



Serving the Midlands, South West and Wales

Local Investment workshops February/July 2018

Feedback and suggested actions

2018 Investment Workshops

- In February and July of 2018, WPD's Distribution Managers hosted a series of stakeholder workshops throughout its region
- Over 200 stakeholders attended in total, including councillors, council planning officers, developers and others involved in the growth agenda
- The workshops were designed to
 - provide local stakeholders with an update on their local network investment
 - obtain feedback on where stakeholders saw capacity challenges as a result of local development, and
 - strengthen working relationships between WPD and local stakeholders



Feedback and actions

Workshop sessions:

- Network investment and capacity constraints
- Working with stakeholders on the growth agenda

Key feedback:

- Stakeholders were supportive of WPD's investment and the workshops were well received
- WPD, local authorities and developers should work together more often
- WPD should work with local authorities to identify appropriate Electric Vehicle charging point locations
- Stakeholders want to understand the capacity on the network and timescales for required reinforcement
- Some stakeholders were concerned that demand outstrips generation
- Investment booklets were good but the resource could/should remain online and continue to be updated
- The online investment map could be improved, e.g. to include completed projects and updates

Proposed actions:

1. WPD to further promote its Strategic Investment Options Reports. (Reports look at a licence area every six months and use data taken directly from Local Authority (LA) and Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) development plans to identify future demand and generation growth.) WPD consults on this approach with the authorities ahead of completing work and presents results back in a webinar.
2. WPD to work with LAs who want charging point location information by continuing to offer local connection surgeries/appointments.
3. WPD to host a workshop on 'Electric Vehicles - helping you to make your local infrastructure plans'.
4. WPD to promote its capacity and reinforcement maps (e.g. using its email newsletter/social media).
5. WPD to publish reinforcement information on its online capacity map and investigate sending updates to registered customers.
6. WPD to investigate making the capacity map highlight where new or released capacity has become available.
7. WPD to continue to update its LA/LEP web page with relevant information.
8. WPD's Local Investment Map will be updated on an ongoing basis with new investment projects.
9. Investment projects online to be improved (e.g. include a planner contact and be sortable by voltage level).
10. WPD to investigate allowing stakeholders to sign up for updates on the map in their own geographic region.
11. Further investment workshops to be held in 2019.

Key information and contacts

- Reports from the 2018 workshops can be found online at
 - www.westernpower.co.uk/customers-and-community/connection-customer-engagement/investment-workshops
- The online Local Investment Map can be found at
 - <https://www.westernpower.co.uk/our-network/investing-in-our-network/investment-map>
- For further information, or an electronic copy of an investment booklet for a particular area please contact
 - njohnson@westernpower.co.uk
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