



# DAY AHEAD FLEXIBILITY MARKETS



**10<sup>th</sup> November 2025**



**Scottish & Southern  
Electricity Networks**

**DSO Powering Change**



# AGENDA

🕒 13:30 - 13:50

## Introduction to Day Ahead



**Paul Fitzgerald**

DSO Flexibility  
Markets Manager

🕒 13:50 - 14:05

## Market Rules & Entry Requirements



**Ronke Ajadi**

Flexibility Agreement  
Manager

🕒 14:05 - 14:15

## Upcoming Bidding



**Jiabin Fan**

Flexibility Services  
Scheduling Engineer







# WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

**Paul Fitzgerald**

DSO Flexibility Markets Manager



**Scottish & Southern  
Electricity Networks**

**DSO Powering Change**



# ABOUT SSEN DISTRIBUTION

One of six DNOs in Great Britain, our electricity distribution network delivers power to over 3.9 million homes and businesses across the diverse and unique geographies of the north of Scotland and central southern England.

## OUR PURPOSE

We power communities to **thrive today** and create a **net zero tomorrow**

## OUR VISION

We're **powering change** with **every connection**

## OUR FOUR PRIORITIES



Delivering a safe, resilient and responsive network



Providing a valued and trusted service for customers and communities



Accelerating progress towards a net zero world



Making a positive impact on society

## OUR DISTRIBUTION NETWORK AT A GLANCE

Over **3.9million** homes and businesses

More than **944,370** customers on our Priority Services Register

Over **128,000km** of overhead lines and underground cables

Over **460km** of subsea cables powering our island communities

Over **4,100** employees across the country



Figures as of June 2024



# OUR ROLE AS A DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM OPERATOR (DSO)

## A SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION TO NET ZERO REQUIRES

- ✓ Greater utilisation of **flexible energy resources**, across electricity, heat and transport.
- ✓ A clear understanding of **the value flexible resources can provide** at any one time; and
- ✓ Greater **real-time coordination in energy system operation** to ensure that flexible resources can be 'optimised' across the energy system as a whole.

These services are being provided through functions within the Distribution Network Operators called Distribution System Operators (DSOs), which have three core areas:



## Our DSO Toolkit



### Strategic Investment

- Provide the capacity on the network to deliver net zero by 2050.
- Ensure that we're making appropriate use of flexibility services to deliver efficient whole-system solutions at the optimum time.

### Flexibility services

- Mid-term solutions that enable us to use our existing network efficiently
- Acts as an investment signal for Strategic Investment
- Provides an interim solution if there are long lead times for Strategic Investment

### Access products

- Connecting customers now, but with some level of compromise.
- Complemented by flexibility services or strategic investment to meet customers full needs as soon as possible.





# FLEXIBILITY IN ACTION

→ SSEN's flexibility targets, by 2028

**5.0GW**  
of flexibility to procure

**3.7GW**  
of capacity through flexible connections

**£460m**  
of reinforcement costs to avoid

**684** Market auction run in ED2

**203** Constraint zones in ED2

Value Deferred Across ED2

**£236.9M**

Flexibility Dispatched Costs ED2

**£640,846K**

Flexibility Requested ED2  
MW

**2,737**

Flexibility Procured ED2  
MW

**934.2**

MW

0 934.2 2,737

Average Prices by Financial Year

● Availability (£/MW/h) ● Utilisation (£/MWh)

Financial Year	Availability (£/MW/h)	Utilisation (£/MWh)
23/24	67	98
24/25	171	398
25/26	222	215

Bidding Activity by Financial Year

● Cumulative Total Bids ● Cumulative Accepted Bids

Financial Year	Cumulative Total Bids	Cumulative Accepted Bids
23/24	878	589
24/25	1591	1036
25/26	1784	1174

MW Procured by Financial Year

Financial Year	Cumulative MW Procured
23/24	707
24/25	886
25/26	934



# INTRODUCTION TO DAY AHEAD

- We are expanding our flexibility markets to include a **Day Ahead Scheduled Utilisation** market
- We will operate this market when we have a **shortfall** in previous VAOU or SAOU bidding rounds
- Managing the risk of flexibility **shortfall** is critical to the **safe** and **secure** operation of the network
- Operating a Day Ahead markets allows us to go back out to the market in areas where the **network risk** is **high**
- We can consider **new opportunities** for flexibility, such as operational needs with short lead times
- **We need your help to achieve this!**

Payment is guaranteed  
if your bid is accepted



## Market Dispatch Decisions



### Scheduled Utilisation

- Long term bidding (1 year ahead)
- Utilisation and instruction is confirmed at trade\*

### Variable Availability Operational Utilisation (VAOU)

- Long term bidding (1-2 years ahead)
- Planned five weeks ahead and utilisation is confirmed and instructed one week ahead

### Scheduled Availability Operational Utilisation (SAOU)

- Short term bidding (month ahead)
- Planned five weeks ahead and utilisation is confirmed and instructed one week ahead

### Scheduled Utilisation (Day Ahead)

- Short term bidding (day ahead)
- Utilisation and instruction is confirmed at trade

\* Utilisation and Instruction confirmed 1 month ahead for those on SSEN Service Terms 2.1



# DAY AHEAD PILOT

**We will initiate a pilot of the Day-Ahead Markets over a defined period to assess end-to-end process efficiencies and validate the strategic value for our stakeholders.**

During this pilot, operations will be limited to a reduced scope, typically no more than 15 markets per week, to ensure controlled implementation and accurate evaluation.

We strongly encourage active collaboration and feedback throughout this phase to ensure that the scaled Day-Ahead Markets deliver optimal outcomes for everyone.





# HOW WILL DAY AHEAD WORK?

Day Ahead Launch	Week 1					Week 2							Week 3							Week 4						
Activities	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Run forecast and create requirements	▶					▶							▶							▶						
Markets published on Electron Connect				▶					▶						▶							▶				
Day Ahead market opens and closes						▶	▶	▶	▶	▶			▶	▶	▶	▶	▶			▶	▶	▶	▶	▶		
FSPs Deliver Service							▶	▶	▶	▶	▶			▶	▶	▶	▶	▶			▶	▶	▶	▶	▶	



SSEN auction start at 10am. FSPs to offer capacity & prices up until 12pm

FSPs notified of award and scheduled for dispatch next day

# Key Dates



Scottish & Southern  
Electricity Networks

DSO Powering Change

- Day Ahead pilot commence on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025
- Requirements published no later than Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025
- You can submit bids for the whole week in one go, or each day
- Markets open at 10.00 and close at 12.00 Monday to Friday
- Dispatch takes place Tuesday to Saturday

**Recurring Day Ahead:** Requirements published on Fridays for markets to open the following Monday – Friday, for dispatch the next day – Tuesdays to Saturdays





# MARKET RULES AND ENTRY

Ronke Ajadi

Flexibility Agreement Manager



Scottish & Southern  
Electricity Networks

DSO Powering Change





# MARKET RULES & ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

## Market Requirements

- Minimum 10kW (can be aggregated from smaller kW)
- Must be on Version 3.0 of the SSEN Service Terms
- Cannot have same asset/date/time contracted in other SSEN market
- Can submit bids for multiple days in a row
- Changes can be made up until 12pm closure
- Dispatch instruction is at time of trade

## Technical Requirements

- Assets must be registered and qualified within CMZ
- Must be onboarded to Flexible Power and integrated for the purpose of settlement
- New Assets that are not registered will need to nominate a baseline prior to service dispatch
- FSPs with Flex Power API will receive notification 15 mins before service window (Non-API FSPs won't)

We have purposely designed our Day-Ahead auction windows to align with other markets to enable stacking opportunities and market coordination



Wholesale Day-Ahead  
auctions 09:20-10:00

SSEN Day Ahead  
Market 10:00-12:00

Local Constraint  
Market 13:00-14:00

NESO Response and Reserve  
auctions 14:30-15:00

9:00 ▶

10:00 ▶

11:00 ▶

12:00 ▶

13:00 ▶

14:00 ▶

15:00 ▶

16:00 ▶



# MARKET OPPORTUNITIES

	Apr 25	May 25	Jun 25	Jul 25	Aug 25	Sep 25	Oct 25	Nov 25	Dec 25	Jan 26	Feb 26	Mar 26
Mini Competition	PQQ Contract Sign			PQQ Contract Sign				PQQ Contract Sign				
Long-term Bidding		VAOU (WA) SU (MA) OU				VAOU (WA) SU (MA) OU				VAOU (WA) SU (MA) OU		
Short-term Bidding						SAOU (DA)	SAOU (DA)	SAOU (DA)	SAOU (DA)	SAOU (DA)	SAOU (DA)	SAOU (DA)
Day Ahead Bidding								Launch SU (DA)	SU (DA)	SU (DA)	SU (DA)	SU (DA)



# PARTICIPATION AND PAYMENT

Jiabin Fan

Flexibility Services Scheduling Engineer



Scottish & Southern  
Electricity Networks

DSO Powering Change





# NEW ASSET REGISTRATION PROCESS

Day Ahead Launch	Service Week -1					Service Week						
Activities	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
FSPs create new asset for next day DA market					15:00	15:00	15:00	15:00	15:00	15:00		
SSEN set up the new registered asset in Flex Power						08:00	08:00	08:00	08:00	08:00		
Electron attach the eligible assets in the DA market by the start of the market						10:00	10:00	10:00	10:00	10:00		
FSP submit bids for the attached assets by the close of DA market						12:00	12:00	12:00	12:00	12:00		



# PAYMENT PROCESS

## Pre-service delivery steps:

1

Start by setting up  
Provider account on  
Harmony (ordering,  
invoicing & payment)

2

Provider receives email to  
complete Questionnaire  
with Company & payment  
details

3

Setup is complete  
for Harmony &  
Tradex

4

SSEN issues POs via  
Harmony for delivery  
of services

## Post-service delivery steps:

1

FSPs submits meter  
reading via Flexible  
power. Either by  
uploading the readings  
manually or via API

2

FP: Monthly  
statement report is  
generated

3

Provider review the  
statement and  
submits invoice via  
Tradex

4

Provider is paid within  
30 days (to the bank  
account details  
provided previously)



# UPCOMING BIDDING

<u>CMZ</u>	<u>Licence Area</u>	<u>Estimated Dispatch Month</u>	<u>Estimated Capacity Required (MW)</u>	<u>Estimated Service Window</u>
<i>* Subject to Change</i>				
Coshieville	SHEPD	November	0.27	14:00 – 21:00
Coshieville	SHEPD	November	0.19	10:00 – 12:30
Oxford	SEPD	November	0.18	10:00-13:00
Stokenchurch	SEPD	November	0.084	15:00 – 22:00
Coshieville	SHEPD	December	0.27	14:00 – 21:00
Coshieville	SHEPD	December	0.19	10:00 – 12:30





**Scottish & Southern  
Electricity Networks**

DSO Powering Change

# THANK YOU FOR JOINING US

## Key Reminders

- Day Ahead pilot commence on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025
- Requirements published no later than Friday
- You can submit bids for the whole week, or each day
- Markets open at 10.00 and close at 12.00 Monday to Friday
- Dispatch takes place Tuesday to Saturday



Sign up to receive our DSO Newsletter



**Visit our Flexibility Services Website**  
**Flexibility Services - SSEN**

[www.ssen.co.uk/about-ssen/dso/flexibility/flexibility-services](http://www.ssen.co.uk/about-ssen/dso/flexibility/flexibility-services)