

Open Networks Challenge Group Meeting Minutes

The Open Networks (ON) Challenge Group meeting took place via Microsoft Teams on 12th September 2024. The [presentation materials](#) can be found on the ENA website.

The sections below capture feedback that was shared during the session. Alongside this, a [Challenge and Actions Log](#) captures key areas for Open Networks to consider and address.

Any further feedback outside of Challenge Group meetings can be sent to opennetworks@energynetworks.org.

Welcome and Apologies

Hussein Osman (Elexon, Challenge Group chair) welcomed all to the group and noted apologies.

The session was attended by those in green below. Attendees marked with * attended part of the meeting.

| Company | Name |
|---|-------------------|
| Elexon, Chair | Hussein Osman |
| Octopus | Madelaine Brooks |
| E.ON | Charlotte Goodman |
| Centrica | Helen Stack |
| Energy UK | Naomi Baker |
| Smarter Grid Solutions | Flo Silver* |
| The Association for Renewable Energy and Clean Technology (REA) | Samuel Adekanle |
| The Association for Decentralised Energy (ADE) | Natasha Mills |
| Everoze Partners | Nithin Rajavelu |
| Joint Radio Company (JRC) | Peter Couch |
| Piclo | Gemma Stanley |
| Regen | Alex Temple |
| Community Energy England | Philip Coventry |
| Electralink | Emma Carr |
| Energy Systems Catapult | Ben Leland |
| Imperial College London | Goran Strbac |
| Welsh Government | tbc |

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| Citizens Advice | Caroline Farquhar |
| Independent Networks Association (INA) | Gareth Haines |
| Energy Networks Association (ENA) | Avi Aithal |
| | Autumn Davies |
| UKPN | Alex Howard |
| | Tim Manandhar |
| | Evangelos Karagiannis |
| ESO | Will Seward |
| NG ED | Luke Harker |

Recent Industry Developments

There are two consultations that are currently out for response before the end of Sep-24, these are Flexibility Markets Assets Register and Data Sharing Infrastructure. It is noted that the ADE are the proposer of the Market Facilitator enabler bod following the BSC panel session on 12-Sep. The panel accepted all recommendations and continuing as planned for Nov-24 implementation of Elexon into the Market Facilitator role.

Dispatch API

Tim Manandhar (Technical Working Group co-lead, UKPN) presented the Dispatch API slides to the Challenge Group. The timeline of the work and key milestones since created in Jun-2022 was run through with the group. The proposed governance structure is discussed with the group, showing the technical working group are looking for a dedicated delivery team including ENA focus groups and industry collaboration groups. The work that would be carried out by networks and that of external consultants is outlined and discussed with the group, noting these points are still under discussion within the technical working group. The Challenge Group were invited to provide feedback on this proposed governance structure.

| Feedback | Response |
|--|--|
| Challenge Group queried who would be providing funding and delivery resource within this new governance structure. | This is currently being discussed with the Steering Group and ENA board to be continued within Open Networks. |
| Challenge Group queried if ESO were included in the dispatch instructions. | It is confirmed ESO are planning to adopt this standard, however they are currently performing a detailed impact assessment for all their platforms. The formal commitments of which standard will be adopted for what platform is subject to the impact assessment. |
| The delivery timeline is queried by the Challenge | There is a 22-week plan for this phase, however it could be a challenge that some areas require further |

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| Group. | time. |
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Primacy Rules

Luke Harker (NG ED, Technical Working Group co-lead) & Evangelos Karagiannis (UKPN, Technical Working Group co-lead) discussed the primacy rules slides presented to the group. The technical working group will be working with Baringa until the end of 2024 to develop primacy rules for use cases involving ESO services in SMP and DSO services, including technical limits. Baringa will be assessing and identifying conflicts, reviewing and conducting analysis of the rules, following these initial steps they will conduct a whole systems CBA and then create a governance process for future rule developments. The timeline of the development of use cases is shared with the group and Challenge Group were invited to provide any feedback on the proposal.

| Feedback | Response |
|--|---|
| Challenge Group asked if there is an opportunity for the findings to be shared with the Challenge Group to inform the prioritisation of primacy rules. | These outcomes will be shared with the Challenge Group when available. It is asked if there are priority services information required to let the technical working group aware. Materials will be further circulated for offline feedback from those unable to attend the meeting. |

Stackability

Will Seward (ESO, Technical Working Group co-lead) & Alex Howard (UKPN, Technical Working Group co-lead) shared an overview of the Stackability focus group that was held on the 20-Aug. It was noted there was positive feedback on the progressive areas from the focus group, however it was mentioned that the highlighted actioned mainly described revenue stacking rather than making changed to enable revenue stacking. It was also requested that communication and content be shared in the simplest way to be inclusive of all stakeholders. The list of short-term actions that will be implemented by the end of 2024 was discussed with the Challenge Group alongside the status of each action. A demo of the interactive revenue stacking tool was given to the group for their viewing. The 12 flex products that are being looked at in regard to retiring services was briefly discussed and The Challenge Group were invited to provide feedback on the tool and request any further information on the retiring services.

| Feedback | Response |
|---|--|
| Challenge Group asked if timelines for deliverables and the current status would be available against the short-term actions. | This feedback was noted and noted the Open Networks programme tracker holds this information and is available to Challenge Group members. |
| The Challenge Group asked for clarity on if all 9 actions being delivered will be completed by the end of 2024. | It is clarified that most of these actions will be completed however following a meeting with the technical working group on 09-Sep there are some that will take slightly longer. |
| Challenge Group queried if there was another platform available rather than excel. | This feedback is noted, and it is clarified excel was used for quickness and following testing if the tool is useful further platforms can be explored. |

Quick Working Group Updates

Avi Aithal (ENA, Head of Open Networks) shared an update regarding recently developed reports for CEM; which implemented small updates to the CEM tool, Settlement; who have developed a final report for all 3 tranches and Primacy; who have finalised the report on increment 2 are all currently with the Steering Group for approval. Following approval all reports will be published to the website and will be included in the next ENA newsletter. It is noted that Baselining are in the process of securing external support for the baselining of standard products that have been identified. Carbon Reporting is currently being discussed with Ofgem on how it can be incorporated into the next cycle of C31E submissions.

AOB

Hussein Osman (Elexon, Challenge Group Chair) shared an update on Elexon's current phase of work. They are beginning to engage in the technical working groups within Open Networks and will continue to do so following further onboarding of resources.