



FLEXIBILITY ROADMAP

Interim Update March 2025

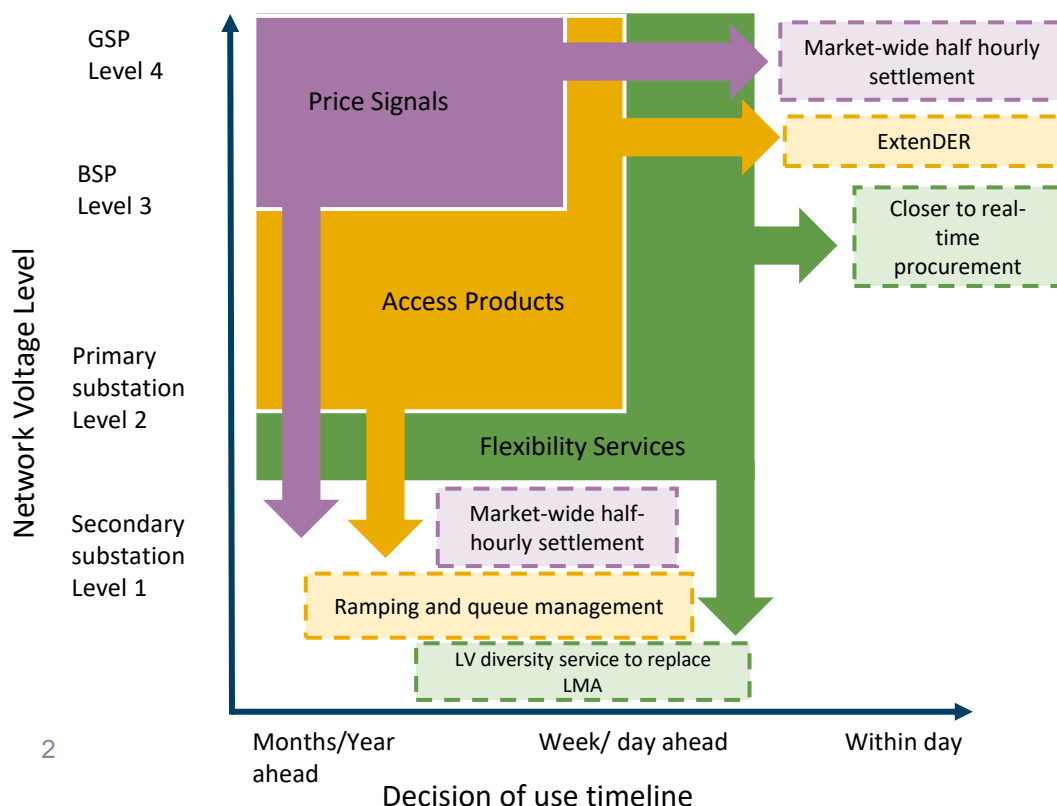


Scottish & Southern
Electricity Networks

●●●● FLEXIBILITY ROADMAP INTERIM UPDATE

We released our Flexibility Roadmap following consultation in May 2024. This short update summarises progress so far and our focus for the coming year. This is supported by our SLC31E Procurement Statement and Procurement Report. Please read it alongside the Flexibility Roadmap: [ssen-flexibility-roadmap-2024.pdf](https://www.ssen-flexibility-roadmap-2024.pdf). Also included here is our updated thinking on Access Products and more detail on our plans for developing the technology Systems for Flexibility to support this work

Join our engagement sessions in Summer 2025 to update the Flexibility Roadmap for the rest of the ED2 period, reflecting ongoing industry changes like the Market Facilitator Function.



Highlights of progress since the start of ED2:

- Flexibility has been used to manage the timing of investment of up to £100M of new infrastructure needs.
- Increased opportunities to participate in Flexibility Services through the commencement of short term markets and procurement to meet Low Voltage needs.
- Launched our industry-leading next generation 'Systems for Flexibility' programme with a wide range of partners. Starting first with the delivery of our Flexibility market platform.
- Introduced our Operational Decision Making approach, explaining how those with Curtailable Connections and Flexibility Products are considered during our decision making
- Continued to iterate and refine Flexibility Service contracting to get to one Overarching Agreement for participation in all standard services
- Providing access to new markets through a pioneering data exchange with the NESO's Local Constraint Market to help manage transmission outages.

DEVELOPING FLEXIBILITY SERVICES TO RELEASE MORE CAPACITY

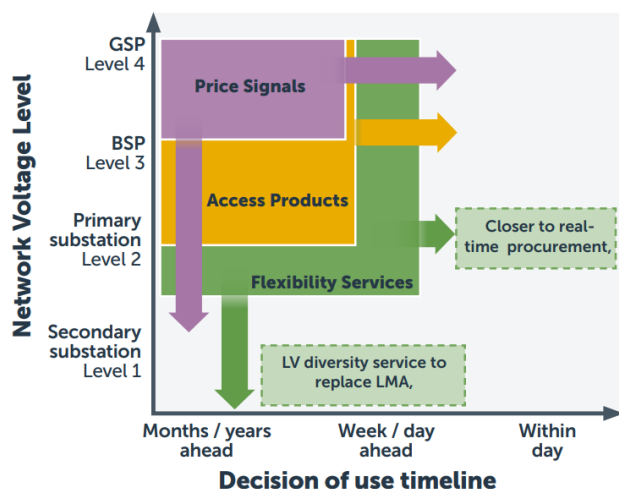
We are on track with all our Flexibility Roadmap commitments, aiming to boost liquidity and minimise the impact of our actions on the market. We are also building on feedback from FSPs to maximise participation.

In 2024/25 we introduced the use of the 'Scheduled Utilisation' product to address network needs at lower voltage levels. We continue to innovate on procuring local flexibility with our [Load Managed Area](#) Project.

We continue to move procurement closer to real-time, enabled by our new Flexibility Market Platform, ElectronConnect. As part of our [Systems for Flexibility](#) programme we are collaborating with Electron to continue to develop its functionality.

Potential uncertainty regarding use and return on investment has been identified barrier to participation in longer-term markets. Over the next year we will look to address this through new applications of Flexibility Products building on our [islands RFI initiative](#) and participation in [LEMA](#).

We are continuing our work with DESNZ, Ofgem and Elexon to share insights and establish next steps from our [Homeflex](#) innovation project.



Initiative	Description	Update
Months / Years Ahead Procurement	Procurement of Flexibility Services for more than three months ahead of delivery	3 Bidding Rounds ran in 2024/25, with the same planned for 2025/26.
Month Ahead Procurement	Procurement of Flexibility Services at 1 month ahead of delivery	Short term tenders started in September 2024 and have been run every month since.
Day Ahead Procurement	Procurement of Flexibility Services the day before the service is required.	We aim to trial the introduction of Day Ahead markets in Autumn 2025/26
Unique Service: Stability	Service to support the network when not connected to the main transmission network	Procurement has started for a multi-year contract in Shetland and the Western Isles.
Unique Service: Load Managed Areas	Service aims to improve diversification where herding could cause overloads.	We conducted virtual trial in 2024/25 and are expecting to run field trials in 2025/26.
Unique Service: LMA Interim Payments	Service provides a bridge between a new diversification service and current arrangements.	Procurement of started in 2024/25. We may additional opportunities in 2025/26.

DEVELOPING OUR ACCESS PRODUCTS TO CONNECT CUSTOMERS FASTER

We are on track with all our Flexibility Roadmap commitments, evolving Access Products to maximise choice and certainty, enabling our customers to make informed decisions about the best approach for them and to facilitate quicker access to our network. **Access Products (including flexible and curtailable connections) have enabled over 650GWh of renewable generation production through constrained part of the network.**

In our DSO action plan we identified the need to offer a greater variety of Access Products, particularly on more local networks and at lower voltage levels. We are prioritising options here that support opportunities such as the electrification of transport (e.g. electric bus fleets and ferries) and accelerating new housing developments, though our new “Timed access” and “Community Smart Access” products which are progressing through development and early-stage trials.

Opportunity

Where usage patterns can be predicted and the risk of variation is small, we are developing new options to connect which don't require the full infrastructure of an ANM system, such as a ‘timed connection’ where the customers access rights are agreed so that their connection is restricted to a given period of time. This helps keep costs low and avoid unnecessary delay. We are developing ways to monitor or enforce these types of connections and make them available as part of our suite of Access Products.

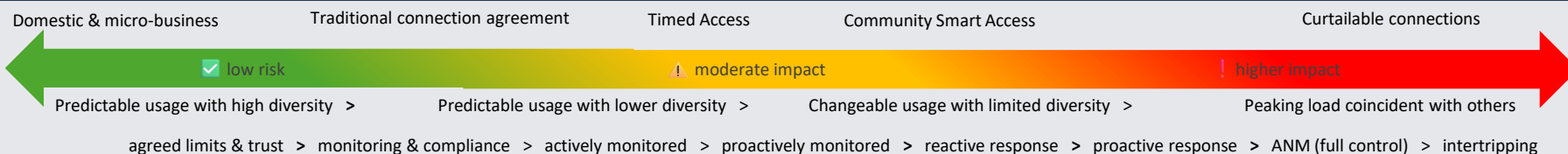
Development

- Timed connection (agreed time periods for capacity)
- Ramped connection (phased increase in capacity, in certain areas)
- Working with partners to build a platform to manage Low to Moderate risk Access Products. Monitoring usage compliance and reporting performance to the customer and SSEN where usage exceeds agreed rights to help correct future operation.
- Community Smart Access product to accelerate new build housing in congested network areas. Using access products and flexibility services to coordinate and connect housing faster. We are doing this through Local Energy Market Alliance (LEMA)

Access Product Principles

- Are a temporary measure whilst we work to reinforce the network and release the capacity in full
 - A range of products to meet a spectrum of needs, low risk/low cost to high risk/high cost
 - We minimise distribution intervention in the broader market

Range of Access Products with varying risk and impacts

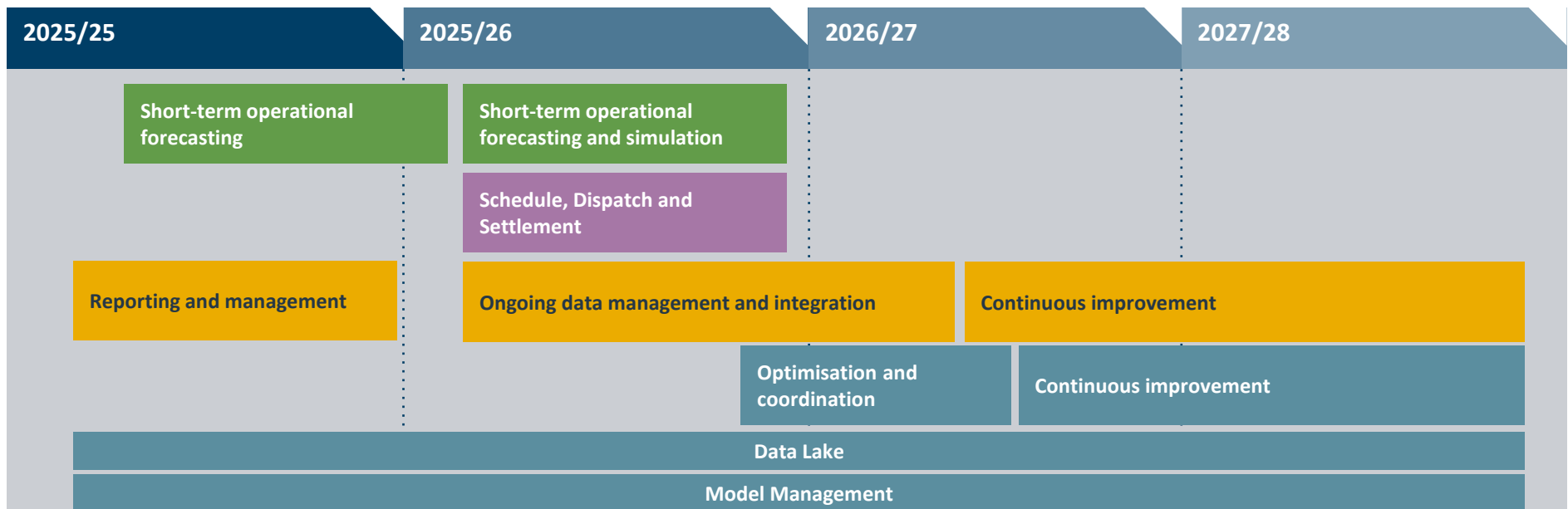


OUR SYSTEMS FOR FLEXIBILITY ROADMAP AT A GLANCE

We are scaling for our needs and the needs of network users. Our vision is for systems and tools that unlock flexibility for all to deliver the most benefit. We are not gate keepers we are stimulators, acting to reduce friction.

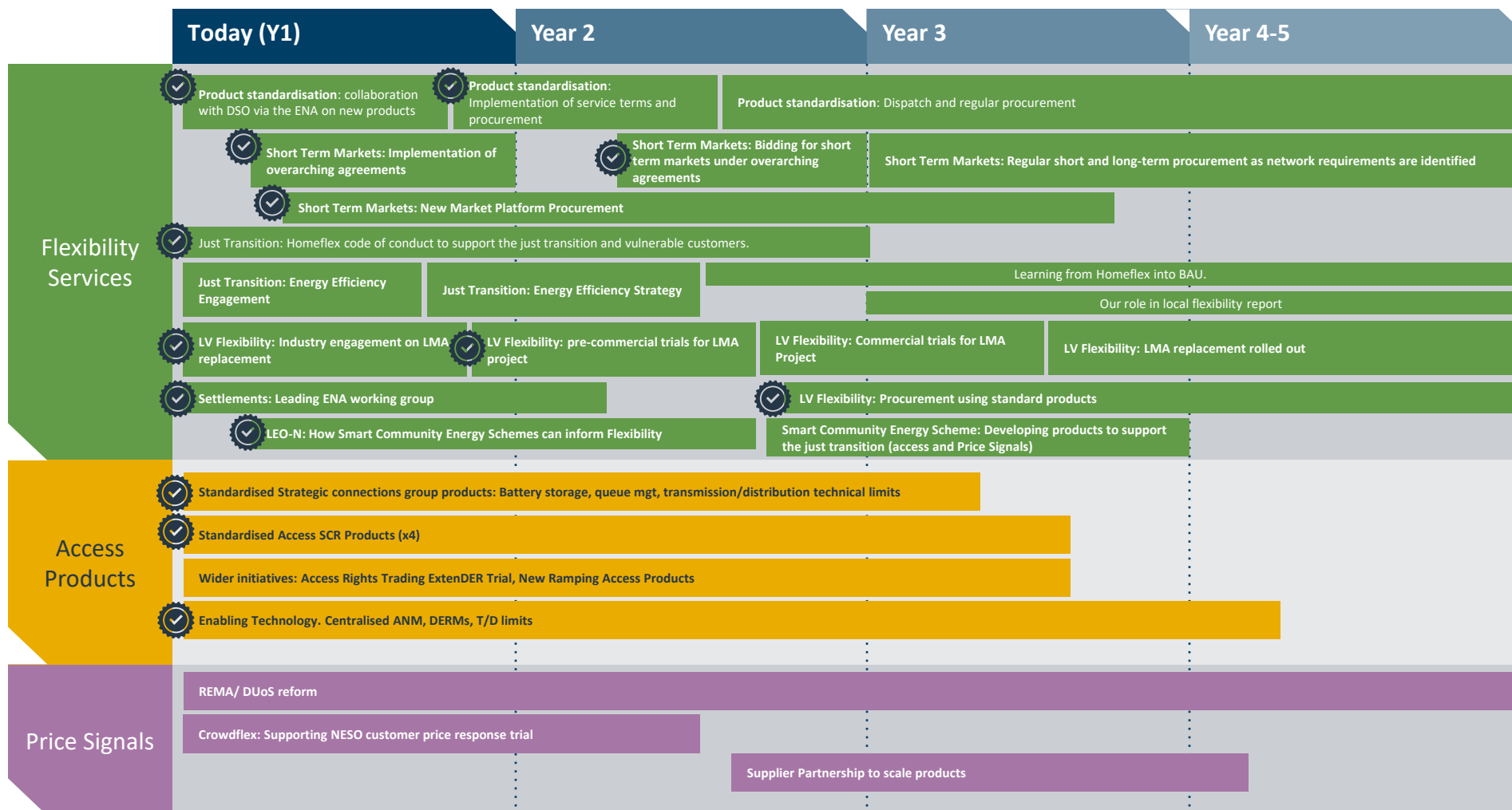
Building on our ElectronConnect Flexibly Market Platform, this programme is identifying the next generation of systems to operate a smarter more flexible network which will:

- Maximise **DSO Services** by efficiently coordinating **Flexibility Services**, **access right management** and **outage planning**; and **enable NESO** and **wider system flexibility for** distribution network connected customers
- Build on **GB-wide opportunities**, including Data Sharing Infrastructure (DSI), The creation of the Market Facilitator and Flexibility Market Asset Registration (FMAR) leading into Flexibility Digital Infrastructure (FDI).
- In order to support **fair and efficient operational decisions** that ensure a **safe and secure network** – defined in **Operational Decision-Making (ODM)** Framework



OUR FLEXIBILITY ROADMAP AT A GLANCE

This roadmap presents a consolidated view of our plans across the DSO toolkit. It covers the products that are currently available and how we expect them to evolve over the ED2 price control period. The actioned marked with a 'tick' have been fully implemented.





25/26 timelines for tenders webinars and other enagagement

2025												2026		
Apr		May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar		
<div>Tenders</div>	Mini Competition	Contract Signatures	Long-Term Bidding			Mini Competition				Mini Competition		Long-Term Bidding		
		Stability Services Contract Award	Season-Ahead Bidding		LMA Interim Payment Procurement		Contract Signatures		Season-Ahead Bidding			Contract Signatures	Season-Ahead Bidding	
	DDS Trials						Trials of Day-Ahead Bidding							
	Short-Term Bidding	Short-Term Bidding	Short-Term Bidding	Short-Term Bidding	Short-Term Bidding	Short-Term Bidding	Short-Term Bidding	Short-Term Bidding	Short-Term Bidding	Short-Term Bidding	Short-Term Bidding	Short-Term Bidding	Short-Term Bidding	
<div>Publications</div>	SLC31E Procurement Statement	SLC31E Procurement Report	KPIs			KPIs			KPIs			Refreshed DNOA Methodology Consultation	Refreshed DNOA Methodology	
	DNOA Outcome Reports													
	Strategic Development Plans per Grid Supply Point (GSP)													
	Update to Flexibility Services Roadmap								ODM Consultation				Refreshed ODM	
<div>Engagement</div>	Mini-Competition Engagement Period			Mini-Competition Engagement Period					Mini-Competition Engagement Period	Elexon commence Market Facilitator function				
	Ongoing coordination with NESO													
	Ongoing coordination with other DSOs, ENA and Elexon													