

October 2025

Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience

February 2026

Q&A session

Question	Answer
<p>What data you are using for adaptation planning and how often you will be updating the data and future adaptation plans?</p>	<p>For adaptation planning we use our asset and network information in combination with UK Climate Projections (UKCP18).</p> <p>We review our Climate Resilience Strategy annually and keep up to date with climate science developments so that we can incorporate new learning.</p> <p>Updates to our strategy and plans will be triggered by the release of new climate projections, new requirements in the sector or from our regulator, or significant developments in our understanding so that they reflect the latest status and requirements.</p>
<p>Climate risk management and adaptation isn't needed at the same time in the same places. How does this work manifest in local places/regions?</p>	<p>Our approach recognises that climate risks vary across regions. We consider local climate projections, asset types and locations, and operational priorities when determining where interventions are most needed. This ensures that adaptation measures are targeted, timely, and proportionate to local risk profiles.</p>
<p>Are new sites subject to biodiversity net gain measures?</p>	<p>New development sites must meet Biodiversity Net Gain requirements in line with national policy. We continue to review how this applies to our infrastructure programme and work with partners to ensure compliance.</p>
<p>How granular is available data? Can we find out locations of potential vulnerabilities on the network to add to our other data sets, or is this commercially sensitive?</p>	<p>When we carry out our risk assessments, we aim to make them as detailed and granular as possible. While we don't yet hold highly specific data for every individual local authority area, our assessments are informed by UKCP18 climate projections, which are already available to local authorities.</p> <p>Our Connected Data Portal provides data sets, for example on the locations of our assets, that could be utilised by local authorities in combination with other data sets.</p> <p>If you have questions about risks or climate impacts in your specific area, you're very welcome to contact us. We'll do our best to direct you to the most relevant information and support your needs.</p>

How are NGED collaborating with partners - like other utility providers and LAs - to manage interdependencies? When LAs and CAs started reporting into Defra under ARP4, they had an interest in how grid capacity and reliability might be affected in their patch across the country.

We engage with other sectors nationally through the Infrastructure Operators Adaptation Forum, and regionally through networks such as the West Midlands Regional Adaptation Network. Through these forums we are building our understanding of our interdependencies with other organisations in relation to climate change, and how we can work better together.

Our teams also engage with Local Resilience Forums on emergency planning and response.

Does your approach consider cumulative impacts on the network from multiple climate risks on a locational basis?

Yes. Our methodology considers how different climate hazards—such as heat, flooding, storms, or ground movement—might interact or overlap geographically in our licence areas. This helps us identify areas where combined risks may have amplified impacts on the electricity network. We are working on how we can make these assessments more granular.

How does this relate to work on strategic and local area energy planning - alongside the work of NESO and RESPs?

We continue to work closely with NESO, who provide national system operation. NGED's Distribution System Operator (DSO) function focuses specifically on distribution-level system operation and planning across our licence area. Our collaboration ensures that climate adaptation is integrated across strategic and local energy planning processes.

What are your knowledge gaps?

When considering longer term adaptation plans there is still a way to go in understanding the costs and benefits of adaptation solutions, and what balance of solutions will be most optimal for providing resilience and value for customers.

How do you work in partnership with neighbouring DNOs?

Much of this collaboration happens through the Energy Networks Association's Climate Change Resilience Working Group. We also work together through joint innovation projects that explore shared challenges, develop new solutions, and improve resilience across the sector.

Is there a webpage that will be pitched at the public because obviously people will have concerns about connection and certainly during extreme weather events or is your webpage for interested groups and then it would be for local government to disseminate that information for our residents?

We understand that residents and communities have increasing concerns about power resilience during extreme weather events. We are developing information designed for a general audience, while also providing more technical resources for stakeholders such as local authorities. LAs may choose to share or adapt these resources for their communities.

Has the impact of decarbonisation / net zero on the resilience of the electricity network been assessed? e.g Will electric cars, heat pumps, AI data, etc increase demand on the grid? As we transition from fossil fuel is electricity demand likely to increase? Will network resilience become more vulnerable to power outages, transport disruption etc.

Yes. As part of DSO-led work on future energy scenarios, we assess how increasing demand—from EVs, heat pumps, AI data centres and more—may affect network efficiency and reliability. These projections help us to understand demand growth alongside climate adaptation planning and identify where coordinated action may be needed.

Find out more: <https://dso.nationalgrid.co.uk/planning-our-future-network/forecasting-for-future-need>

Is there anything you can share on the process of how you've used climate data to inform decisions? Many authorities would like to do this, but don't have enough experience interpret interpreting this data. Is there a best practice?

We draw on a range of authoritative sources, including UKCP climate projections and a sector-wide assessment carried out by the Met Office for DNOs. These align our work with wider UK approaches to climate risk assessment.

For local authorities seeking support, the Met Office Climate Data Portal and Local Authority Explorer offer useful maps, projections, and guidance on interpreting climate data.

You've talked about heat and flooding. I'm interested in whether your work covers ground movement and slope stability, for example, something very real in post-industrial landscapes is becoming more dynamic.

Our adaptation report covers a broad range of climate-related risks, including ground movement. This is particularly important because shifting soils can affect underground assets such as cables and joints, potentially pulling on them as the ground moves.

Ground movement is therefore a key element of our ongoing assessments, and further detail can be found in the adaptation report.