

## Open Networks Challenge Group Meeting Minutes

The third Open Networks (ON) Challenge Group meeting of 2022 took place over MS Teams on 07 July 2022. The [agenda](#) and [presentation materials](#) can be found on the ENA website. The session focused on key flexibility developments, a range of products the Challenge Group had expressed an interest in, discussions on Open Networks progress in the first half of 2022 and 2023 scoping, and the next meeting agenda.

The sections below capture feedback that was shared during the session. Alongside this, a [challenge log](#) has also been updated to capture key areas for Open Networks to consider and address. Any further feedback outside of Challenge Group meetings can be sent to [opennetworks@energynetworks.org](mailto:opennetworks@energynetworks.org).

### Welcome and Apologies

Maxine Frerk (Independent Chair) welcomed all to the group and noted apologies.

The session was attended by those in green below. Attendees marked with \* attended part of the meeting.

Company	Name
Independent Chair	Maxine Frerk
Octopus	Kieron Stopforth
E.ON	Matt Cullen
Centrica	Helen Stack
Energy UK	Charles Wood
Zemo Partnership	Jonathan Murray
The Association for Renewable Energy and Clean Technology (REA)	Frank Gordon
The Association for Decentralised Energy (ADE)	Caroline Sejer Damgaard
Everoze Partners	Nithin Rajavelu
Origami	David Middleton
Joint Radio Company (JRC)	Peter Couch
Siemens Energy	Vijay Shinde
Piclo	*Gemma Stanley
Piclo	*Kelsey Devine (alternate rep)
Elexon	Peter Frampton
Regen	Olly Frankland

Community Energy England, Scotland and Wales	Philip Coventry
Electralink	Emma Carr
Energy Systems Catapult	Greg Johnston
Imperial College London	Goran Strbac
Welsh Government	Ron Loveland
Citizens Advice	Caroline Farquhar
National Grid ESO (NG ESO)	*Andy Wainwright
UK Power Networks (UKPN)	Sotiris Georgiopoulos
UK Power Networks (UKPN)	Sam Do
Energy Networks Association (ENA)	Avi Aithal
Energy Networks Association (ENA)	Farina Farrier
Energy Networks Association (ENA)	Helen Jarva

## Challenge Log

Maxine Frerk (Independent Chair) noted that there are currently no challenges logged. Farina Farrier (Head of Open Networks, ENA) confirmed that two workshops had been arranged for a run through of the Whole System CBA tool (WS4 P1) as previously agreed with the Challenge Group.

## Recent flexibility developments

Andy Wainwright (Whole Energy Systems Chair, NG ESO) presented an overview of recent industry and flexibility developments from the ESO, DSO and Flexibility workstream areas. The Challenge Group were invited to share feedback on further industry developments that ON should consider in delivering its work

Feedback	Response
<p>Open Networks should keep informed of the following developments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Storm Arwen response</li> <li>• Energy Bill</li> <li>• Smart and Secure Energy System consultation</li> <li>• Facilitating domestic/small business flexibility providers entering the market</li> <li>• Elexon code reform P375</li> <li>• Octopus/National Grid/SPEN Demand Scarcity Reserve trial</li> </ul>	<p>Storm Arwen is a key focus area for ENA and learnings relevant to Open Networks are being coordinated within ENA.</p> <p>Open Networks is not yet working on facilitating domestic/small business flexibility but engagement with the Flex Assure Home Flex project is ongoing to bring learnings back to the programme.</p> <p>Open Networks is engaging with the ESO Power Responsive working group looking at metering standards (P375) to bring learnings back to the programme.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supplier developments on adopting Time of Use Tariffs</li> <li>• Innovation (more generally)</li> </ul>	<p>ON team have taken note of Demand Scarcity Reserve trial results and shared these with the Challenge Group over email.</p> <p>The ON team recognised this feedback and will discuss it with the Steering Group.</p>
--	--

## Overarching Common Framework for Flexibility (WS1A P0) and 2023 scope

Avi Aithal (Open Networks Technical Lead, ENA) presented an overview of the Overarching Common Framework for Flexibility and the Strategic Flexibility Roadmap, and an overview of the approach and delivery timeline for scoping Open Networks programme work in 2023. Avi Aithal also covered thinking so far on 2023 scoping.

Feedback	Response
<p>Consider how success is defined across the activities covered in the roadmap</p>	<p>Recognise the need to have clearer targets and this could be done in the form of metrics that define success. The ON Team see the Challenge Group having a key input in helping to define these metrics.</p>
<p>Consider capturing key milestones that impact the plan (e.g., ICE Ban in 2030) and include longer timescales beyond 2028 to reflect them.</p>	<p>Noted and will discussed with product team to review how best to incorporate these into the roadmap.</p>
<p>Challenge Group proposed the following areas of focus for 2023 scoping:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for peer-to-peer markets</li> <li>• Facilitating flexibility from small scale DER and domestic customers (noting dependency on other market actors)</li> <li>• Increasing transparency in ENA work on connections</li> <li>• It was recognised by the group that domestic flexibility requires efforts across all parts of industry including suppliers, Ofgem, Government and others</li> </ul>	<p>The ON Team will feed this into the scope development process and will bring this back to the Challenge Group in October for further input on prioritisation.</p>

## Flexibility Products (WS1A P6)

Avi Aithal (Open Networks Technical Lead, ENA) presented an overview of flexibility products work in Open Networks and sought early input on key aspects of aligning flexibility product definitions.

Feedback	Response
<p>Challenge Group made the following suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The product should look into reducing barriers</li> </ul>	<p>Future discussions will focus on determining whether new products need to be created and whether parameters in existing products need altering to</p>

<p>for domestic flexibility in DSO active power services' metering and geographical requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Separate the secure product as DNOs procure it with varying forward-looking timelines</li> </ul>	<p>reduce barriers to entry and accommodate a wider range of flexibility providers. ON Team will raise the issue of geographical barriers with the product team and follow up with Piclo to determine other identified barriers.</p> <p>Separating the secure product will be considered on the basis of varying DNO need and timescale.</p>
--	--

## Carbon Reporting Methodology (WS1A P7)

Sam Do (Product Lead, UKPN) presented an overview of the carbon reporting methodology product and sought early input on the proposed methodology. The product sought to deliver a consistent methodology for reporting direct, indirect and consequential carbon impact of using flexibility services, making the carbon impact of flexibility transparent. This methodology will be used by all DNOs in their C31E statements

Feedback	Response
<p>Challenge Group made the following suggestions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Include a consultation question on which of the potential development areas for the product are of highest priority</li> <li>Publish the data more frequently and on a more granular level</li> <li>Consider the varying efficiency and carbon intensity of flexibility providers in the calculation</li> <li>Make known uncertainties in the calculation clear to stakeholders in reports</li> <li>Noted the need to develop further tangible use of the carbon reporting beyond reporting.</li> </ul>	<p>Including a consultation question was agreed.</p> <p>More frequent publication including more granular information was noted as a potential direction for future work along with improving accuracy with asset specific information.</p> <p>The Product Lead acknowledged the limitation in the calculation and noted that in the interest of comparability between reports, a single efficiency has been assumed at this stage based on available published reports.</p> <p>The suggestion to make uncertainties clear was noted.</p> <p>The product scope for 2022 was focused on delivering consistency for C31E. further development of the method and its wider use will be a subject of future scoping discussions.</p>

## Mid-year progress update

Farina Farrier (Head of Open Networks, ENA) presented on key focus areas for the second half of 2022 and highlights of work in 2022 so far within Open Networks programme, including increased accessibility and efficiency in local flexibility markets, improved transparency, efficient coordination across T-D boundaries and a whole system approach.

Challenge Group noted their appreciation of the significant strides that have been made by Open Networks in the first half of 2022.

## Proposed agenda for next meeting

Avi Aithal (Open Networks Technical Lead, ENA) proposed rescheduling the 3 November 2022 Challenge Group meeting to 20 October 2022 to be held in person at the ENA London office and include a lunch with the Open Networks Steering Group.

The agenda for the 1 September Challenge Group meeting was agreed as including inputs toward real time flex procurement (WS1A P2), existing settlement process for flex services (WS1A P3) and improvements to Standard Agreement (WS1A P4).

The proposal of an in-person meeting was received positively.

Suggestion for the Open Networks team to reach out to the Challenge Group with proposed date and time over email to ensure sufficient availability.

## AOB

No other business was raised.