

Open Networks 2023 Detailed Work Plan

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DOCUMENT CONTROL

Authorities

Version	Issue Date	Authorisation	Comments
1	31/01/2023	Open Networks Steering group	

Related documents

Reference 1	Open Networks 2023 Launch Document (available on ENA website, link to be added in next iteration of document)
Reference 2	Challenge Group 2022 Report
Reference 3	Strategic Roadmap for Flexibility (available on ENA website, link to be added in next iteration of document)

Change history

Version	Description
1.0	Programme launch January 2023

Distribution

Public – Published on ENA website

Visit the [Open Networks](#) website to learn more about the programme and get involved. You can also reach out to us at opennetworks@energynetworks.org.

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Energy Networks Association

Energy Networks Association (ENA) represents the owners and operators of licences for the transmission and/or distribution of energy in the UK and Ireland. Our members control and maintain the critical national infrastructure that delivers these vital services into customers' homes and businesses.

ENA's overriding goals are to promote UK and Ireland energy networks ensuring our networks are the safest, most reliable, most efficient and sustainable in the world. We influence decision-makers on issues that are important to our members. These include:

- Regulation and the wider representation in UK, Ireland and the rest of Europe
- Cost-efficient engineering services and related businesses for the benefit of members
- Safety, health and environment across the gas and electricity industries
- The development and deployment of smart technology
- Innovation strategy, reporting and collaboration in GB

As the voice of the energy networks sector, ENA acts as a strategic focus and channel of communication for the industry. We promote interests and good standing of the industry and provide a forum of discussion among company members.

ENA's Open Networks programme is one of the strategic initiatives that we lead on behalf of our members to enable the transition to a smart and flexible energy system to enable Net Zero.

Our members and associates

Membership of Energy Networks Association is open to all owners and operators of energy networks in the UK.

- ▶ Companies which operate smaller networks or are licence holders in the islands around the UK and Ireland can be associates of ENA too. This gives them access to the expertise and knowledge available through ENA.
- ▶ Companies and organisations with an interest in the UK transmission and distribution market are now able to directly benefit from the work of ENA through associate status.

ENA Members



ENA Associates

Chubu	Heathrow Airport	Network Rail
EEA	Jersey Electricity	TEPCO
Guernsey Electricity Ltd	Manx Electricity Authority	

Open Networks programme

Launched in January 2017, ENA's Open Networks programme is laying the foundations of a smart, flexible energy system in the UK. 2022 marked five years of work on the Open Networks (ON) programme, a key driver in delivering the UK's Net Zero ambition as set out in BEIS' and Ofgem's Smart Systems and Flexibility Plan (2021). The 2021 update of the plan identified Open Networks as delivering a step up in alignment between distribution flexibility services and ESO services.

Key drivers for 2023

Whilst the support for the programme has been unanimously positive, we have received feedback from stakeholders that the delivery of key outcomes could be faster. There has also been some concern around the speed and consistency of implementation of Open Networks outputs by the participating members, resulting in limited improvements to customer experience for stakeholders such as flexibility providers.

In 2023, Open Networks is looking to address our stakeholders' concerns by acknowledging any shortcomings and refocusing our activities around delivering tangible consistent changes to industry practices across the participating members, rather than just providing recommendations for changes.

The focus of Open Networks will be to increase participation and volume in the local flexibility market. In line with the actions from the Smart Systems and Flexibility Plan (2021), we will focus on:

- Making it easier for flexibility service providers to participate in the flexibility market by standardising products, processes and contracts
- Improving operational coordination between networks and companies to remove barriers to delivery of services
- Putting in measures to improve the transparency of processes, reporting and decision-making.

Programme Delivery

Open Networks is a strategic and long-term programme of work. Through this and future phases of the programme, we will continue developing and implementing the change required to enable Net zero. Open Networks will continue to inform and implement key policy on Distribution System Operation. As in previous years, we will continue to progress important "big ticket" actions that enable us to deliver stronger co-ordination across transmission and distribution, whilst recognising the potential for changes to future roles and responsibilities to deliver the key functions most effectively. The Smart Systems and Flexibility Plan (2021) also sets out a number of actions for the Open Networks programme to deliver against, and these have directly informed our priorities and scope as set out in this document.

In 2023, a reduced number of active technical working groups have been scoped with specific measurable outcomes, alleviating some of the resourcing pressure and supporting DSO ODI focus on exceeding baseline expectations (In 2022, Open Networks delivered key outputs across 24 technical working groups). This detailed work plan will act as the guidance document for delivery of outputs in the programme, recognising that we must be flexible and agile in our approach. Key outputs from the 11 technical working groups scoped for delivery across 2023/24 are articulated in this document for individual work areas with timelines for consistent implementation. We acknowledge several imminent key industry/policy developments. We expect that there may be additional areas of work that are identified through the delivery of the programme and/or through wider industry developments. We will need to review how we may deliver these considering priorities and available resources at that time.

To deliver standardisation, some recommendations made by the technical working groups are likely to require material changes by some network companies. Network companies have therefore committed appropriate senior-level engagement within the companies to ensure the programme objectives are delivered. Changes in the programme governance have also been put in place to facilitate this (see further details in Appendix A).

Open Networks is working in collaboration with the industry and other ENA initiatives and working groups that are addressing key aspects of the transition, such as digitalisation and the uptake of Low Carbon Technologies. (See further details in Appendix B).

Open Networks Workstreams

The 2023 objectives will be delivered by consolidating the programme into three new workstreams aligned with the DSO roles as defined by Ofgem:

1. Planning and Network Development
2. Network Operation
3. Market Development

Planning and Network Development Workstream

Workstream remit

The focus of this workstream is to improve and optimise forecasting and planning processes. In order to enable better planning and design of networks, whilst ensuring the visibility of upcoming and future flexibility requirements.

Technical working groups	Description	Final output(s)
Carbon Reporting	Support Ofgem's/BEIS' initiative to achieve common methodologies for carbon reporting and monitoring across DNOs and system operator.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implement the methodology recommended (published in 2022) for 2023 reporting - Further develop methodology in areas noted in the 2022 report - Implement the developed methodology consistently for 2024 reporting
Network Development Plan and Co-ordination Register	Review and update the Network Development Plan (NDP) and Whole Electricity System Coordination Register Form of Statement (FoS) as required.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implement the updated NDP FoS (published in 2022) for 2023 NDP -Update Co-ordination Register FoS if necessary and implement the updated FoS in 2024 publication
DER Information	Governance options and implementation plan for receiving consistent information from DER.	- Roll out the DER information specification across all DNOs with appropriate governance by April 2024 (and/or trigger code modes as appropriate)
Common Evaluation Methodology**	Governance of Common Evaluation Methodology (CEM) (and tool) used to evaluate flexibility and traditional intervention options.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Make the tool ED2 ready (April 2023) -Share source-code of the CEM methodology for each DNO to implement in their internal systems (Oct 2023)
ANM Curtailment Information**	Improved provision and accessibility of curtailment information for ANM enabled flexible connections.	-Implement the heatmap update and data sharing recommendation set out in 2022

** Not Resource Intensive

Details of technical working groups for 2023

Carbon Reporting

Main outputs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the methodology recommended (published in 2022) for 2023 SLC31E 2023 submission Enhanced methodology (areas of development noted in the 2022 report) and implement the developed methodology consistently for 2024 SLC31E 2023 submission 					
Public consultation: Yes		Focus Group: Optional		Consultancy support: No	
Background <p>This area of work was introduced to Open Networks in 2022 based on action 3.6 in the Smart Systems and Flexibility Plan that requires networks to develop common methodologies for carbon reporting and monitoring of flexibility markets by 2023. The working group have recommended a consistent methodology for 2023 reporting for the Standard Licence Condition (SLC) 31E.</p>					
Activity for 2023 <p>This working group will support individual DNOs to implement the methodology recommended by the working group in 2022. The working group will then undertake further development of the carbon reporting methodology as noted in the 2022 methodology report. These recommendations include inputs received from the flexibility consultation, BEIS, and the Challenge Group.</p> <p>Following the consultation of the new methodology proposal, the working group will support consistent implementation of the proposed methodology for 2024 C31E reporting. The working group will also work with ENA to determine the approach to future governance for the carbon reporting methodology.</p>					
Delivery plan					
Ref	Delivery Element	Deliverables	Scope/description	Delivery timeline	Governance timeline
A	Implement 2022 recommendations	Collated feedback (not for external publication)	The working group will support the implementation of the methodology set out in the 2022 report for use in the carbon reporting for SLC31E in 2023.	Jan-23 - Mar-23	
			Review pre-publication experience implementing the methodology.		
B	Development of methodology-1	Proposal to improve on existing methodologies	Undertake a review of (part of future work in 2022 report) technology categorisation to follow market and technology developments. The working group will produce a report to present the findings.	Jan-23 - May-23	06-Jun: Final workstream review 15-Jun: ON Steering

					Group approval Jun-23: Publication of proposal to improve methodology
	Stakeholder engagement	Workshop/ focus group	Review stakeholder feedback post C31E statements publication. Work with providers to incorporate asset specific information or calculations to increase accuracy.	Jun-23	
C	Development of methodology-2	Updated Carbon reporting and forecasting methodology	Undertake a review of (part of future work in 2022 report): -Evaluate source and use of granular grid intensity time series data to improve accuracy, and hence suitable assumptions on timing of storage charging and demand payback -Review other applications of flexibility for inclusion in the methodology -Sensitivity analysis in reporting.	Jun-23 - Aug-23	12-Sep: Final workstream review 21-Sep: ON Steering Group approval
D	Implement 2023 recommendations	Updated consolidated report	Enduring governance on carbon reporting methodology, including a repository for data and assumptions.	Nov-23	05-Dec: Final workstream review 14-Dec: ON Steering Group approval Dec-23: Consolidated report and methodology publication

Network Development Plan and Coordination register

<p>Main outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An updated FoS with a proposal to include a “Transmission Capacity Indicator” - information on transmission network constraints that could be provided to support the following year’s Network Scenario Headroom Reports. 																							
Public consultation: Yes		Focus Group: No		Consultancy support: No																			
<p>Background</p> <p>A new licence condition was introduced in 2019 requiring DNOs to publish Network Development Plans (NDP). All DNOs followed a finalised Form of Statement (FoS) for the NDP reports, that was published in Q4 2021. The working group have since proposed an update to the FoS in 2022.</p> <p>Similarly, all relevant licensees also published a Whole Electricity Co-ordination Register, following the FoS published in Q4 2021. It was deemed that no updates were needed to the register FoS for the time being.</p> <p>Activity for 2023</p> <p>The work in 2023 will continue to build on the past year’s work, improving the NDP FoS in response to both stakeholder feedback and the DNOs’ experience using the FoS.</p> <p>The working group will work closely with TOs and ESO to determine what, if any, information on transmission network constraints (e.g. EISDs per GSP) could be provided to support next year’s Network Scenario Headroom Reports. The working group will then review and confirm time and frequency of further review of the Form of Statement for the next year’s NDP . Following the recommendation, the NDP working group will be dormant until the next review.</p> <p>The working group will also review a need for amendments to the whole electricity register following the confirmation of the whole system licence condition. Additional work will then be scoped out based on the outcomes of the review.</p> <p>Delivery Plan</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Ref</th> <th>Delivery Element</th> <th>Deliverables</th> <th>Scope/description</th> <th>Delivery timeline</th> <th>Governance timeline</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>Implementation of 2022 proposals</td> <td>Publish NDP & Coordination Register</td> <td>DNOs to publish consistent curtailment NDPs and Whole Electricity System Co-ordination Register as set out in the 2022 FoS.</td> <td>Jan-23 - May-23</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>B</td> <td>Improvements to NDP FoS</td> <td>Transmission Capacity Indicator</td> <td>Review what, if any, information on transmission network constraints per GSP can be provided to support Network Scenario Headroom Reports.</td> <td>Jan-23- Jun-23</td> <td>11-Jul: Final workstream review 20-Jul: ON Steering Group approval</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						Ref	Delivery Element	Deliverables	Scope/description	Delivery timeline	Governance timeline	A	Implementation of 2022 proposals	Publish NDP & Coordination Register	DNOs to publish consistent curtailment NDPs and Whole Electricity System Co-ordination Register as set out in the 2022 FoS.	Jan-23 - May-23		B	Improvements to NDP FoS	Transmission Capacity Indicator	Review what, if any, information on transmission network constraints per GSP can be provided to support Network Scenario Headroom Reports.	Jan-23- Jun-23	11-Jul: Final workstream review 20-Jul: ON Steering Group approval
Ref	Delivery Element	Deliverables	Scope/description	Delivery timeline	Governance timeline																		
A	Implementation of 2022 proposals	Publish NDP & Coordination Register	DNOs to publish consistent curtailment NDPs and Whole Electricity System Co-ordination Register as set out in the 2022 FoS.	Jan-23 - May-23																			
B	Improvements to NDP FoS	Transmission Capacity Indicator	Review what, if any, information on transmission network constraints per GSP can be provided to support Network Scenario Headroom Reports.	Jan-23- Jun-23	11-Jul: Final workstream review 20-Jul: ON Steering Group approval																		

					Jul-23: Publication of updated FoS
C	Review of Co-ordination register	Recommendation of further work	Following the publication of the whole system licence condition, the working group will review the outcomes and develop a summary of potential areas of amendments to the register.	Open	

DER Information

<p>Main outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Go/no-go proposal to harmonise DNO-DER data exchange requirements across DNOs to standardise data transfer between DER and DNOs. Subject to a 'go decision' - Begin a phased implementation (Dec 2023) and trigger appropriate code modification requests. 		
Public consultation: Yes	Focus Group: Optional	Consultancy support: No
<p>Background</p> <p>In 2022, this working group initiated the harmonisation of operational (real-time) data requests going forward from DNOs to Distributed Energy Resources (DER) customers, in order to be commissioned on the distribution network. This includes data collected from the customer's metering equipment and shared with the DNO, as opposed to data collected directly from DNO substations through DNO's metering equipment (which is undertaken in 2021-22).</p> <p>The working group proposed a technical specification of a minimum set of 'mandatory' data requirements which may be differentiated based on generation capacity, technology and service provided, etc.</p> <p>Activity for 2023</p> <p>In 2023, the working group will engage with DER customers and manufacturers to develop an appreciation of state-of-the-art DER control systems, to understand current capabilities, and the impact of these additional data points on customers. Using this to inform customer's indicative costs, a review of governance options to harmonise DNO-DER data exchange requirements across DNOs to standardise market data transfer between DER and DNOs will be undertaken with ENA's support.</p> <p>These discussions along with DNO-specific implementation impact assessment undertaken using a common framework will be used by the working group to facilitate a go/no-go decision.</p> <p>(Subject to a "go decision", the working group will work together with the Dispatch Systems Interoperability technical working group to align recommendations and begin a phased implementation. This will include triggering appropriate code modification requests.</p> <p>This will support the delivery of action 3.3 in the Smart Systems and Flexibility Plan that requires shared processes for monitoring DER.</p>		

Delivery plan					
Ref	Delivery Element	Deliverables	Scope/description	Delivery timeline	Governance timeline
A	Stakeholder engagement	Workshop/ focus group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engage with DER customers and manufacturers to develop an appreciation of state-of-the-art DER control systems, understand current capabilities - Understand the impact of these additional data points on customer's. - - Use this to inform customer's indicative costs - Share learning internally 	Jan-23 - Mar-23	
B	Impact assessment	DNO comparison analysis and go/no-go arguments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DNO-specific implementation impact assessment undertaken using a common framework to aid the go-no go decision -Go/no-go decision 	Apr-23 - Jul-23	<p>08-Aug: Final workstream review</p> <p>17-Aug: ON Steering Group approval</p> <p>Aug-23: Publication stating decision</p>
C	Governance Options	Governance options (Subject to a "go decision")	Review governance options to harmonise DNO-DER data exchange requirements across DNOs to standardise market data transfer between DER and DNOs. (Subject to a "go decision")	Apr-23 - Oct-23	<p>07-Nov: Final workstream review</p> <p>16-Nov: ON Steering Group approval</p> <p>Nov-23: Publication of consolidated report</p>

D	Implementation	Implementation (Subject to a "go decision")	Work together with the Interoperability technical working group to align recommendation and begin a phased implementation.	Oct-23 and beyond	
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ANM Curtailment Information

<p>Main outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is envisioned to be a light touch engagement and therefore will not have any new outputs. The working group's key remit will be to support the implementation of the curtailment information sharing by individual DNOs. 					
Public consultation: Yes		Focus Group: Optional		Consultancy support: No	
<p>Background</p> <p>In 2021 and 2022 an implementation plan was published to share curtailment information for pre-SCR ANM enabled flexible connections and heat maps published by individual DNOs.</p> <p>Activity for 2023</p> <p>This working group will follow through on the steps identified in the implementation plan for improving the provision of curtailment information and heat maps for pre-SCR ANM enabled flexible connections that were published in 2022.</p> <p>The working group will re-engage to review the outcomes of the SCR following the completion of Ofgem's SCR implementation group work.</p> <p>Delivery Plan</p>					
Ref	Delivery Element	Deliverables	Scope/description	Delivery timeline	Governance timeline
A	Implementation of 2022 proposals	Publish profiles	DNOs to publish consistent curtailment information and heatmaps (in the format and frequency) as set out in the 2022 recommendation	Jan-23 - May-23	09-May: Workstream update
			Publish quarterly tracker for all DNOs data sharing status	Ongoing	Final workstream reviews: 07-Mar: Q1 tracker 06-Jun: Q2 tracker

					<p>12-Sep: Q3 tracker</p> <p>05-Dec: Q4 tracker</p> <p>Approvals from ON Steering Group:</p> <p>16-Mar: Q1 tracker</p> <p>15-Jun: Q2 tracker</p> <p>21-Sep: Q3 tracker</p> <p>14-Dec: Q4 tracker</p> <p>Publication of quarterly trackers in Mar-23, Jun-23, Sep-23 and Dec-23.</p>
B	Improvements to pre-application information	Summary of potential areas of future work for Post SCR Flexible connections	Following the completion of SCR working group to review the outcomes of the SCR implementation group and develop a summary of potential areas of future work in support of the implementation of the post-SCR flexible connection regime.	Open	

Common Evaluation Methodology (CEM tool)

<p>Main outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is envisioned to be a light-touch engagement and therefore will not have any new outputs. The working group will re-convene towards the end of 2023 to compare and contrast how the CEM tool is applied by each DSO, as per the good practice guide. 		
Public consultation: Yes	Focus Group: No	Consultancy support: No

Background					
<p>Ver 1 of the Common Evaluation Methodology (CEM) and tool developed by the Open Networks programme in 2020 went live on 1 April 2021 to be used by all DNOs to evaluate flexibility and traditional intervention options for an identified network need. The CEM was developed further (Ver 2.1) in 2021, to incorporate carbon value and to identify methodologies for implementing option value.</p>					
Activity for 2023					
<p>The tool will remain under Open Networks governance with no development planned for 2023.</p> <p>The working group will re-engage towards the end of 2023 to compare and contrast how the CEM tool is applied by each DSO, as per the good practice guide.</p>					
Delivery Plan					
Ref	Delivery Element	Deliverables	Scope/description	Delivery timeline	Governance timeline
A	CEM ED2-ready	CEM 2.2 static value update	Update static values of the CEM tool and launch Ver 2.2 to ensure the tool is ED2-ready.	Jan-23 - Apr-23	<p>09-May: Final workstream review</p> <p>18-May: ON Steering Group approval</p> <p>May-23: Publication of tool Ver 2.2</p>
B	CEM source code sharing	N/A	ENA to share agreement and source code developed by TNEI to be incorporated into individual DNO systems.	Jan-23 - Apr-23	
C	Comparison of use of CEM + Governance	Report summarising the findings	<p>Compare and contrast how the CEM Tool is applied by each DSO, as per the good practice guide – but with a specific look at what the DSOs are publishing after each tender.</p> <p>Review governance options to harmonise the use of CEM and data sharing.</p>	Dec-23 and beyond	

D	Further Development of CEM	Proposal for further development	Proposal for update/development of tool and/or for alignment of use CEM.	Mar-24	
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Network Operation Workstream

Workstream remit

This workstream will focus on improving and optimising operational planning processes across the transmission and distribution boundary to help enable more efficient coordination and use of flexibility.

Technical working groups	Description	Final output(s)
Primacy Rules for service conflicts	Defining and implementing 'Primacy Rules' for the ESO and the DNOs to manage service conflicts.	-Deploy the first iteration of Primacy Rules and Processes across DNOs with appropriate governance in place (April 2023) -complete CBA and justification for rules to be implemented in iteration 2 (April 2023) -Implement the designed processes and information flows for iteration 2 (September 2023)
Dispatch Systems Interoperability	Development API standards for dispatch system interoperability across ESO, DSO.	-Technical specification for API standards for dispatch system interoperability (Nov 2023), -Rollout use of the standardised API by Dec 2023 for the summer 2024 flexibility tender
Operational data sharing	Facilitating sharing real-time operational and forecasting data between ESO and DNO (and non-network stakeholders).	-To be determined

Details of technical working groups for 2023

Primacy Rules for Service Conflicts

Main outcomes:					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deploy the first iteration of Primacy Rules and Processes across DNOs with appropriate governance in place (Apr 2023). • CBA and justification for rules to be implemented in iteration 2 (Apr 2023). • Implement the designed processes and information flows for iteration 2 (Sep 2023). 					
Public consultation: Yes		Focus Group: Yes		Consultancy support: Yes	
Background					
<p>This working group was established to develop 'Primacy Rules' to manage issues that can arise when both the DNO and the ESO are seeking to procure flexibility from the same Flexibility Service Provider (FSP) and/or managing issues in the same parts of the network or, in some cases, where localised actions may affect the ability to balance the overall system on a national basis.</p>					
Activity for 2023					
<p>This work is a continued from 2022 with the detailed plan here. In 2023, the working group's scope covers the delivery, testing, and initial implementation of the first version of Primacy Rules for flexibility providers, networks, stakeholders, market platform designers etc. for the use cases identified for the first iteration.</p>					
<p>The working group will also conclude the CBA that will inform the rule development for the use cases identified for iteration-2.</p>					
<p>The working group will employ an iterative approach with a push for delivering tangible outputs, consolidating over future iterations in the following year. The working group will continue ongoing engagement with the focus group throughout this process. Subsequent physical implementation of a full suite of Primacy Rules at scale in the network planning and operational processes is likely to be a major undertaking in early ED2 (subject to funding) and excluded here.</p>					
Delivery Plan					
Ref	Delivery Element	Deliverables	Scope/description	Delivery timeline	Governance timeline
A	Iteration-1 development	Develop and deployment of Primacy Rules – Iteration 1	Review the rules and processes and establish roll out process.	Jan-23 - Feb-23	28-Feb: Final workstream review
			Publish V1.0 of Rules, proposed review periods and target date for roll-out at scale.		
			Establish Governance process for Primacy rule reviews.		16-Mar: ON Steering

					Group approval Mar-23: Publication of rules
B	Iteration-1 Implementation	Implementation	Implement the Rules and Processes across DNOs.	Mar-23	
C	Iteration-2	Supporting analysis	Second round of analysis.	Dec-22 - Jan-23	
			Review analysis and finalise the delivery plan (iteration-2).	Feb-23- Mar-23	04-Apr: Final workstream review 19-Apr: ON Steering Group approval
			Develop framework for wider analysis.		
D	Iteration-2 development	Process and information flow report	Develop the necessary rules, processes and information sharing needed to support the rules.	May-23 – Nov-23	03-Oct: Final workstream review 18-Oct: ON Steering Group approval Oct-23: Publication of Iteration-2 Rules
	Iteration-2 Implementation	Implementation	Implement the design processes and information flows	Oct-23 and beyond	

Dispatch Systems Interoperability

Main outputs:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical specification for API standards for system interoperability (Nov 2023) • Rollout use of the standardised API by Dec 2023, for the summer 2024 flexibility tender 					
Public consultation: Yes		Focus Group: Yes		Consultancy support: Yes	
<p>Background</p> <p>An action plan was developed in 2022 to deliver interoperability across systems (incl. ESO, DSO, and third-party platforms) in the short, medium, and longer term, with considerations to include the development of common systems, processes, standards, and APIs.</p> <p>Activity for 2023</p> <p>This working group will deliver the plan set out in 2022 by developing a detailed technical standard for a common API that allows for dispatch system interoperability across ESO, DSO (and non-network company systems). A draft scope document will be developed by the working group to be used for tendering to recruit consultants to support the development of technical specifications for API.</p> <p>Following the recruitment of an appropriate external consultant, the working group will work closely with industry stakeholders to develop these standards. The working group will then support the rollout use of the standardised API by individual networks companies' dispatch systems, for the summer 2024 flexibility tender.</p> <p>Delivery Plan</p>					
Ref	Delivery Element	Deliverables	Scope/description	Delivery timeline	Governance timeline
A	Invitation to tender	Scope document	Draft a scope document to be used for tendering to recruit consultants to support the development of a technical specification for API.	Jan-23 - Feb-23	28-Feb: Final workstream review 16-Mar: ON Steering Group approval
B	Recruitment of consultant	Review of existing practices and gap analysis	Review of tenders, contract negotiations and Finalise paperwork with consultants.	Mar-23 - May-23	02-May: Workstream informed of decision 18-May: ON Steering Group informed of decision
C	Specification development		Stakeholder engagement as appropriate.	Jun-23 - Nov-23	

		Proposed Technical Specifications	Develop a technical specification for API standards for system interoperability.		28-Nov: Final workstream review 14-Dec: ON Steering Group approval Dec-23: Publication of technical specifications
D	Implementation	Implementation	Rollout use of the standardised API for the summer 2024 flexibility tender.	Dec-23 - Apr-24	

Operational Data Sharing

<p>Main outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined following a workshop with the ENA's Data and Digitalisation Steering Group (DDSG). 		
Public consultation: Yes	Focus Group: Optional	Consultancy support: Yes
<p>Background</p> <p>This working group have reviewed existing data sets that are shared between various parties in operational and non-operational timescales, including data shared between:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 - ESO and DNO/DSO 2 - DNO/DSO and ESO 3 - ESO to market participants 4 - DNO/DSO to market participants <p>The workstream have facilitated implementation of data sharing plans published in 2021. These include data sets that DNO identified as "Green" in 2021 RAG analysis.</p> <p>Activity for 2023</p> <p>ENA will facilitate a workshop between this working group and DDSG to discuss the datasets identified for sharing between networks companies and the approach to share them between companies. A detailed workplan including governance timeline will be drafted following this engagement.</p> <p>The working group will undertake a targeted stakeholder engagement to ascertain the use of information sought from DNOs. This engagement will inform the DNOs of the priority of data needs and help them develop a consistent format for sharing the identified datasets. Delivery Plan</p>		

Ref	Delivery Element	Deliverables	Scope/description	Delivery timeline	Governance timeline
A	Workshop with DDSG	Detailed work plan + outputs	Review of datasets identified by the working group in 2022 and develop a consistent methodology for data transfer.	Jan-23 - Feb-23	
B	Stakeholder engagement	Stakeholder questionnaire	Develop a detailed questionnaire (ideally non-descriptive) that can be shared with stakeholders to get their views on the data sets requested and their use.	Jan-23 - Feb-23	
C		Updated RAG report	Review additional data sets that moved from “Amber” to “Green” available to non-network stakeholders based on inputs received from the stakeholder engagement.	Jun-23 - Nov-23	
D	Implementation	Implementation	Continued implementation as per the 2021 plan to make DNO data identified as “Green” in 2021 RAG analysis.	Ongoing	

Market Development Workstream

Workstream Remit

This workstream will focus on ensuring that networks deliver open, transparent, accessible and efficient markets for local flexibility in coordination with the ESO.

Technical working groups	Description	Final output(s)
Standard Agreement	Improvement to existing Standard Agreement for procuring flexibility services across DSO and ESO.	-Ver 2.1 of Std Agreement to accommodate clause that allow implementation of primacy rules (April 2023) -Ver 3.0 of Std Agreement with aligned schedules, which all DNOs will implement for flexibility tenders (Dec 2023)
Procurement Process	Alignment of sign-up and pre-qualification processes for flexibility service procurement.	-Consistent pre-qualification questions (at least 80%) across all DNO -Consistent dynamic purchasing system sign up across DNOs by Dec 23
Flexibility Products	Review of existing and new flexibility products and undertake further analysis on stackability to address barriers.	- Aligned product definitions and interpretation of four standard active power products (Aug 2023) -Aligned/rebranded product descriptions and interpretations for products that are redefined (Dec 2023) -Tendered flexibility (at least 80%) is with identical products by 2024 tenders
Settlement Process	Alignment settlement process for standard flexibility service product dispatch.	-Settlement process for the standardised flexibility services products follow common settlement process by 2024 tenders

Details of technical working groups for 2023

Standard Agreement

Main outcomes:																	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ver 2.1 of Std Agreement to accommodate clause that allow implementation of primacy rules (Apr 2023) Ver 3.0 of Std Agreement with aligned schedules, which all DNOs will implement for flexibility tenders (Dec 2023) 																	
Public consultation: Yes		Focus Group: Optional		Consultancy support: No													
<p>Background</p> <p>Ver 2.0 of the Agreement was released post consultation in 2021 and is the first version to be utilised by both the DNOs and the ESO. This version brought the Agreement another step closer to a framework approach and delivered further simplification, similar to the ESO's suite of services. The introduction of a framework approach allows contracts to be awarded, ranging from day ahead (auction-style) agreements to bilateral contracts. A framework approach essentially enables providers to respond to multiple tenders across a defined period without needing to sign specific contracts each time.</p> <p>Activity for 2023</p> <p>The working group will provide further iterations and improvements to the Agreement and deliver Ver 3. This will include further alignment of the format of schedules and documentation. Working closely with ongoing development in the Regional Development Programmes (RDPs), it will also consider the need for tripartite agreements. The working group will also seek to expand the product-specific schedules across other ESO and DSO products.</p> <p>The working group will review the outputs of the Primacy Rules working group and identify changes (if any) to the Std Agreement that need to be incorporated to ensure the applicability and implementation of the rules by Apr 2023. Any changes identified as part of this will be considered for Ver 3 of the contract.</p> <p>The working group will work closely with the to review any amendments required to the Std Agreement needed for the implementation of the primacy rules in Apr 2023.</p> <p>Delivery Plan</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Ref</th> <th>Delivery Element</th> <th>Deliverables</th> <th>Scope/description</th> <th>Delivery timeline</th> <th>Governance timeline</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>Changes to allow implementation of Primacy Rules</td> <td>Standard Agreement Ver 2.1</td> <td>Review agreement to incorporate changes to accommodate implementation of Primacy Rules.</td> <td>Jan-23 - Apr-23</td> <td>04-May: Final workstream review 18-May: ON Steering Group approval</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						Ref	Delivery Element	Deliverables	Scope/description	Delivery timeline	Governance timeline	A	Changes to allow implementation of Primacy Rules	Standard Agreement Ver 2.1	Review agreement to incorporate changes to accommodate implementation of Primacy Rules.	Jan-23 - Apr-23	04-May: Final workstream review 18-May: ON Steering Group approval
Ref	Delivery Element	Deliverables	Scope/description	Delivery timeline	Governance timeline												
A	Changes to allow implementation of Primacy Rules	Standard Agreement Ver 2.1	Review agreement to incorporate changes to accommodate implementation of Primacy Rules.	Jan-23 - Apr-23	04-May: Final workstream review 18-May: ON Steering Group approval												

					May-23: Publication of Standard Agreement Ver 2.1
B	Format of schedules	Proposal to standardise format of contract schedules	Work with legal consultants to draft a standard format for schedules. (Including alignment of documentation within the schedules (e.g. order of server terms, clauses 1,2 etc).	Jan-23 - Jul-23	03-Aug: Final workstream review 17-Aug: ON Steering Group approval Aug-23: Publication of proposal
C	Stakeholder engagement	Webinar/workshop	Review feedback on use of standard agreement along with inputs on standardised schedules.	Jul-23 – Sep-23	
D	Review of feedback	Implementation of Std Agreement	Working group on standby to discuss issues and challenges to the roll out the new product definitions.	Dec-23 and beyond	

Procurement Process

Main outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistent pre-qualification questions (at least 80%) across all DNO Consistent dynamic purchasing system sign-up across DNOs by Dec 2023 		
Public consultation: Yes	Focus Group: Optional	Consultancy support: No
<p>Background</p> <p>In 2022, this working group focused on reviewing the existing procurement process such as pre-qualification and will progress thinking on the move to real-time markets, mapping out steps that are required in the short, medium, and longer-term to achieve this.</p> <p>Activity for 2023</p> <p>As one of the key steps towards real-time procurement, this working group will develop a standard pre-qualification criteria and approach, including the convergence of timescales so that they accommodate even smaller flexibility service providers. This working group will build on the preliminary work undertaken as part of the 2022 Procurement Processes and develop a proposal to align the pre-qualification criteria across all GB DNOs with a clear explanation if any criteria cannot be standardised. This working group will also review</p>		

current approaches to pre-qualification employed by the ESO to understand the pros and cons of the various approaches, with a view to aligning where possible.

Additionally, this working group will work with stakeholders to further identify specific improvements within the procurement process sought by flexibility service providers to remove any barriers to help make local flexibility markets more accessible.

Delivery Plan

Ref	Delivery Element	Deliverables	Scope/description	Delivery timeline	Governance timeline
A	Pre-qualification standardisation recommendation	Pre-qualification standardisation proposal	Review the gap analysis undertaken in 2022 that compared existing approaches to pre-qualification employed across DNOs and ESO. Propose a Standardised template for both technical and commercial qualification criteria.	Jan-23- Apr-23	04-May: Final workstream review 18-May: ON Steering Group approval
B	Stakeholder Engagement	Internal and external validation	Stakeholder engagement to review and consolidate the pre-qualification proposal. This includes DNO subsystems beyond Open Networks and external non-network stakeholders.	May-23 - Jun-23	
C	Implementation proposal - Internal Review	Implementation proposal	Taking on board stakeholder feedback, agree standard sets of PQQ questions/templates and set out a clear implementation plan. Review implementation with individual DNOs procurement teams to mitigate any concerns.	Aug-23- Oct-23	02-Nov: Final workstream review 16-Nov: ON Steering Group approval Nov-23: Consolidated publication of deliverables A and C

D	Roll out and support	Revision to plans/specs if needed	Working group on standby to discuss issues and challenges to roll out the proposal to standardise PQQ.	Nov-23-Apr-24	
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Flexibility Products

<p>Main outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aligned product definitions and interpretation of four standard active power products (Aug 2023) Aligned/rebranded product descriptions and interpretations for products that are redefined (Dec 2023) Tendered flexibility (at least 80%) is with common products by 2024 tenders 																				
Public consultation: Yes		Focus Group: Optional		Consultancy support: No																
<p>Background</p> <p>Open Networks has previously developed common definitions and common parameters for four active power services that are being procured by DNOs. A gap analysis was undertaken in 2022 to identify the areas of divergence in the implementation of the four flexibility products.</p> <p>Activity for 2023</p> <p>This working group will take ownership of these products to review, update and create new products as required based on the latest market developments and stakeholder feedback (including the feedback received in the 2022 flexibility consultation).</p> <p>The working group will develop a flexibility product catalogue with a consolidated list of all flexibility products (across DSO and ESO markets) and their standard technical characteristics. Where applicable, the stackability report will be updated if there are material changes in the report as a result of the new product definitions.</p> <p>The working group will review other non-standard flexibility service products that are being used to date and develop recommendations for any updates that may be required.</p> <p>Delivery Plan</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Ref</th> <th>Delivery Element</th> <th>Deliverables</th> <th>Scope/description</th> <th>Delivery timeline</th> <th>Governance timeline</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2">A</td> <td rowspan="2">Updated active power product definition</td> <td rowspan="2">Updated active power product definition/specification</td> <td>Stakeholder engagement to identify areas that do/ do not need to be standardised.</td> <td>Jan-23-Feb-23</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Proposal for refinement/alignment of technical specifications of existing DSO</td> <td>Mar-23 - May-23</td> <td>01-Jun: Final workstream review</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						Ref	Delivery Element	Deliverables	Scope/description	Delivery timeline	Governance timeline	A	Updated active power product definition	Updated active power product definition/specification	Stakeholder engagement to identify areas that do/ do not need to be standardised.	Jan-23-Feb-23		Proposal for refinement/alignment of technical specifications of existing DSO	Mar-23 - May-23	01-Jun: Final workstream review
Ref	Delivery Element	Deliverables	Scope/description	Delivery timeline	Governance timeline															
A	Updated active power product definition	Updated active power product definition/specification	Stakeholder engagement to identify areas that do/ do not need to be standardised.	Jan-23-Feb-23																
			Proposal for refinement/alignment of technical specifications of existing DSO	Mar-23 - May-23	01-Jun: Final workstream review															

			flexibility products (if applicable).		15-Jun: ON Steering Group approval
			Proposal for technical specifications of new DSO products (if applicable).		Jun-23: Publication of proposed product definitions/specification
B	Implementation plan	Internal and external validation	<p>Set out a path on how each DNO will roll out the recommended changes. The recommendation will ensure that the migration is consistent whilst managing contracts/tenders that use old definitions.</p> <p>Stakeholder engagement to review and consolidate the pre-qualification proposal. This includes DNO subsystems beyond Open Networks and external non-network stakeholders.</p>	Jun-23 - Aug-23	<p>07-Sep: Final workstream review</p> <p>21-Sep: ON Steering Group approval</p>
C	Implementation	Revision to Plans/Specs as appropriate	Working group on standby to discuss issues and challenges to roll out the new product definitions.	Sep 23- April 24	Republication as needed with updates approved by workstream and ON Steering Group.
D	Flexibility product reports	Flexibility product catalogue	Consolidate a list of all flexibility products across DSO and ESO market and their existing technical characteristics.	Sep-23 - Oct-23	02-Nov: Final workstream review
		Stackability update	Principles of assessing stackability i.e. considerations such as technical, commercial, contractual etc. will also be developed by the working group.		16-Nov: ON Steering Group approval
					Nov-23: Publication of flexibility product catalogue and stackability update

		Non-standard products review	Review non-standard products procured by DNOs to see if any should be standardised (e.g. domestic flexibility products).	Dec-23 and beyond	
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Settlement Process

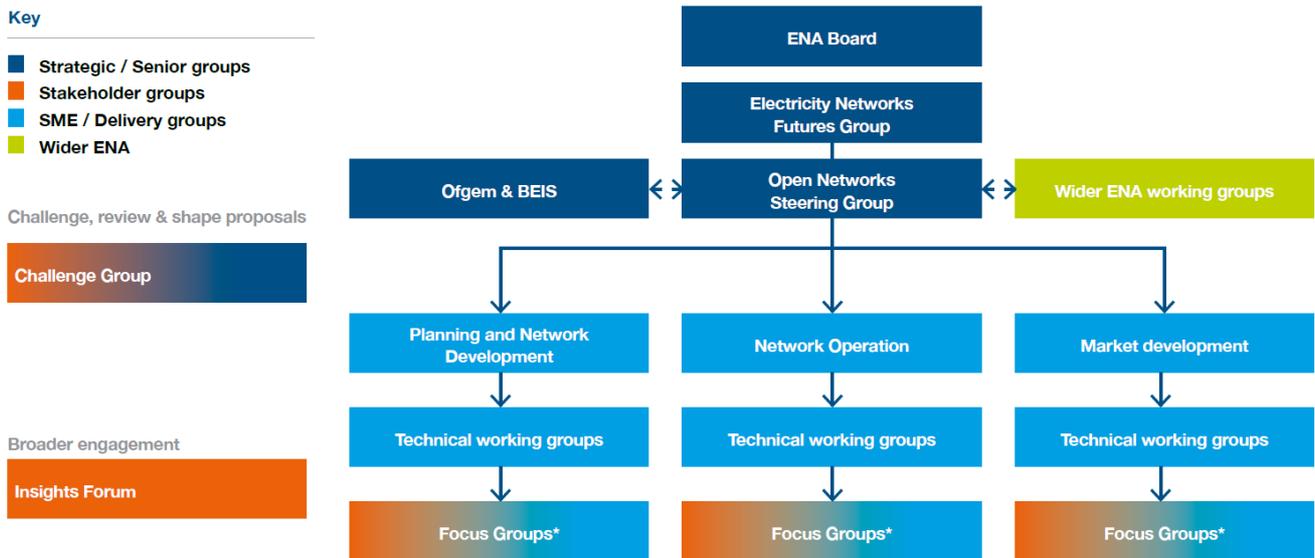
<p>Main outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Settlement process for the standardised flexibility service products to follow common settlement process by 2024 tenders Individual milestones to be scoped in further detail 																							
Public consultation: Yes		Focus Group: Optional		Consultancy support: No																			
<p>Background</p> <p>The technical working group will undertake a review of alignment and differences from the gap analysis. This will also describe the existing mechanics of payment including calculations that are applied, penalties, delivery quality, etc.</p> <p>The Open Networks team will work with the technical working group to scope the delivery plan and governance timeline for the standardisation of the settlement process in detail in Feb 2023.</p>																							
<p>Delivery Plan</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Ref</th> <th>Delivery Element</th> <th>Deliverables</th> <th>Scope/description</th> <th>Delivery timeline</th> <th>Governance timeline</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>Review of existing practices</td> <td>Comparison of DNO settlement processed</td> <td>This will deliver a gap analysis, in the form of a spreadsheet, on existing approaches to settlement per product per DNO.</td> <td>Jan-23-Feb-23</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>B</td> <td>Detailed delivery plan</td> <td>Detailed delivery plan</td> <td>The Open Networks team will work with the technical working group to scope the delivery plan for the standardisation of the settlement process.</td> <td>Feb-23</td> <td>28-Feb: Final workstream review 16-Mar: ON Steering Group approval</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						Ref	Delivery Element	Deliverables	Scope/description	Delivery timeline	Governance timeline	A	Review of existing practices	Comparison of DNO settlement processed	This will deliver a gap analysis, in the form of a spreadsheet, on existing approaches to settlement per product per DNO.	Jan-23-Feb-23		B	Detailed delivery plan	Detailed delivery plan	The Open Networks team will work with the technical working group to scope the delivery plan for the standardisation of the settlement process.	Feb-23	28-Feb: Final workstream review 16-Mar: ON Steering Group approval
Ref	Delivery Element	Deliverables	Scope/description	Delivery timeline	Governance timeline																		
A	Review of existing practices	Comparison of DNO settlement processed	This will deliver a gap analysis, in the form of a spreadsheet, on existing approaches to settlement per product per DNO.	Jan-23-Feb-23																			
B	Detailed delivery plan	Detailed delivery plan	The Open Networks team will work with the technical working group to scope the delivery plan for the standardisation of the settlement process.	Feb-23	28-Feb: Final workstream review 16-Mar: ON Steering Group approval																		

Programme-level activities

These include tasks that are undertaken by the Open Networks team with appropriate representation from the member companies. These tasks are not resource intensive for the calendar year, as most of the activities are led by ENA with the relevant working groups required to convene for annual updates.

Ref	Delivery Element	Deliverables	Scope/description	Delivery timeline	Governance timeline
A	Progress and success measuring metrics	Framework for assessment	The Open Networks team will work with the technical working groups, ON Steering Group and ON Challenge Group to establish a robust and transparent framework for monitoring progress. This will include a clear measurement metric and success criteria for individual work areas.	Feb-23- May-23	30-May – 06-Jun: Final workstream reviews 15-Jun: ON Steering Group approval
B	Flex figures	GB flexibility figures annual update	Review and update flexibility figures for 2022/23 based on 2023 C31E submissions.	Apr – Jun 23	20-Jul: ON Steering Group approval Jul-23: Publication of flex figures
C	Conflicts of Interest and Unintended Consequences (Col) Register	Full register annual update	Updated heatmap and risk register for the entries agreed to be reviewed by ON (in Dec 2022 publication).	Aug-Oct- 23	16-Nov: ON Steering Group approval Nov-23: Publication of updated Col Register
D	Strategic Roadmap for flexibility	Annual update to the Strategic Roadmap	Review the state of Play of the industry, ON and innovation projects and update the roadmap to reflect the latest view.	Dec-23 - Feb-23	Mar-24: Publication of updated Strategic Roadmap
E	Baselining tool	Host Tool	Host Tool and track hits to the tool.	Ongoing	
F		Source code	Consultant to share baselining methodology source code (along with agreement) for implementation with Individual DNO systems.	Mar-23	

Appendix A – Governance



Strategic / Senior groups

ENA Board

The ENA Board is engaged with progress and any issues concerning the Open Networks programme. The Director of Innovation and Electricity Systems at ENA will report to the ENA Board.

Electricity Networks Futures Group (ENFG)

ENFG will be the group that holds the funding for the Open Networks programme but will delegate authority for the spend of that budget and the management and delivery of the programme to the Open Networks Steering Group. Director of Innovation and Electricity Systems and Head of Open Networks will report to ENFG from Open Networks Steering Group on any of these items. The ENFG is convening monthly before the Steering Groups by teleconference to identify and address any more strategic issues that might apply to the programme.

Open Networks Steering Group

The Open Networks Steering Group is the key group with responsibility to direct the delivery of the Open Networks programme to time, cost, and quality. Any deviations to the approved delivery plan will be managed by the Steering Group and escalated to the ENFG and ENA’s Whole System Strategy Board (WSSB) if further budget is likely to be required or there is a significant impact on scope, time, or quality.

All deliverables will come to the Open Networks Steering Group for approval and sign-off. The Open Networks Steering Group will be chaired by an ENA Member representative (Sotiris Georgiopoulos, UKPN at this point in the programme) and supported by the ON Programme Team as secretariat.

The Open Networks Steering Group will be a small group with a single representative (and alternate) from each operator organisation including Ofgem and BEIS, and the ENA Open Networks Programme Team. Additionally, the Steering Group will also be attended by the Open Networks Challenge Group Chair to provide a link to the Challenge Group.

The Steering Group will meet monthly to formulate the programme and drive progress, allowing the group to set the priorities and scope whilst still maintaining transparency.

The Open Networks Steering Group will assess:

- Priorities and scope through the detailed work plan with updates.
- Deliverable approval
- Progress against the work plan
- Escalated risks and issues
- Costs against budget
- Key decisions
- Previous actions

The Open Networks Steering Group will represent a united programme perspective from the networks. Single operators may disagree with outputs or direction, but the programme will progress with the majority view. To ensure this, any communication of the outputs of the group will make it clear whether the view expressed is a unanimous or a majority view.

In 2023, each technical working group will have a nominated ON Steering Group sponsor, to ensure the working group have a timely steer on key decision points that require escalation. The working group sponsor will then raise appropriate concerns/points at the ON Steering Group meetings for deliberation as appropriate.

Ofgem & BEIS

The Open Networks programme will continue to work closely with Ofgem and BEIS and we expect that the programme outputs will contribute to Ofgem and Government considerations on future markets. BEIS are part of the Open Networks Steering Group.

Ofgem and BEIS provide input into the Open Networks Steering Group, specific workstreams and working groups where this is of particular value. The programme team will liaise with Ofgem and BEIS on an ongoing basis to discuss progress and address any issues.

Open Networks Challenge Group

The Open Networks Challenge Group¹ has been set up to shape the direction of the programme, its priorities and the outcomes that it delivers by providing a more formal challenge function on behalf of the wider industry. The focus of the Challenge Group will be on flexibility related developments, but we will welcome and consider other topics as necessary.

The Challenge Group was set up through an open call for participation in Q4 2021 and membership is reviewed on an ongoing basis to ensure appropriate representation across the sector. The latest list of members can be found on the ENA website². This group will kick off in Q1 2022 and will meet once every two months.

¹ See Terms of Reference here: [https://www.energynetworks.org/industry-hub/resource-library/on21-prj-open-networks-challenge-group-terms-of-reference-\(19-oct-2021\).pdf](https://www.energynetworks.org/industry-hub/resource-library/on21-prj-open-networks-challenge-group-terms-of-reference-(19-oct-2021).pdf)

² [Open Networks Challenge Group membership list](#)

The Challenge Group will be chaired by an independent Chair that will also have a seat at the Open Networks Steering Group. The Challenge Group Chair will be supported by secretariat from the Open Networks programme Team.

Open Networks Programme Team

A central team at ENA will continue to support the day-to-day delivery of the programme. The Head of Open Networks will report to the Open Networks Steering Group and will manage resources on the programme to ensure delivery to the agreed time, cost, and quality. The Head of Open Networks will be supported by a Project Manager, Project Coordinator, and a Technical Advisor. In addition, the programme team will be supported by ENA's Comms Team to deliver external communications and stakeholder engagement.

PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

The ENA ON programme team will maintain a tracker to monitor the delivery of all technical working groups and their associated deliverables and will report and agree any changes to the baseline with the ON Steering Group. ON programme team will help manage internal and external dependencies between technical working groups, workstreams, and other ENA working groups. We intend to capture and monitor specific dependencies within the programme where we can.

The programme team will continue to monitor completion of the working group's deliverables on a month-by-month basis with additional activities. The working groups will be kept on a rolling basis until their completion. Prioritisation and identification of new work areas will be undertaken annually and planned into the following year. We will continue to produce an End of Year Report for each year of the programme.

CHANGE TO SCOPE, TIME, OR COST

Where any deviations from the baselined scope, time, or cost are identified, the programme team will assess this further to understand the impact, identify options for resolution/mitigation and will seek agreement from the ON Steering Group on changes. Revised baselines to time and scope will be documented in the programme tracker.

RISKS AND ISSUES

Potential risks and issues will be identified through close monitoring of working group's development and added to an ongoing register that is kept up to date throughout the life of the programme.

REPORTING

Progress reports will be provided to the ON Steering Group at monthly meetings. The reports will include working group's progress to time, cost, and associated risks and issues. There will be written reports and decision papers to support any key decision points. All reports will be distributed and controlled by the programme team.

Subject Matter Experts (SME)/Delivery Groups

Workstream and Technical Working Groups and Resources

Technical working groups will be formed of ENA member resources to develop focus areas in each workstreams as they have been in previous phases of the programme. These working groups will be led by a working group Lead who will have accountability for the delivery of their group in line with the scope and

timescales set out in the delivery plan. The Leads will engage appropriately with the programme team to provide updates and proactively highlight any delivery risks and issues.

Workstreams will have representation from all member companies and will be responsible for reviewing the developments from the technical working groups and providing guidance. We anticipate that each workstream will continue to be chaired by an ON Steering Group member wherever possible and supported by the programme team as secretariat. This will help guide development and provide a link to the ON Steering Group.

For relevant work areas, Open Networks will facilitate focus groups consisting of relevant industry stakeholders at key development stages for stakeholders to feed into the development of working group deliverables. These targeted focus groups will be facilitated by the technical working groups.

Note: Based on consultation feedback, focus groups are being planned instead of User Forums for 2023 technical working groups to facilitate stakeholder input into the working group as these are less resource intensive for stakeholders. Focus groups are led and facilitated by technical working groups at key milestones of work.

Communications and Stakeholder Management

Open Networks Communications and Stakeholder Management Group

Open Networks Communications and Stakeholder Management Group will continue to support the programme providing a strategic steer to ensure that we are engaging the right stakeholders in an appropriate fashion. This group will continue to be overseen by a sub-committee of ENA's Strategic Communications Committee. The Open Networks programme team will continue to report on progress to the Open Networks Steering Group on a monthly basis.

Open Networks is one of three strategic projects as part of ENA's Press & Public Affairs Strategy, as agreed by ENA's Media and Campaigns Delivery Group. It therefore forms a key part of ENA's wider communications activity and will be used throughout 2023 in wider parliamentary and stakeholder engagement.

The objectives of this workstream are to:

- Effectively deliver our key messages to stakeholders through targeted and general messaging
- Publicise the outputs from Open Networks and their contribution to the outcomes in the key messages
- Provide customers and interested stakeholders with the opportunity to engage with our development work and better understand our output
- Reach the breadth of stakeholders we want to engage (including parliamentarians and policymakers, industry parties and community energy participants)

ENA will work with individual member companies to ensure that events are aligned and avoid clashes where possible. This will be managed through the quarterly workstream meetings.

We will use a combination of public affairs, press, social media and direct engagement to raise stakeholder awareness. This group will continue to:

- Proactively support stakeholder engagement for key Open Networks output.
- Provide comms input and review into key publications (e.g. consultations, End of Year Report).
- Engage with parliamentarians & policy makers,
- Generate media and stakeholder interest,
- Generate Press Releases.

- Communicate via social media.
- Provide interviews.
- Generate research material and/or communications material (e.g. animations) to support key messaging.
- Participate in event speaking opportunities.
- Review and ensure alignment with wider ENA comms work, particularly through the Media and Campaigns Group.

At the beginning of 2023, the Communications and Stakeholder Management Group will conduct a stakeholder analysis review to ensure that we are targeting the right stakeholders in the right way to support our objective. This will bear in mind any specific outcomes from policy and government initiatives such as the Smart Systems and Flexibility Plan (2021).

This group's members will continue to use their own network company communications channels to reach out to stakeholders and help ENA deliver on the overall objectives of the programme. Specific objectives include:

- Raising awareness of the programme through a range of mediums including creating a campaign page, media and digital campaigns, events, featured content and reports.
- Strengthening our local engagement activities by continuing to run Community Energy Forums in 2023, engaging with Community Energy England, Scotland, and Wales throughout the year and supporting them in their initiatives and events such as Community Energy Fortnight. We will continue to build on our local authority work – seeking more engagement with the likes of UK100 and the Local Government Association.
- Raise awareness of how Open Networks and its sister projects including Innovation and Gas Goes Green are collaborating towards a Whole Energy Systems approach – including launching a Whole Systems Charter (TBC).
- Producing fresh infographics and fact sheets to give different levels of knowledge and detail depending on the audience (Q4 2023).

Insights Forum

The Insights Forum (formerly known as Dissemination Forum) was set up for stakeholders wishing to engage more broadly with the programme. This forum will meet quarterly and is open for anyone to join to enable us to get as broad input as possible. A short form to join the Insights Forum can be found on the ENA website³.

Wider Stakeholder Engagement

The programme will continue to meet and engage with key stakeholders through various forums including but not limited to the ON Challenge Group and Insights Forum. The programme will also engage with wider industry including MPs, regulators, government departments, civil servants, press, gas networks, trade associations, think tanks, charities, generators, suppliers, technology suppliers, aggregators, community groups, local authorities, regional development agencies, manufacturers (e.g. cars, batteries), flexibility service providers, innovators, investors and consumers.

The level of stakeholder engagement for 2023 is expected to be stepped up in comparison to 2022.

We will focus on the following three aspects of engagement:

³ <https://forms.office.com/r/AT5yhmFeB0>

- Input to and review of our working groups and deliverables through the Challenge Group
- Sharing of information and progress updates with the Insights Forum
- Ensuring that the wider stakeholder community are engaged with ON programme developments and have opportunities to engage

For work requiring wider review and input, our approach includes:

- Collaborative development with input from the Challenge Group
- Wider consultation on key topics including webinars
- A more structured plan for public consultation

In 2023, we will continue to focus on wider stakeholder community engagement. Activities will include:

- Public newsletter
- Speaking opportunities at external events
- Breakfast briefing events
- Panel events
- Webinars
- Participating in other organisation's research
- Speaking and a prominent presence at the ENA stand at the Electricity Networks Innovation Conference (ENIC)
- Community Energy Forums

A calendar of all consultations and planned stakeholder events will be maintained on the ENA Open Networks website and details will be shared with stakeholders as they become available.

Appendix B – Wider ENA working groups

ENA Data and Digitalisation Steering Group (DDSG)

The ENA Data and Digitalisation Steering Group (DDSG) was commissioned in late 2019 to focus on the digitalisation of electricity and gas network data in line with the Energy Data Task Force (EDTF) recommendations.

The work of the Open Networks programme and the DDSG is closely linked. Open Networks has a key role in identifying the network data that is required for sharing across networks (T and D) to optimise operations and with non-network stakeholders to improve information provision. Open Networks will continue to collaborate and work closely with DDSG to facilitate the sharing of this data and to seek data and digitalisation expertise where it is needed.

ENA Low Carbon Technology (LCT) Steering Group

The Open Networks programme takes a technology-neutral approach and does not undertake development of technology specific processes to address issues for technologies such as EVs, heat pumps, and storage. ENA's Low Carbon Technologies (LCT) Steering Group will be the ENA group for addressing the strategic direction for the provision for Low Carbon Technologies on the GB electrical network, for example Electric Vehicles and Heat Pumps.

Their work includes the following:

- Digitalisation of connection forms, including for EVs and heat pumps
- EV charge point, heat pumps, and cut-out databases
- Guidance for domestic customers and installers for connecting LCTs

Open Networks and the LCT Steering Group will continue to engage to ensure that work across the two initiatives is aligned and that crossovers with work on flexibility and connections are appropriately managed.

ENA Innovation Managers Working Group

The ENA Innovation Managers Working Group aims to develop and deliver key pieces of industry work and strategic thinking. This group looks to maximise and co-ordinate the value to Electricity Licensees of Innovation investment by identifying research and funding opportunities for the benefit of customers via member companies. This group also engages with and helps inform innovation funders of the needs and strategic aims for network innovation, and impact of funding calls on member companies.

Given the large number of innovation projects that are underway in the area of flexibility, the Open Networks team will seek to set up appropriate forums to share key learnings from the innovation projects.

Through these sessions:

- We will focus on identifying and inviting relevant industry innovation projects to share their learning. These workshops will help the development of individual technical working groups.
- All technical working groups will have the option to set up focus groups to garner detailed technical discussion and wider industry collaboration that would not be possible in other forums.

ENA Market and Regulation Directorate

The Open Networks team will work closely with the markets and Regulations team at ENA to determine appropriate, enduring governance options for the key outcomes that are being developed in the programme including tools, processes and technical specifications. In addition, the Open Networks team will closely liaise with the ENA Electricity Regulation Committee (ERG) to take their input on regulatory issues. We will also continue to provide updates at ERG as needed

ENA Strategic Connections Group

In addition to the above working groups, in 2022 ENA Board agreed to take a more strategic approach to connections. This group will thus be formed to provide the strategy. Open Networks will continue to work with this group to support some of the work that was previously undertaken by Open Networks and is now consolidated under the Strategic Connections Group (e.g. Queue Management and the Embedded Capacity Register (ECR)).

Whole System Strategy Board (WSSB)

The Whole System Strategy Board is an ENA group that was set up in 2021 to set the strategy for whole system developments across ENA. Whole System Strategy Board will have a key role in providing strategic oversight to the whole systems aspect of some of the key work areas in the Open Networks programme - especially the Planning and Network Development workstream.

Appendix C – Key Milestones Summary

Workstream	Technical working group	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Planning and Network Development	Carbon Reporting	Implement 2022 recommendations						Stakeholder engagement				Implementation of 2023 recommendations	
		Development of methodology-1						Development of methodology-2					
		Implementation of 2022 proposals						Improvements to NDP FoS					Implement updated NDP FoS
	Network Development Plan (NDP) and Co-ordination Register	Stakeholder engagement						Impact assessment and go/no-go decision			Implementation based on go decision		
	DER Information	Governance options based on go decision											
	CEM	CEM 2.2 static value update CEM source code sharing					DNOs deploying CEM tool Ver 2.2					Comparison of CEM use and governance	
Network Operation	Primacy Rules	Develop Iteration-1 Rules			Develop Iteration-2 Rules								
			Implement Rules		Implement Iteration-2 Rules								
	Dispatch Systems Interoperability	Supporting analysis			Development of proposed technical specifications								
		Invitation to tender			Recruitment of consultant			Implementation of API standards					
Operational Data Sharing	Internal workshop			Timeline to be completed following workshop with ENA's Data and Digitalisation Steering Group									
Market Development	Standard Agreement	Develop Standard Agreement Ver 2.1					Stakeholder engagement			Implementation of Ver 3 Standard Agreement			
		Proposal to standardise format of contract schedules (Ver 3)											
	Procurement Process	Pre-qualification standardisation proposal						Stakeholder engagement			Implementation proposal - internal validation		
		Implementation revision to plans/specs if needed											
	Flexibility Products	Updated active power product definition/specification						Implementation plan			Implementation and revision as appropriate		
Settlement Process	Review of existing practices		Detailed delivery plan		Timeline to be completed following completion of detailed delivery plan								
ENA-led	Framework for assessment	Develop framework for monitoring progress					Review programme outcomes						
	GB Flex Figures	Annual GB flex figures update											
	Col Register	Annual Col Register update											
	Strategic Roadmap for Flexibility	Annual Strategic Roadmap update											
	Baselining Tool	Hosting Baselining Tool and tracking hits. Source code shared for implementation in DNO systems.											
Open Networks consultation	Consultation material prep			Consultation open			Review			Response			
		Stakeholder engagement		Development		Implementation		Annual update		Continued			

Visit our website to find out more about [Open Networks](#)



Energy Networks Association

4 More London Riverside

London SE1 2AU

t. +44 (0)20 7706 5100

w. energynetworks.org

 [@EnergyNetworks](https://twitter.com/EnergyNetworks)

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Registered office: 4 More London Riverside, London, SE1 2AU