements (REMA), MHHS and DUoS Reform. We recognise that sharper Price Signals could drive more unpredictable flows and peak loads, and as we understand how the market responds these changes, we will adjust our use of our other tools.

Access Products

We are evolving our range of Access Products to provide greater choice, certainty and to ensure that access options are considered on an efficient and commercial basis for all. Our customers are telling us that speed of connection is a top priority. So alongside evolution of our Access Products, we are implementing the recommendations of the ENA Strategic Connections Group in line with Connections Reform. This enables improvements for connections of storage, queue management, and Transmission/Distribution coordination on technical limits at GSPs.

Our key initiative have been developed based on customer feedback on the challenges they are experiencing with connecting to our network and all are focused on accelerating connections particularly around Thermal Constraint. ExtenDER is the activity that could move decisions on Access Products from longer time scales to closer to real time.



Initiatives	Description	Evolution over ED2
Distribution Queue Management	Reforming the connections queue to release capacity from stalled/stopped projects.	Through the ENA Strategic Connections Group.
Technical Limits	Changing how Transmission and Distribution networks coordinate connections.	Evolve in line with industry wide connections reform and stakeholder feedback.
Battery Storage	Greater flexibility for storage customers connected at distribution level.	
ExtenDER	Trial of new connection arrangement permitting non-firm connection, with no limited capacity guarantee from DNO. Then allow trading between connected parties to achieve the required import.	Exploring alternative approaches to network capacity allocation, including capacity as a service.
Ramping – to support efficient long-term investment	Customers with capacity requirements that are forecast to grow over a number of years can apply for capacity ramping.	
Ramping - within Transmission Capacity Constraints	Bespoke local product developed to allow connections in the heavily congested West London network, offering progressively more capacity over time.	This is a localised product that we will continue to deploy on a case-by-case basis.



The evolution of our Flexibility Services

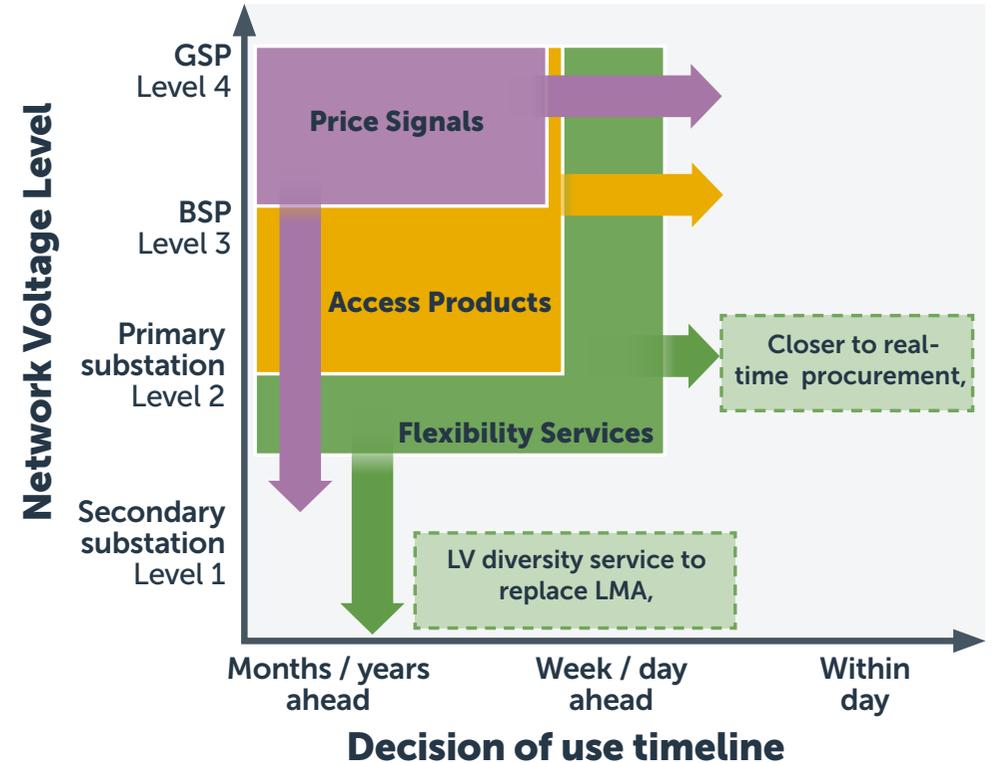
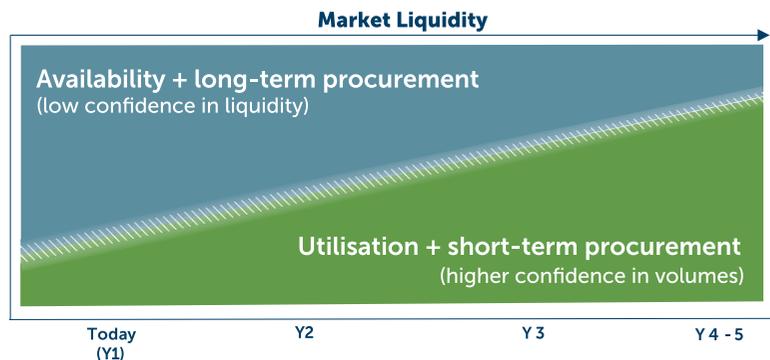


Flexibility Services

We want to increase market liquidity and minimise the market impact of the actions we take. Feedback from FSPs and potential FSPs recommended we combine long and short-term procurement to maximise those who can access the market. Through ED2 we will evolve our procurement to enable closer to real-time products, to encourage greater participation. This will occur for needs that emerge in the short term, such as where we have Urgent Needs and want to Enable Project Delivery. We will also do this for our requirements releasing network capacity where we have confidence, we have high market liquidity and therefore can procure services in short term markets

Using Flexibility Services to LV network can naturally create low market liquidity as there are few customers connected to any one LV network. We are innovating and running trials through the [LEON](#) and Load Managed Area projects to develop enduring diversification services

As we expand into Flexibility Services in LV networks it is critical that our most vulnerable customers are protected. Through the [Homeflex](#) initiative we partnered with Flex Assure and the Association for Distributed Energy to define common standards of practice for companies delivering energy Flexibility Services to domestic and micro-business customers, encouraging good practice and accountability. The code of conduct will act as a foundation for a Compliance Scheme for the regulation of the domestic flexibility industry, increasing communication between flexibility aggregators and consumers by streamlining a method of complaint and complaint resolution. We are also exploring how energy efficiency products and Smart Community Energy Schemes can be added to the suite of services we already procure.





OUR STAKEHOLDERS



Meeting our stakeholders' needs

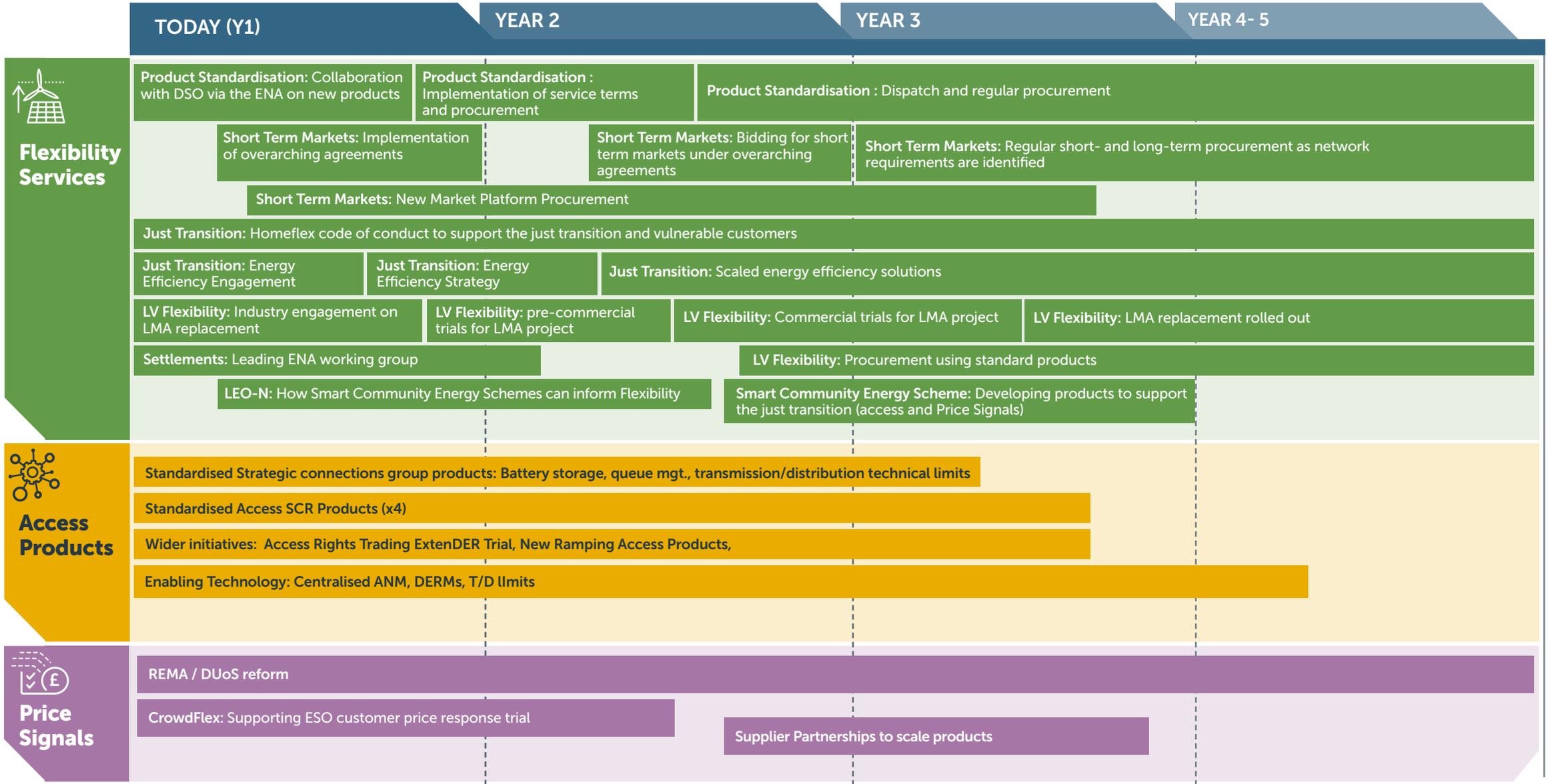
We consistently engage with stakeholders a selection of their feedback is outlined below.

	Stakeholder persona	Feedback theme	Feedback theme	What are we doing
Influenced by Price Signals or paying DUoS	DNOs and NESO	Standardisation	Standardisation across flexibility markets.	We are procuring standardised ENA products, implemented the new PQQ and contract.
	Domestic customers	Cost	Domestic customers want to minimise costs overall.	We are balancing the use of all our tools to minimise costs. We are also ensuring when we invest in our network it is used to its maximum capacity.
	Developers	Market certainty	Developers are looking for certainty are market costs and requirements.	We are focusing suggested improvements and reforms where they will have most impact for as minimal change as possible.
Connecting to the network	Developers	Speed	Developers of Generation and battery assets want to connect to the network as quickly as possible.	Queue Management has been reformed to release capacity from stalled projects. Changes in how battery projects are assessed
	Domestic customers	Speed	Domestic customers want low housing cost and housing developers want to provide new housing quickly which requires electricity connections.	We have developed ramping products that allow housing developers to add to their connection size as housing schemes increase over several years.
	Housing Developers			
	NESO	Standardisation	Improved coordination to ensure capacity is released through all voltage levels.	Changing how Transmission and Distribution networks coordinate connections.
Flexibility Services	Domestic customers	Cost	Domestic customers want to flexibility solutions to reduce their bills. Some domestic customers want to participate in flexibility markets.	We are working with potential FSP such as suppliers and behind the meter aggregators to enable domestic flexibility to participate. We have reduced minimum volume of participation to 10kW per CMZ.
	Vulnerable customers	Inclusivity	Vulnerable customers need our DSO transition to consider their needs at every stage They also want support for installing energy efficiency measures and information about community energy initiatives.	We are developing our energy efficiency initiative, our LEON project includes community energy schemes and our development of the Home Flex Code of Conduct ensures that best practice are understood.
	Wider market stakeholders	Liquidity	Stakeholders advocated for flexibility encompassing different voltage levels, managing both capacity and power consumption.	We are developing LV products through trials and innovation projects.
	Flexibility Services providers (FSPs)	Data	Stakeholders asked for better links between data sets.	We have published our Data Roadmap setting out our plans to improve data access for stakeholders.
		Systems	FSPs would like an easy procurement and dispatch process that can be automated and manual.	We are actively dispatching services via API in Flexibility Power. We have issued an ITT for a new Flexibility Services procurement platform that includes API requirements.
	Forecasting	FSPs requested longer-term forecasts for flexibility needs and associated revenue opportunities.	Our DNOA outlines our decision making process. The DNOA outcomes report will list out decision making at a specific site with the first of these being published in March 2023.	



The evolution of our flexibility toolkit

Our Flexibility Roadmap at a glance: This roadmap presents a consolidated view of our plans across our DSO toolkit. It covers the products that our currently available and how we expect them to evolve over the ED2 price control period.





2024 Timelines for tenders, webinars and other engagement

To aid your planning we have placed the engagement activities listed on the previous page on a calendar.

	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Tenders	Mkt. Platform tender closes	Mkt. Platform tender awarded		LMA Flexibility Services pre-qual	LMA Flexibility Services Tender			LMA Flexibility Services Award	Flexibility Services tender launch	Autumn tender round		
	Bidding round for those on overarching agreement	Short mini-competition	Current DPS pre-qualification questionnaire closes	New pre-qualification questionnaire opens	Flexibility Services tender launch		Bidding window	Call-off contracts awarded				
Publications		Publish DNOA Methodology V1.1	First DNOA Outcomes Report	On going DNOA outcomes published								
	Publish Flexibility Roadmap	Flexibility Roadmap consultation	SLC31E Procurement Report									
	Publish ODM	Publish ODM V1.1	SLC31E Procurement Statement	Initial Net Zero Strategic Plans	Future Net Zero strategic plan outputs per GSP							
Engagement		Ongoing engagement through innovation projects										
			Engagement on Net Zero Strategic plans	Webinar ahead of tender launch				Strategy Update Webinar	Webinar ahead of tender launch			
		Ongoing coordination with the ESO										
		LMA Flexibility Services Simulation Workshop						LMA Flexibility Services Trial Learnings Webinar				



Stakeholder engagement

✓ Have your say

With this release of the Flexibility Roadmap, we welcome stakeholder feedback through our consultation. We will use the feedback received to publish an updated version of the Flexibility Road Map by the end of March 2024.

We will publish a Seasonal Operability Report detailing of what flexibility has been dispatched each quarter and can be found on our Open Data portal. This provide further opportunity for you to have your say on how and when we have taken flexibility actions.

✓ Wider engagement

We will continue to engage with a range of stakeholders on our innovation projects including LMA Diversification and LEON.

We are holding an LMA Diversification workshop on the 6th of March to obtain feedback on our market models and to inform stakeholders on the ongoing commercial and trial development during the summer, ahead of trials. You can sign up here.

We are committed to facilitating all flexibility markets and have begun regular bilateral monthly coordination meetings with the ESO. In these meetings we will continue to work closely with the ESO to remove barriers from DER participation in ESO flexibility markets.

Respond to our consultation

Our consultation is open now until the **19th of March**.



Respond here 

More information on this publication

We are hosting a Webinar on this publication on the **4th of March** you can sign up to the event or if you can't make it, view the recording of the session at



Webinar recording 

Participate in Flexibility Services

Our next flexibility tender round which will allow providers to sign our overarching Flexibility Services agreement will launch in **May 2024**. To discuss with us directly how to participate in Flexibility Services email us at **flexibilityprocurement@sse.com**.



Sign up for our DSO newsletter



Glossary

Term	Description
Aggregators	A new type of energy service provider which can increase or moderate the electricity consumption of a group of consumers according to total electricity demand on the grid.
BAU	Business As Usual
BSP	Bulk Supply Point
CMZ	Constraint Managed Zones . These zones make use of technologies providing flexibility to alleviate network constraints, deploying them as an alternative to traditional network reinforcement in the management of peak demand.
Data triage	Systematically find issues which should inhibit open data, identify the 'least impact' mitigation technique(s) and make the process transparent.
Decarbonisation	Reducing the carbon intensity in terms of emissions per unit of electricity generated.
DER	Distributed Energy Resources. Any resource on the distribution system that produces or stores electricity. This can include distributed generation, storage, heat pumps and electric vehicles as well as other technologies.
DNO	Distribution Network Operator
DNOA	Distribution Network Options Assessment
DSO	Distribution Systems Operator. The directorate within SSEN that supports a more flexible network operation. Uniquely placed to ensure simple and consistent access to new markets for our active customers through maximising the utilisation of our existing electrical and communication networks.
DSOAB	DSO Advisory Board
DSAP	Digital Strategy and Action Plan
ESO	Electricity System Operator. The electricity system operator for Great Britain, making sure that Great Britain has the essential energy it needs by ensuring supply meets demand.
EV	Electric Vehicle
FSO	Future System Operator. Ofgem intend to set up an expert, independent FSO with responsibilities across both the electricity and gas systems and the ability to expand its remit to additional energy vectors when needed. The FSO will be in the public sector, with operational independence from government.
GDN	Gas Distribution Network
GIS	Geographic Information System
GSP	Grid Supply Point
GW	Gigawatt
HV	High Voltage
IDNO	Independent Distribution Network Operator
kWh	Kilowatt hour

Term	Description
LAEP	Local Area Energy Plan. A data-driven and whole energy system, evidence-based approach that sets out to identify the most effective route for the local area to contribute towards meeting the national net zero target, as well as meeting its local net zero target.
LCT	Low Carbon Technologies
LENZA	Local Energy net zero Accelerator. SSEN's tool for supporting local authority LAEPs.
LEO(N)	Local Energy Oxfordshire (Neighbourhood)
LTDS	Long Term Development Statements. Designed to help to identify and evaluate opportunities for entering into arrangements with us relating to use of system or connection.
LV	Low Voltage
MW	Megawatt
NDP	Network Development Plan
NeRDA	Near Real-Time Data Access
NIA	Network Innovation Allowance
NMF	Neutral Market Facilitator will provide a market for trading use of Distributed Energy Resources (DERs).
NESO	National Energy System Operator
Open Data	Data in a machine-readable format that can be freely used, shared and built on by anyone, anywhere, for any purpose.
PSR	Priority Services Register. Our register of vulnerable customers.
RIIO-ED2	Price control for Electricity Distribution (2023-2028)
RSP	Regional System Planner. Ofgem proposal for regional energy system planning bodies.
SDG	Sustainability Development Goals
SEPD	Southern Electric Power Distribution
SHEPD	Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution
SIF	Strategic Innovation Fund
SME	Small Medium Size Enterprise
SSE	Scottish and Southern Electricity
TO	Transmission Owner
TOM	Target Operating Model
VFES	Vulnerability Future Energy Scenarios
VIVID	Vulnerability Identification Via Informative Data

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