Data Introduction Presentation

Question and Answer session

Electricity Futures Conference, October 2025

nationalgrid DSO

Question	Answer
Are you providing data for the Regional LAEP tools which Local Authorities use? e.g. the work with Energy Capital WMMCA	Our Strategic Engagement Team work with Local Authorities (and consultants that they are using) to share the data that they need for Local Area Energy Planning.
Are you including risk assessment scores for individual specific locations to elements of the infrastructure e.g. sub stations for each of the extreme weather events risks e.g. flood, extreme heat, high winds etc?	Network risk data isn't currently included in published datasets and there are security risks associated with publication of this data which needs to be considered and balanced against the value of publishing this. It would be useful to understand the use cases for this data to help consideration of this as part of future plans to expand our open data offering.
How are you collaborating with other DSOs on sharing data and opportunities across distribution boundaries?	We have been working with SSEN and UKPN to create one standard DFES data collection process from local authorities, so local authorities will only have to submit their DFES data once where there are multiple DNOs within their boundaries. This is also exploring how we can make this easier on tools such as Lenza/LAEP+.
Is the map taking into account the restrictions from the grid? Is 2030 assuming grid upgrades have been completed or not? We've been told we can't connect any generation until 2037...	The Network Opportunity Map gives a high-level view of capacity at individual substations. However, we always recommend engaging with the local planning team for a detailed conversation about your potential connection. They have full sight of the network, and will be able to advise on the detailed network studies that maybe required, and reinforcement that is planned for the area. We can help facilitate these conversations for Local Authorities with Connection Surgeries.

I'm curious to know what average miles per day you are using for the EV model impacts on the network,	This is captured in our Customer Behaviour Report which can be downloaded from our Publications Library: https://dso.nationalgrid.co.uk/resource-centre/publications-library
In the example you gave of heat pumps (80,000 in Wolverhampton in 2030 in 4 years), are you suggesting the same number of house retrofits in a local authority area? This would be required to deliver the 80,000 HP deployment	The projected heat pump figures include both retrofit and deployment on new houses.
There are still a lot of acronyms that really rely on memory for definitions when we're trying to engage multidisciplinary teams within LA's - including up to and including director level. Can you make this easier?	We also have a glossary on the National Grid website. We're thinking about how to make this even more comprehensive and easier to access for our stakeholders, as well as improving existing glossaries (for example on the Network Opportunity Map)
Have you also looked specifically at the food and farming energy demands in parts of the DSO area?	Agriculture was added as a new, distinct technology in DFES 2024 to look at decarbonisation/ electrification of this sector out to 2050.

Is network opportunity data based on demand headroom for substations?	The Network Opportunity Map provides a unified view of possible connection opportunities across NGED's Bulk Supply Points (BSPs), Primary substations and distribution substations. For BSPs and Primaries, we have enhanced our headroom methodology to provide a more accurate indication of demand and generation headroom for both the existing connected network position and the future contracted position.
Are you hoping to support the development of any agent AI search functions for LAs?	Thank you for the question. We're looking at how we can best incorporate AI into our products to improve our stakeholder experience. We will absolutely keep you up to date with our developments and would appreciate your feedback as we deploy new technologies.
Will you make the search boxes dropdown in due course?	Thank you for the suggestion – we'll take this on board as we continue to improve the Network Opportunity Map.
It would be useful to have some sort of basic handbook (like a glossary) of what each tool does and an faq on which is best to use and when. This could be a PDF or similar, rather than video	Thank you – this is really useful feedback and something we can look to create.

Agentic AI solutions are being developed to allow natural language search functionality for all types of datasets. This seems like a potentially valuable opportunity to improve understanding and efficiency in interrogating valuable datasets like these in future. With an API connection, there may be products which could be adapted easily already in the marketplace?	Thank you for the question. We're looking at how we can best incorporate AI into our products to improve our stakeholder experience. We will absolutely keep you up to date with our developments and would appreciate your feedback as we deploy new technologies.
A mindmap approach to faqs - particularly with links, to augment up and down menus, would be very helpful for navigation please	This is a really interesting idea. We're always looking for ways to improve the information on offer so will take this on board!
How much of this data is likely to be included in the LAEP+ tool? How are decisions made about which datasets to include in LAEP+?	We do share data with the LAEP+ tool, for example our network opportunity map headroom data has just been ingested into it along with some of our other datasets. I can try and give you a more detailed answer offline? DFES projections, Network Opportunity Map headroom, Flexibility area (Constrain Management Zones), and Network Topology (HV + LV) are currently included in LAEP+

Is there any overarching coordination of the specification of these data portals across the DSOs? Maybe Ofgem is taking such a common specification view?	Historically, there has been little formal coordination between DSOs on data specifications and portals. However, the Ofgem Data Sharing Infrastructure (DSI) is being developed to provide a common, secure and standardised framework for data exchange. This will establish shared governance, specifications and standards to ensure alignment and interoperability across the sector over time.
Thinking about climate adaptation and resilience, it would be useful have an indication of what the risk assessments are for the various infrastructures going right down to the low voltage distribution stations for extreme heat, risk of flood, high winds, etc. **What data do you have so that we could plan ahead when we're looking at our adaptation resilience plans to know which specific areas are at risk?**	We do have some data relating to environmental risk – however it is in development so not ready to be published yet. There are also a number of risks with publishing that data more openly, which we would evaluate on a case by case basis. Our Strategic Engagement Officer team will pick this up directly with the enquirer, and link them with our DNO colleagues, who can also be contacted through our website: https://customer.nationalgrid.co.uk/contact-us/contacting-national-grid-electricity-distribution/general-contact-enquiries
Can you say a little about how you are liaising on data with the RESP in their development of the tRESP	NESO have requested information from distribution network to feed into the transitional RESP, which we have provided based on our 2024 DFES data. We have been actively participating in the technical working groups to develop the process and assumptions used in tRESP and provide NESO with data and insight from our internal forecasting processes.

Can you talk through the extent to which household smart data is available through the portal? Aggregated? time granularity?	Smart meter consumption data is available in the Connected Data Portal aggregated to the secondary substation and LV feeder where there are five or more smart meters. More information is available through the Connected Data Portal: • https://connecteddata.nationalgrid.co.uk/dataset/aggregated-smart-meter-data-secondary-substation • https://connecteddata.nationalgrid.co.uk/dataset/aggregated-smart-meter-data-lv-feeder