## NGED DSO Panel Meeting 2 22 July 2024

ATTENDEES (In Person)	Regina Finn, Doug Cook, Janine Michael,
ATTENDEES (Online)	Nina Skorupska
NGED ATTENDEES	Benjamin Godfrey, Hayley Burden, Nicole Jefferies, Sarif Satti
APOLOGIES	Emily Seto
CONFLICTS OF INTEREST	DC – working with DNO on smart meter data. JM – request for a quote for data services from CSE has been made. Deemed no conflict.

## **Summary Notes**

	The Chair opened the meeting.
	The panel received an update following a meeting between DSO Panel Chairs, in which a collaborative approach would be taken.
	An update was also received regarding changes to the DSO leadership team to support its rapid growth and drive its net zero goals. As part of this, Cathy McClay would join as the new Managing Director of DSO.
	Agenda for the second DSO Panel meeting
	09.30 - 10.00 Coffee & Light Breakfast
Welcome and	10.00 - 10.05 Welcome & agenda, Regina Finn, DSO Panel Chair
agenda	10.05 -10.30 Updates LA Best View Hannan Lewis; Carbon Impact of Flexibility Matt Watson
	10.30 - 11.30 Data Workstreams Presentation by Matt Watson, Head of Commercial & Operability, followed by question time
	11.30 - 12.00 Q&A / Break
	12.00 - 13.00 Stakeholder Survey & Engagement Strategy Presentation by Hayley Head of DSO Strategy and Stakeholder Engagement
	13.00 - 13.30 Lunch
	13.30 - 14.30 Strategic Workforce Plan Presentation by Ben Godfrey
	14.30 - 15.00 Consolidate Discussion led by Regina Finn, DSO Panel Chair
	15.00 - 16.30 On Site Visit Control Room - Escorted by Rob Ballentine Head of Control Room following that Contact Centre – Escorted by Nick Hardy Contact Centre Manager
	The Panel received an update regarding a request for more information about the DSO's approach to working with Local Authorities to achieve a "best view" scenario. This included the sharing of the collaborative approach taken to align ambitions and resources through multiple scenarios with Local Authorities.
Updates regarding requests for more information	The Panel was also taken through a case study into South Wales' Local Area Energy Planning and how this could influence development in other regions.
LA Best View	The Panel sought clarity on regional capabilities, whether the outlined goals were likely to be met, and the role of the DSO in supporting the processes. The Panel inquired about access to network information and map sharing and supported the suggestion of a common approach to data integration.
Updates regarding requests for more information	The Panel received information regarding the DSO approach to the Carbon Impact of flex services based on existing OFGEM and BEIS politics, including an overview of the existing methodology and an outline of plans to reassess this against current data.

Carbon Impost of	The Panel questioned if carbon reduction can only be achieved by replacing gas-fired
Carbon Impact of Flex Services	generators with renewables and suggested evaluating the existing approach taken, including procurement strategies.
	The Panel further recommended reviewing past decisions, improving methodology, and considering an innovation trial to improve the quality of evidence available to support the DSO approach.
	Distribution System Operator
	On Carbon reporting methodology overview
	The methodology focusses on direct and consequential impacts of actions assuming energy balance. It uses a fixed (not time varying) value for marginal grid intensity. This avoids the need for assumptions on timings of counteractions (when would storage sites import to allow export)
	To achieve a reduction in carbon impact you would need: • To turn up a generator with a lower carbon intensity than marginal grid intensity * fuel emission factor (EF)
	<ul> <li>To turn down a generator with greater carbon intensity than marginal grid intensity</li> <li>True demand reduction (not shifting. Flexibility from demand is assumed to be demand shifting unless shown to be otherwise)</li> </ul>
	Storage sites cannot provide a net carbon improvement due to losses Demand shifting provides a zero impact on carbon intensity Storage Grid intensity import (Gl <sub>i</sub> ) or renewable or fuel
	National Grid
	<ul> <li>and made wider improvements to data management. It was highlighted that although smar meters were able to monitor and apply loses, dedicated substation monitoring would be required to enhance load monitoring. There remained a gap in data sharing with IDNOs.</li> <li>The Panel queried whether smart meters could replace dedicated monitoring technology, highlighting the importance of understanding consumer behaviour. The Panel therefore suggested more widespread use of aggregator smart data and additional data sources.</li> <li>It was summarised that DSO should be open to reviewing key development areas where data sharing allowed for it. Evolution was considered essential in a rapidly changing field,</li> </ul>
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September. An engagement strategy to improve this score based on feedback had been established. The Panel emphasised the importance of enhancing stakeholder management through key relationships, and suggested wider use of dynamic tools and pulse surveys to improve overall engagement. The DSO was urged to refine its survey methodologies to ensure meaningful feedback was obtained through targeted questions, which would be of greater benefit to stakeholders and internally. Overlaying outputs with other data sets, and incorporating lessons learned from best practice elsewhere, was further recommended to improve public access to relevant data. It was further proposed that existing survey methodologies were evaluated with feedback provided to OFGEM to enhance the process for stakeholders. DistributionSystemOperator Survey process recap and next steps Internal and external review of results and action plans rvey Period Post Survey analysis Action Owners to report Survey sent to our Final headline results emailed Present survey results agreed stakeholder overview and themes to back monthly as part of the Monthly Tactical meeting on to team on 3rd June database by Explain NGED Exec DSO Team workshop with Heads of teams, stakeholder leads, and Strategic Research on 8th April progress against the action Lessons learned session plan 3x reminder emails from with Explain Research Engagement team and other DSOs on the Use Action Plans in new them during the survey period Quantitative and survey format and process DSO Stakeholder (July). qualitative survey feedback Engagement Strategy Weekly progress reviewed, discussed and draft (along with stakeholder dashboard sent to the Finalise our 2023/24 Survey action plans produced analysis in Master List) team and exec **Results Summary Report** with action plans Follow-up calls made to Survey results formally Calls/email made by published (Sept) stakeholders (where Share the agreed Team team to their contacts to possible/necessary) to clarify increase response rate Action Plans their responses and feedba Survey closed at Draft our 2023/24 Survey midnight on 31st May. Results Summary Report with action plans. The Panel received an overview of NGED's strategic workforce plan, a new approach Strategic Workforce Plan within NGED but used across the National Grid group. The plan aims to attract and develop future talent, enhance leadership, and align with business priorities while managing change. The Panel queried the maturity of the strategic workforce planning process at NGED, and made suggestions on areas to be mindful of, and others to focus on. The importance of diversity, inclusion, and mental health was emphasised, and made recommendations for workforce development programmes. Closing The Chair made closing remarks, highlighting that the data workstream should be revisited within 12 months. The Panel requested further input into the development of an improved Conflicts of Interest process. Next Meeting 14th Oct 2024