



# Open Networks Project

## Advisory Group Meeting Response (20 Dec)

20 December 2017

Energy Networks Association

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## Introduction

The fifth Advisory Group meeting for the ENA Open Networks Project was held on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2017 in London. Products from workstreams 1 and 2 were presented to the group for input and an update on workstream 3 was shared.

Comments from these feedback sessions were captured in the meeting and this paper captures the key comments and how they have been addressed in in the project.

This paper sits alongside the published updated versions of the project material.

## Workstream 1 – T- D Processes

The project team presented two items from this workstream for feedback:

- Whole System Investment Planning Models
- Operational Planning Gaps & Issues Analysis

The below table shows the headline feedback received from the Advisory Group.

Advisory Group Feedback	Open Networks Workstream Response
<p><b>What is the plan to finalise the scope for WS1 for 2018?</b></p>	<p>An initial draft of the ONP Phase 2(2018) scope was presented at the last AG meeting in October and the feedback provided has been taken into account in refining and detailing the scope proposal.</p> <p>A final draft of this document has been put for public consultation in January 2018 to seek further views from stakeholders to ensure. The project will continue to seek further feedback from the stakeholders and maintain an adaptable delivery approach.</p> <p>It is to be noted that some packages of work included in the scope are enabling works for high priority deliverables.</p>
<p><b>Need to consider how other vectors are considered in operational data exchanges. For e.g. Black Start and how that interacts with the gas network.</b></p>	<p>Whilst operational planning processes are included in the programme for 2018 (as an enabler for other work), the approach will be light in comparison to investment planning processes as this is based on feedback received from stakeholders to date.</p> <p>As part of the scope, mechanisms for operational data exchange will be reviewed and further developed from a Transmission and Distribution perspective. Whilst the scope for this year does not factor in inclusion of data exchange with other vectors, consideration will be given to how these architectures could be evolved in the longer term to enhance cross</p>

	vector interaction for greater whole energy system coordination.
<b>As part of any trials, we need to consider that investors may be reluctant to release investment until the work of the Charging Futures Forum is finalised and simulated prices for trials may lead to market distortions.</b>	<p>We recognise that the scope for 2018 requires further input from the investor community and we are currently working on getting appropriate investor representation on the Advisory Group and are planning more direct engagement alongside.</p> <p>The planned trials are based on real hotspots around the country. The plan for 2018 is to look at what distribution network options can currently be provided. This will allow us to develop the new processes, data exchange mechanisms and business changes that will be required. Following on from these initial case studies, we will then look to work with the investor community to further develop and integrate market based solutions..</p>
<b>How are the interests of the market participants taken into consideration? Market participants are more interested in key parameters such as duration of contracts, area, geography etc. rather than the intricacies of the process.</b>	<p>In order to define the process and understand the required key parameters, the level of detail needs to be looked at as part of the project. Other work, such as how T &amp; D services can be more aligned, is planned for 2018 that may be of more interest to market participants.</p>

## Workstream 2 – Customer Experience

The project team presented the final draft of the Updated Connection Arrangements and received the comments below:

Advisory Group Feedback	Open Networks Workstream Response
<b>This was noted as a very useful document to help connectees.</b>	Noted and this is now published <a href="#">here</a>
<b>There is more to do on this, but we should close out and publish this with the right context that this is a starting point and there is more to come.</b>	Noted and this is now published <a href="#">here</a>
<b>We need to plan more development of this in WS2 and look to embed this thinking out in into the DNOs. Further work on definitions and terms would be helpful.</b>	We are now consulting on our 2018 plan of work <a href="#">here</a> and part of this in Workstream 2 is development of good practice for pre-connections and more work on terms and definitions in Workstream 2.
<b>Objectives of this work should be to increase understanding of connectees; standardise practice across DNOs/SO</b>	Agreed and this is covered in our 2018 workplan.
<b>Strong recommendation that we should include a scope paragraph in this document to say what it seeks to do and not do.</b>	Updated and context section included in the published version.

<p><b>Include any useful references for customers seeking guidance on getting connected.</b></p>	<p>Updated and included in the published version.</p>
<p><b>Need to understand charging mechanisms and the output from the Charging Futures Forum Task Forces will be important, particularly Access Rights and in light of the recent network access/forward looking charges working paper from Ofgem.</b></p>	<p>Dependencies between the workstreams are being mapped currently and CFF output is key across much of the Open Networks development work.</p>
<p><b>Need a more collaborative and consultative approach to the connections process to understand options to allow the right option to be chosen.</b></p>	<p>It was discussed in the Advisory Group that the new A&amp;D charging regime will encourage more dialogue and we will consider good practice in our 2018 workplan.</p>
<p><b>Can we provide connection availability % estimates and what scenarios may drive outages?</b></p>	<p>This is difficult to do in this document, but can be part of dialogue with DNOs.</p>

### Workstream 3 – DSO Transition

The project team provided an update on the SGAM modelling work to date and received the headline feedback below:

Advisory Group Feedback	Open Networks Workstream Response
<b>Simple descriptions of the models and the implications on different types of stakeholders will be the best way to get input.</b>	We will consider this in presenting the content for Advisory Group feedback and in future consultation.
<b>More clarity is required to understand the 2 additional models being analysed, particularly the model with independent co-ordination.</b>	This will be provided through development of the models and Advisory Group workshops are planned again.
<b>Questions were asked again on whether we need to consider drawing out roles and responsibilities for the network operator and system operator function of the future DSO.</b>	This position remains that the short-term focus of the project needs to remain on defining functions and the range of DNO DSO agnostic roles and responsibilities for operating efficient flexible energy networks.