

A word cloud centered around the word "transition" in large white font. Other words in various sizes and orientations include: "network", "innovation", "DNO", "DSO", "economical", "smart", "energy", "performance", "renewables", "energy storage", "system operator", "strategy", "stakeholders", "customers", "efficient", "flexible", "transmission", "domestic", and "electricity". The background is a teal gradient. On the left, there is a silhouette of a power plant with smokestacks. On the right, there is a silhouette of a wind turbine and solar panels.

**DSOF Roundtable Sessions & NIA Project Call Event**

*25<sup>th</sup> January 2018*

**WESTERN POWER**  
**DISTRIBUTION**  
*Serving the Midlands, South West and Wales*



## Network Strategy & Innovation within WPD

*Benjamin Godfrey, Network Strategy Team Manager*

# Today's Agenda & Format

- **Welcome & Housekeeping**
- **Network Strategy within WPD**  
*Ben Godfrey, Network Strategy Team Manager*
- **Distribution System Operability Framework**  
*Oliver Spink, Network Strategy Engineer*
- **Network Monitoring Roundtable**  
*David Tuffery, Network Strategy Engineer*
- **Fault Level Management Roundtable**  
*Clive Goodman, Network Strategy Engineer*
- **Flexibility Roundtable**  
*Ben Godfrey, Network Strategy Team Manager*
- **Innovation Strategy & NIA Project Call**  
*Jonathan Berry, Innovation & Low Carbon Networks Engineer*

Tea & Coffee  
throughout

13.00pm  
Lunch

# Network Strategy

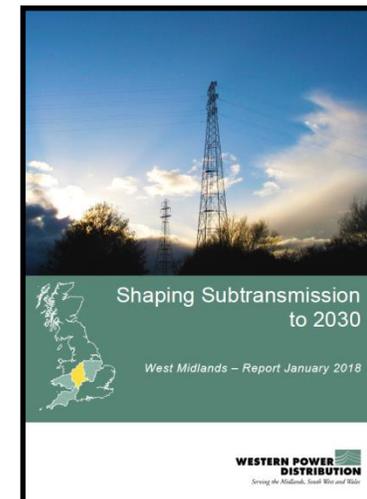
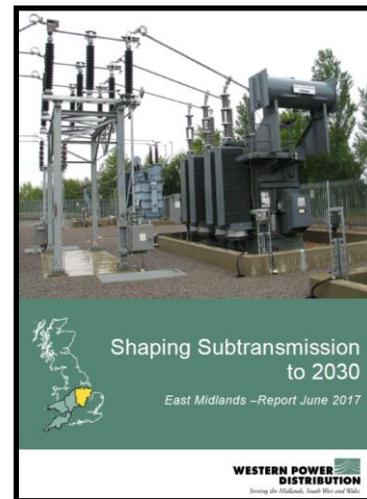
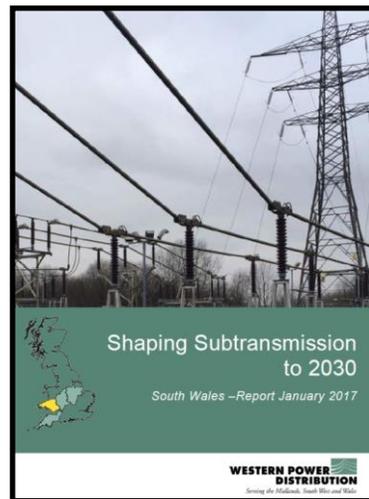
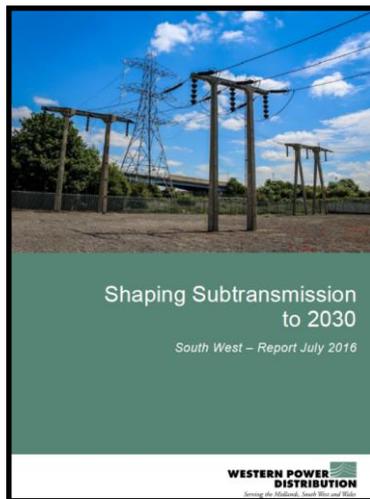
**WPD's Network Strategy team is responsible for a number of key outputs, contributing to the efficient and economic development of the network from five years out and beyond.**

## **Our main focus topics are:**

- Developing advanced modelling techniques to inform strategic studies.
- Alignment of our strategic studies with National Grid's FES work.
- Progression of a joint WPD/NGET Regional Development Plan for the network in the South West.
- National work on developing the technical interface between NGET and DNOs through ENA's Open Networks programme.
- Delivery of WPD's Distribution System Operability Framework documents.
- Development of WPD's strategy to enable transition to a DSO.
- Co-ordination of the responses to Government, regulator and external stakeholder consultations on DSO vision and strategy.

# Strategic Investment Options

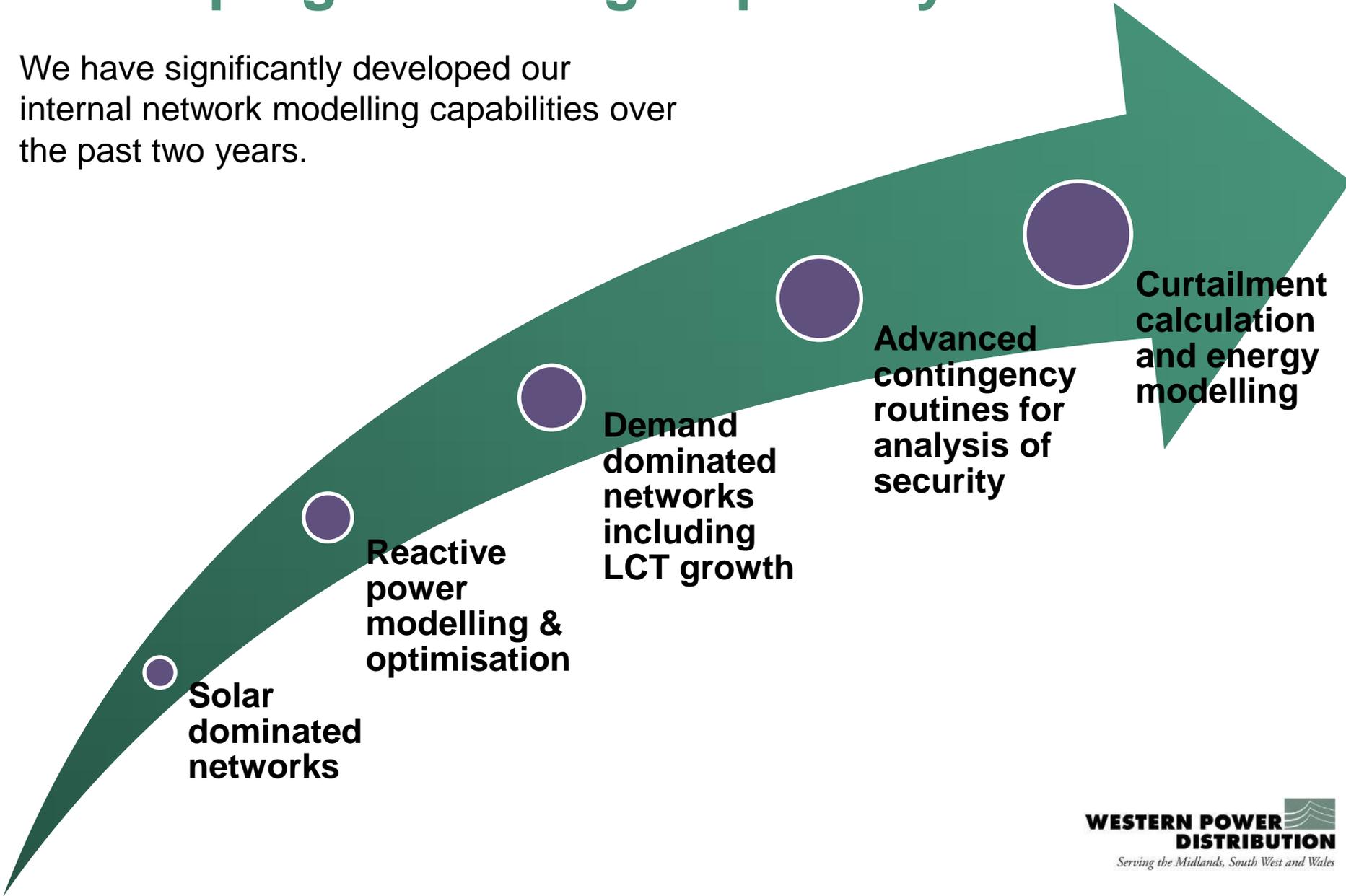
Western Power Distribution has been undertaking analysis on long term strategic studies, to better understand the potential growth in the connection of distributed generation (DG) and energy demand in all its licence areas, and how that future growth may impact on the network.



Every 6 months we publish a strategic investment study report on one of our four licence areas.

# Developing Modelling Capability

We have significantly developed our internal network modelling capabilities over the past two years.



**Solar dominated networks**

**Reactive power modelling & optimisation**

**Demand dominated networks including LCT growth**

**Advanced contingency routines for analysis of security**

**Curtailment calculation and energy modelling**

# NG/WPD Regional Development Programme

**National Grid and WPD are collaborating on a joint Regional Development Programme, focussing on transmission and distribution networks in the South West.**

- Sharing of existing data and network models on a more granular basis.
- Collaborative design of whole system modelling studies, covering steady state thermal, voltage and fault level.
- National Grid to share dynamic modelling techniques.
- Covers three scenarios:
  - 2020 3GW
  - 2025 4GW
  - 2030 5GW
- **Future network requirements** will be modelled and solved using both conventional reinforcement and compensatory curtailment.
- Collaborative **Whole System Network Options Assessment** will be trialled.
- Processes, methodologies and results to be documented for external publishing.
- **Programme to report in March.**

# NG/WPD Regional Development Programme

- ✓ Quicker connections
- ✓ Cheaper connections
- ✓ Access to existing markets
- ✓ Development of new markets
- ✓ Enabling more DG & LCT through flexibility

# Recent Network Strategy Publications

- **Distribution System Operability Framework (DSOF)**  
WPD's DSOF document aims to stimulate wider collaboration with industry, adjacent sectors and other key stakeholders by expanding on some key issues and challenges facing distribution network operators.
- **Energy Storage Growth Scenarios & Operating Modes Consultation**  
This consultation sought to understand the potential scale of growth of energy storage, the type of energy storage assets/projects that are likely to be deployed within its network and the typical operating behaviour of storage assets. The results report was published in August.

# Distribution System Operability Framework (DSOF)

*Oliver Spink, Network Strategy Engineer*



## Western Power Distribution's Distribution System Operability Framework

*September 2017*

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# Aims and Objectives

The DSOF aims to highlight some of the technical and commercial challenges facing Distribution Network Operators as they become Distribution System Operators.

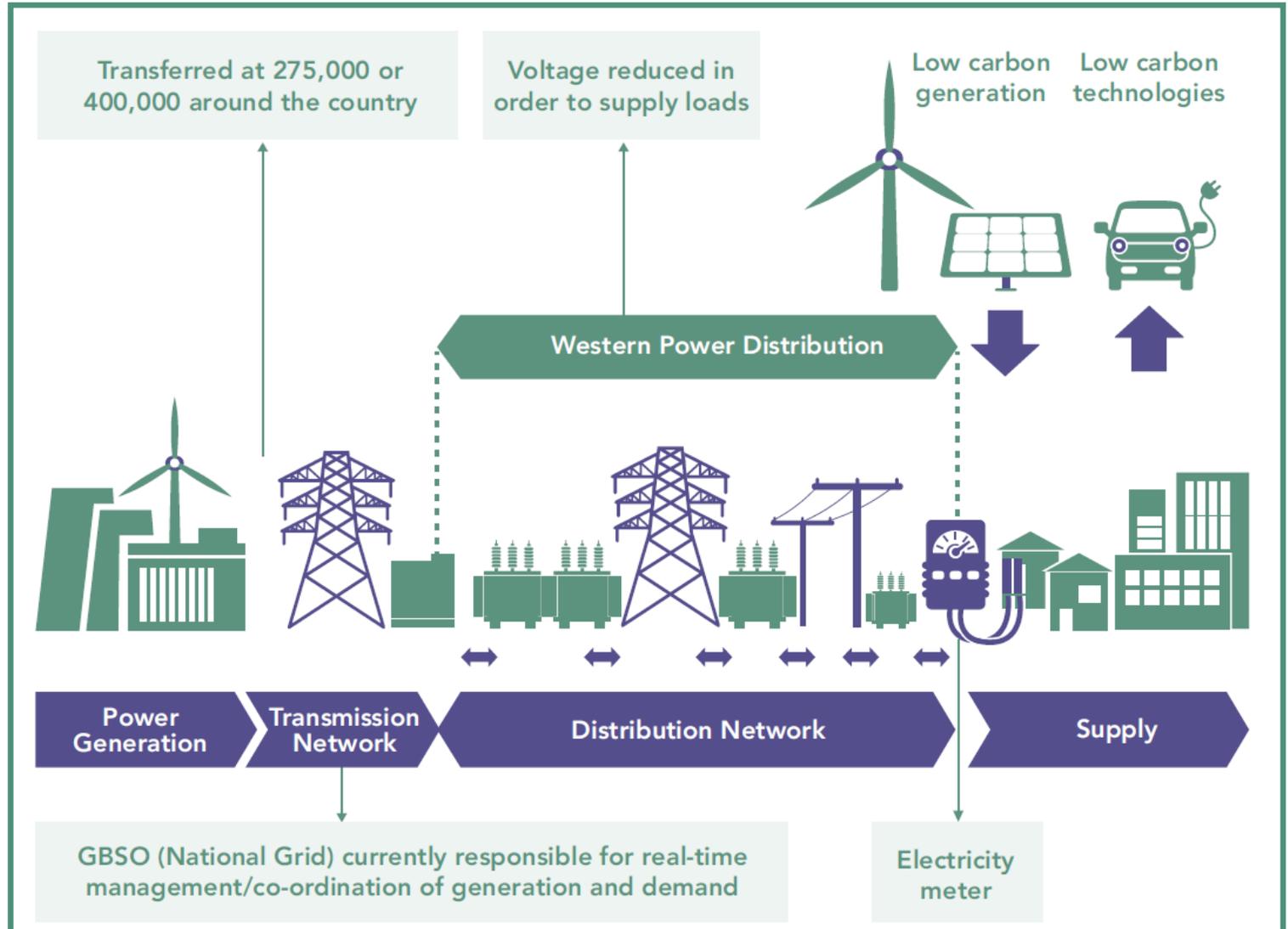
The challenges are presented as subject articles in the three core areas which are identified in WPD's business plan:

Assets	Network Operations	Customers
Analysing data, enhancing modelling techniques and testing alternative connection strategies.	Demonstrating the direct benefits from smart grids for network performance and service delivery.	Developing new technologies and solutions to meet customer's needs, such as enabling the connection of Low Carbon Technologies (LCT).
<b>Articles:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Network Modelling and Analysis</li> <li>2. Network Monitoring and Visibility</li> <li>3. Data and Forecasting</li> </ol>	<b>Articles:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fault Level Management</li> <li>2. Arc Suppression Coils</li> <li>3. Low Frequency Demand Disconnection</li> </ol>	<b>Articles:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Flexibility Services</li> <li>2. Changing Demand Profiles</li> <li>3. Power Quality</li> </ol>

# DSOF Themes

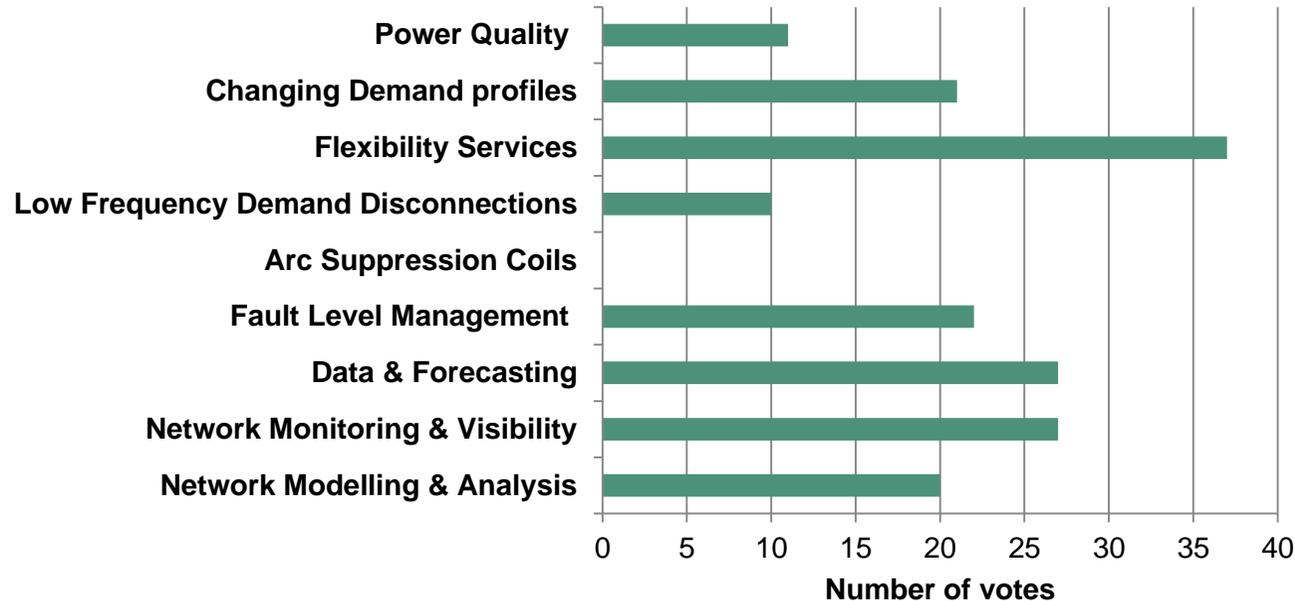
Changing Electricity Network

DSO Transition

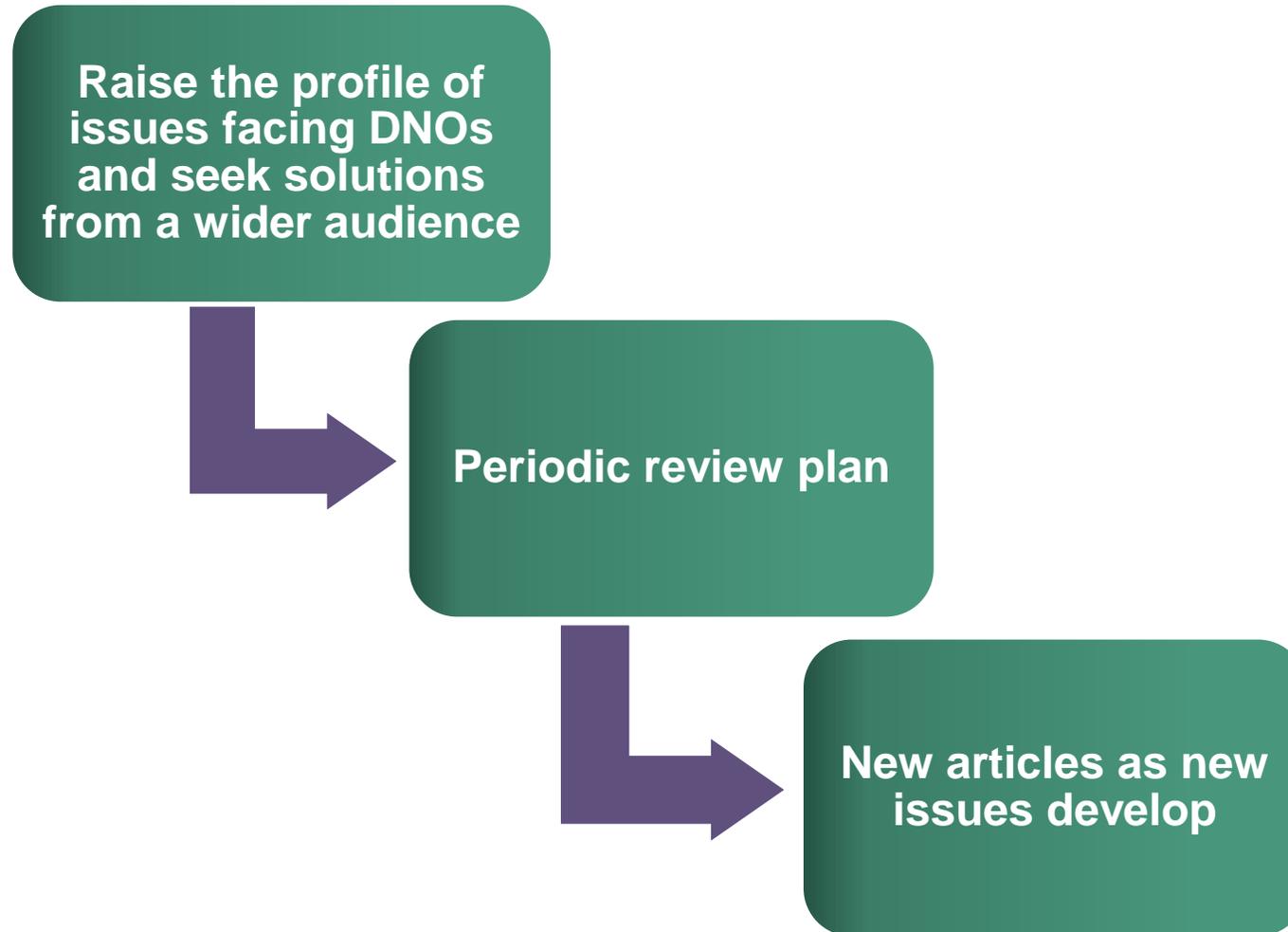


# Focus For Today

- Three topics presented on:
  - Network Monitoring & Visibility
  - Fault Level Management
  - Flexibility Services
- Roundtable discussion and questions
- WPD's Innovation Strategy & NIA Project Call



# DSOF - Next Steps





## Network Monitoring and Visibility

*David Tuffery, Network Strategy Engineer*

# Existing Monitoring and Visibility

## **The type of monitoring that is typically installed on the network:**

- Voltage and current measurements
- Real and reactive power flow measurements
- Switchgear status, operations and failures
- Transformer tap positions
- Protection operations

## **Factors that influence the level of monitoring and visibility:**

- Voltage level
- Geographic location
- Network topology

For remote monitoring and control a reliable and secure communication medium is needed. Typical communication mediums are Microwave, Radio and Fibre.

# Drivers For Improved Monitoring

## Operational

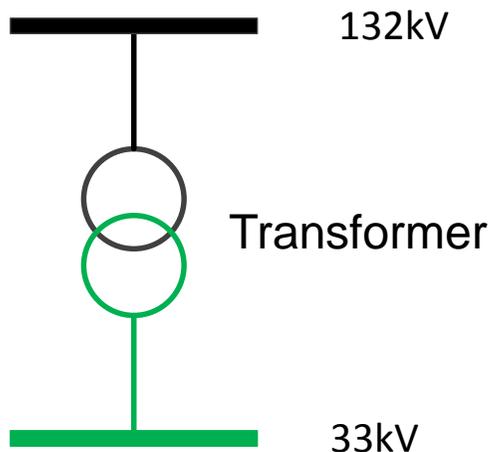
- Rolling out smart grid network solutions and smart grid alternative connection solutions
- Higher confidence in pre-fault and post-fault network conditions
- Improve network security and reliability

## Design

- Enables accurate modelling of the network
- Ability to assess traditional reinforcement options against non build solutions
- Looking to determine generation and demand coincident and persistence factors
- New systems and innovation projects requiring additional data

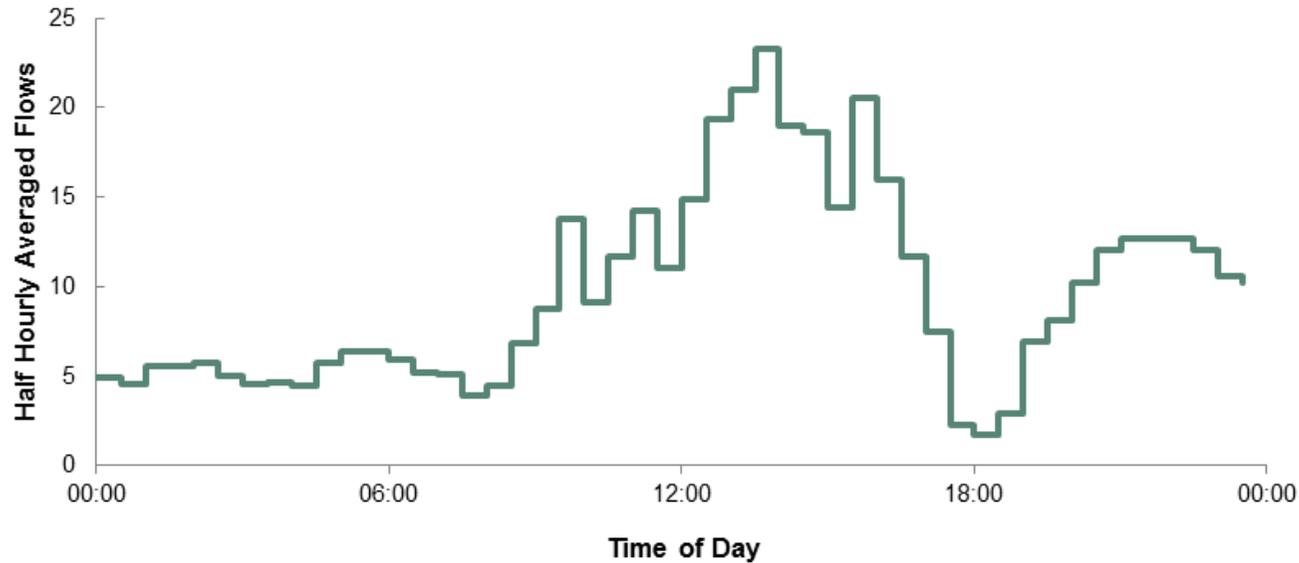
# Directional Powerflow Example

This example highlight why the type of monitoring installed is becoming increasingly important to design and operate a network



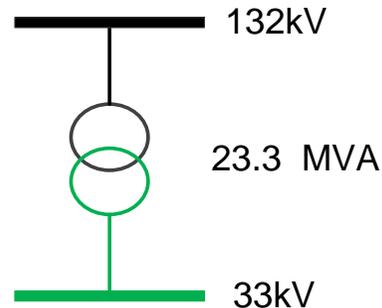
Method	Precise MVA value	Direction available	Real (MW) Component	Reactive (MVA <sub>r</sub> ) Component
<b>Amps and assumed Volts</b>	No	No	No	No
<b>Volts and Amps</b>	Yes	No	No	No
<b>Derived MW and MVA<sub>r</sub></b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

# Amps and Assumed Volts



— Amps and Dummy volts (MVA)

At 13:30 to 14:00 half hourly averaged power flows as seen with Amps monitoring (dummy volts)

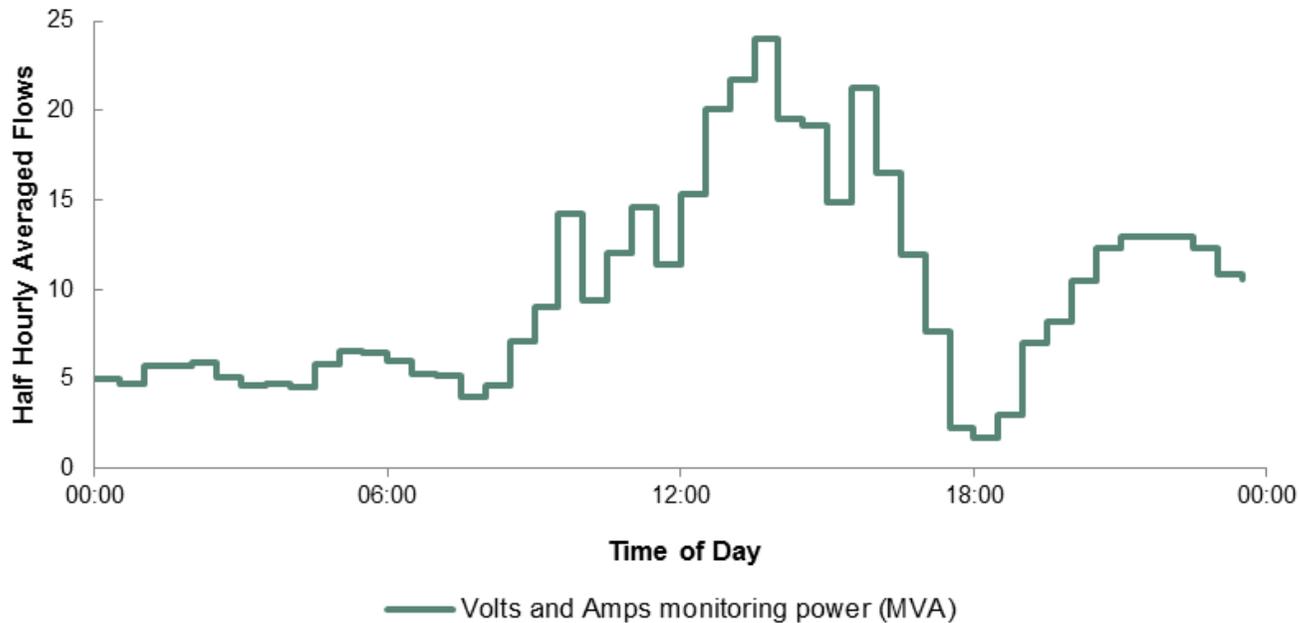


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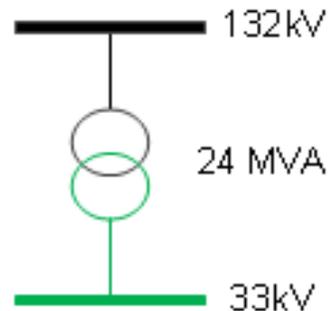
No MW and MVA component

No Power Factor information

# Amps and Volts



At 13:30 to 14:00 half hourly averaged power flows as seen with Amps and Volts monitoring

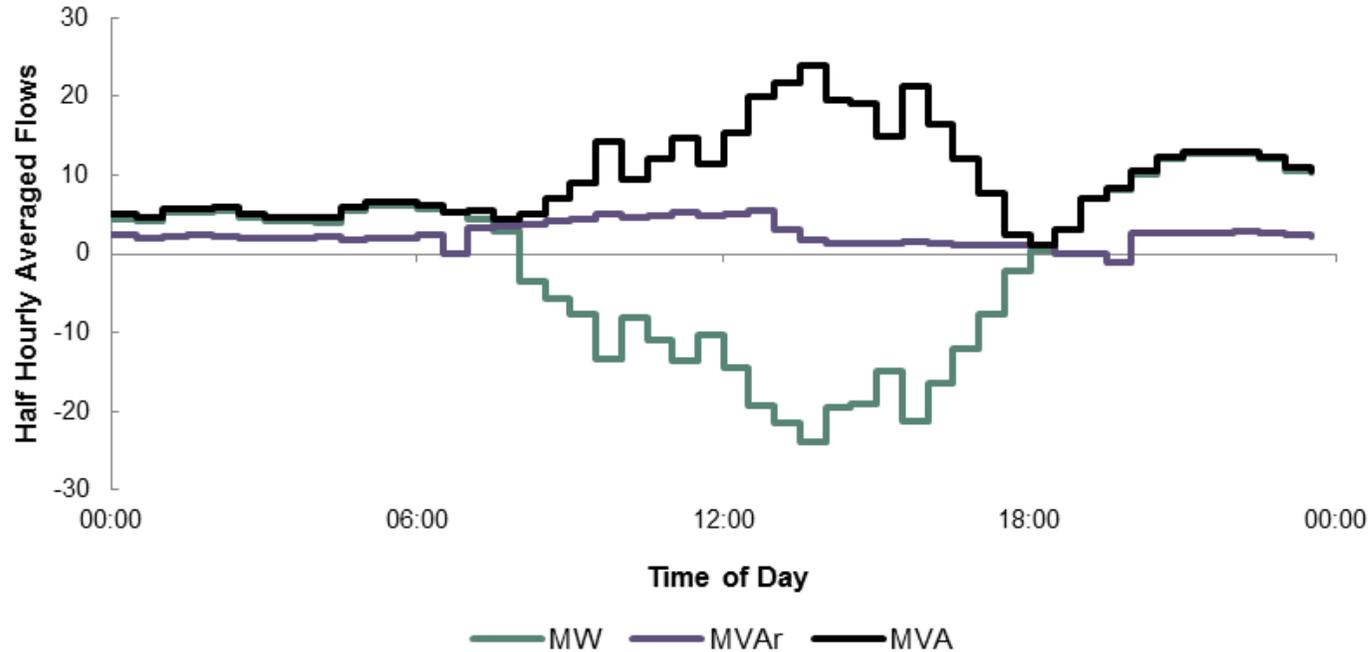


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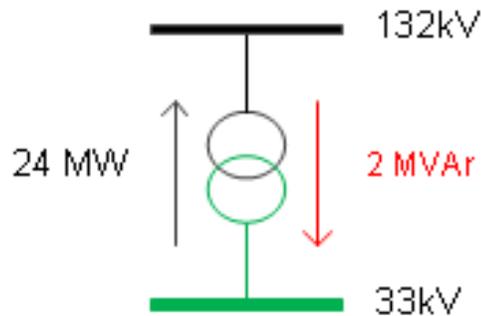
No MW and MVAr component

No Power Factor information

# MW and MVA



At 13:30 to 14:00 half hourly averaged power flows as seen directional MW and MVAr monitoring

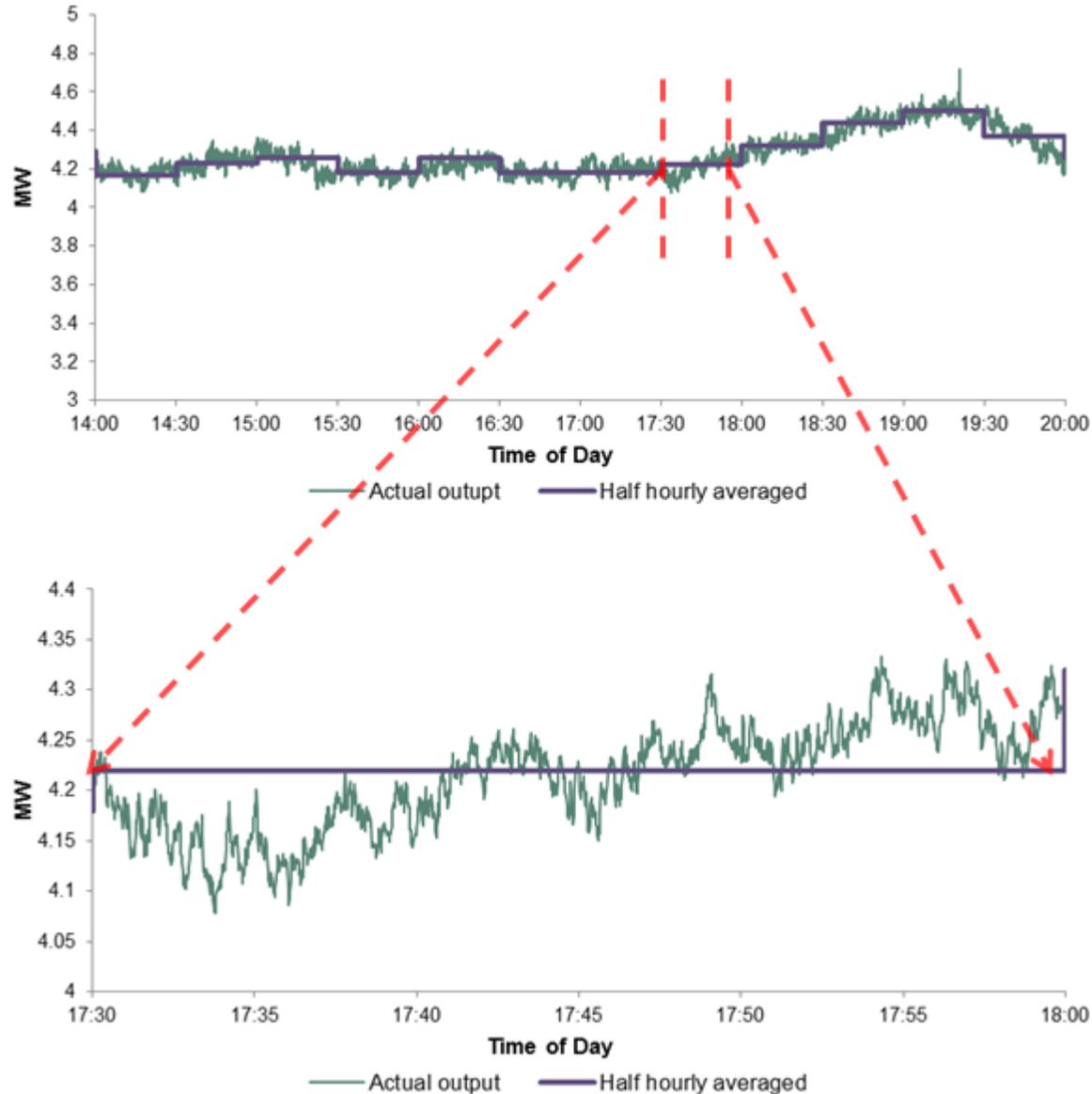


Direction information

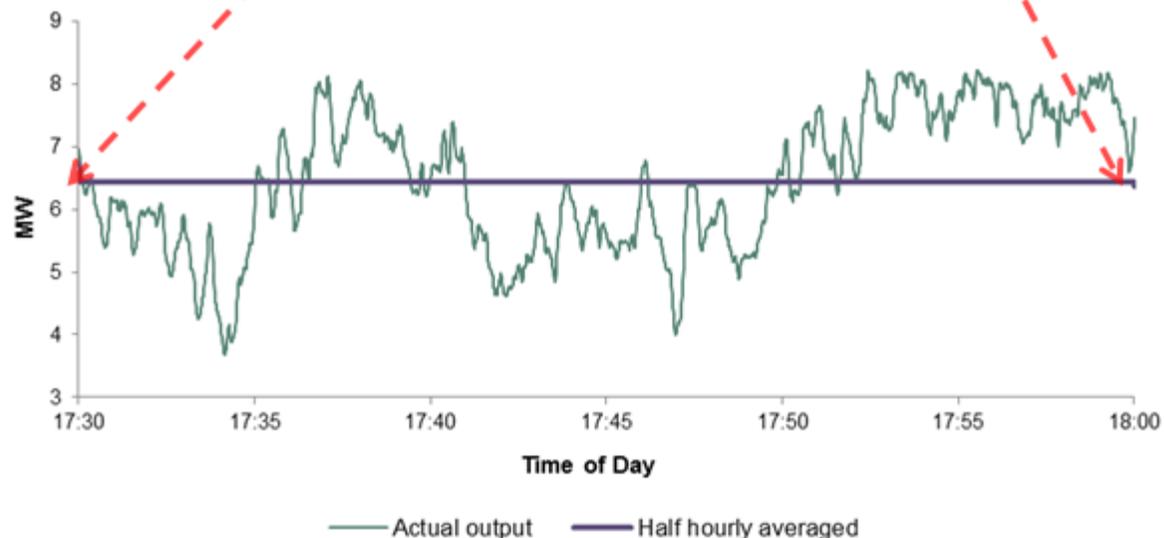
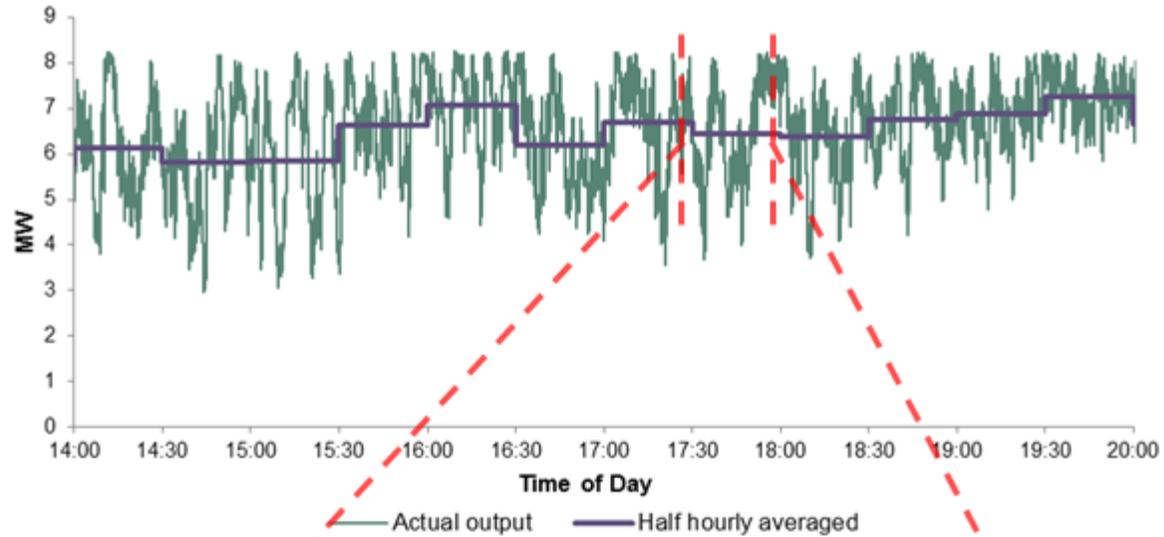
MW and MVAr component

Power Factor information

# Granularity of Data – Demand Dominated



# Granularity of Data – Generation Dominated



# What We Are Doing?

Proactively investing in network monitoring

A combination of retrofitting existing monitoring and installing new monitoring and control

A recent investigation has identified sites across all four WPD licence areas that are in need of full MW and MVAR monitoring, due to likely reverse power-flow or faulty equipment

WPD expect this trend to continue, with the rollout of monitoring and control equipment proliferating down the voltage levels, with the LV being the last to get detailed monitoring and control

Looking at implementing new systems that have the ability to record all instantaneous data

Ensure the communication system does not impede network development, a collaborative approach will be taken when engaging Office of Communications (Ofcom)

# Round Table Discussion

## Questions:

- 1. Is half hourly averaged data still sufficient to design a network?**
- 2. What level of monitoring will be required on the LV network and at how quickly will it be needed?**
- 3. Where is the balance between conservative design assumptions and investment in additional monitoring equipment?**
- 4. What information would need to be made publically available for WPD to signpost areas with network constraints with the aim of contracting services?**
- 5. Do you see the communication infrastructure being a constraint on smart grid development?**
- 6. What additional monitoring may be required in the future?**



## Fault Level Management

*Clive Goodman, Network Strategy Engineer*

# Fault Level Management

Fault Level can be defined as a measure of the current (or power) which flows in a circuit due to a fault and is measured in kA (or MVA). When a fault occurs on the transmission or distribution system, the current which flows into the fault will be derived from a combination of three sources:

- Major generating stations via the transmission and distribution networks (i.e. system derived fault current);
- Embedded generators connected to the local network; and
- Conversion of the mechanical inertia of rotating plant equipment connected to the system into electrical energy.

# Importance of Fault Level Management

**Fault levels must be managed carefully to ensure that:**

- Switchgear and other equipment are not overstressed and at risk of failure during faults
- Dangerous voltages do not occur during earth faults.
- Protection schemes operate correctly in the event of faults
- A high level of power quality is supplied to customers

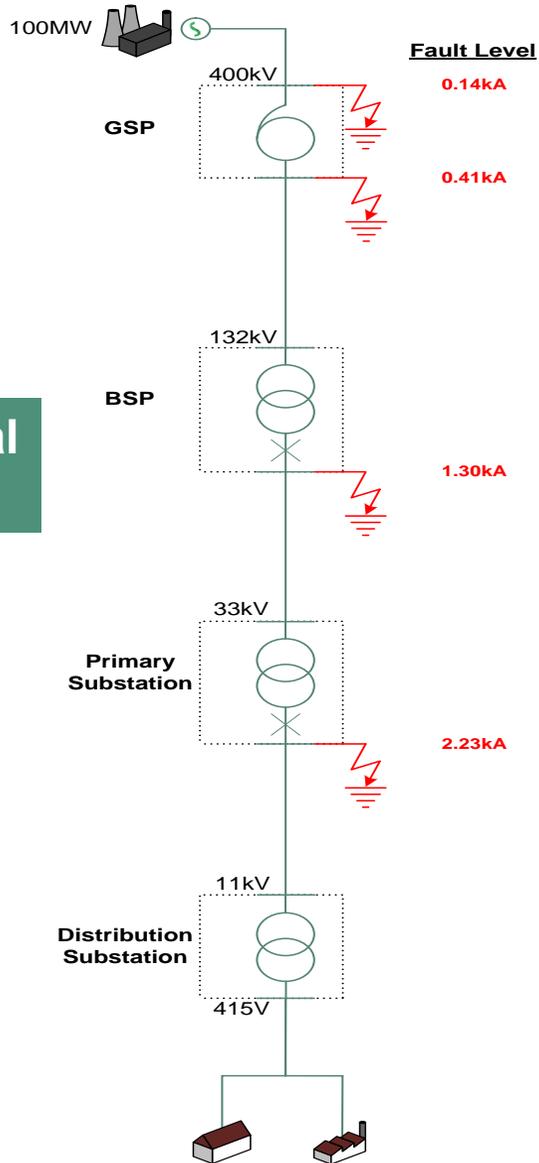
# Impact of Change in Generation Mix

## Shift in the generation mix in recent years:

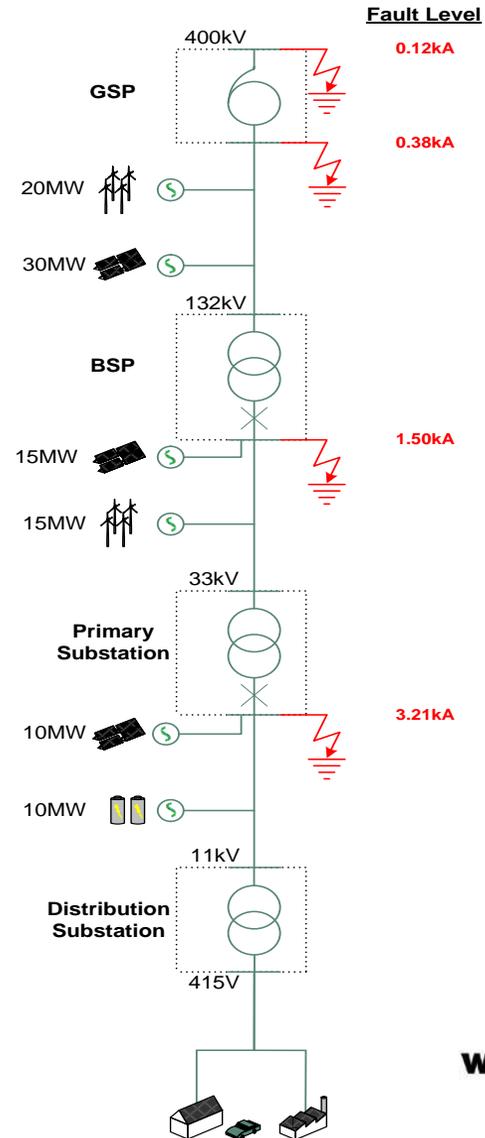
- Decommissioning of synchronous generation on the transmission network resulting in the reduction of fault level infeed from the transmission system.
- Distributed generators utilising power electronic converters providing a lower fault current contribution compared to synchronous and asynchronous machines.
- Increased numbers of distributed generators has increased the number of points of fault infeed.
- Increased numbers of distributed generators has increased the average steady state fault levels on the distribution system (eg. 11kV, 33kV, 66kV, 132kV).

# Impact of Change in Generation Mix

**Traditional Network**



**Current Network**



Switchgear  
Overstressing  
due to increased  
fault levels –  
safety &  
equipment  
damage

Increased X/R  
ratios results in  
de-rating of  
switchgear-  
replacement of  
otherwise  
healthy  
equipment

Protection  
grading margins  
more difficult to  
achieve with  
non-uniform  
increase in fault  
currents

## Network Impacts

Protection Systems  
require a balance of  
selectivity, stability,  
speed, sensitivity &  
cost – Changes in  
the generation mix  
change this balance

Need to  
differentiate  
between Load  
and Fault current

Increased fault  
clearance times  
results in  
sustained fault  
currents being  
carried for a longer  
time – potential  
equipment damage

# Network Solutions - Short Term

- **Switchgear Replacement – Costs, timescales**

- **Use of higher impedance Transformers (decrease fault level)– Cost implications of replacement & increase in network losses**

- **Use of current limiting reactors – whilst relatively cost effective additional effort to maintain the voltage profile and increase in network losses**

- **Network reconfiguration to increase impedance (decrease fault level) – increase in system losses, reduced power quality & security of supply**

# Network Solutions - Long term

- 
- **Enhanced assessment – improvement in network modelling to improve accuracy and understanding**

- 
- **Real-time Management – monitoring (Steady State) & measuring (Faulted State)**

- 
- **Mitigation technology – Reduction of system fault level using new technology that can limit the flow of short-circuit currents**

# Round Table Discussions

## Questions:

- 1. What obstacles are there towards implementing Active Network Management for Fault Levels on the distribution network?**
- 2. Our FlexDGrid project looks to monitor, model and mitigate the impact of Fault Level on our system – is this the right approach?**
- 3. Is Fault Level monitoring and modelling sufficiently accurate at the moment?**
- 4. Are the Fault Level mitigation techniques mature enough to deploy in UK networks?**
- 5. To what extent will protection devices be affected and can they be adapted?**



# Flexibility Roundtable

*Benjamin Godfrey, Network Strategy Team Manager*

# Electricity System Flexibility

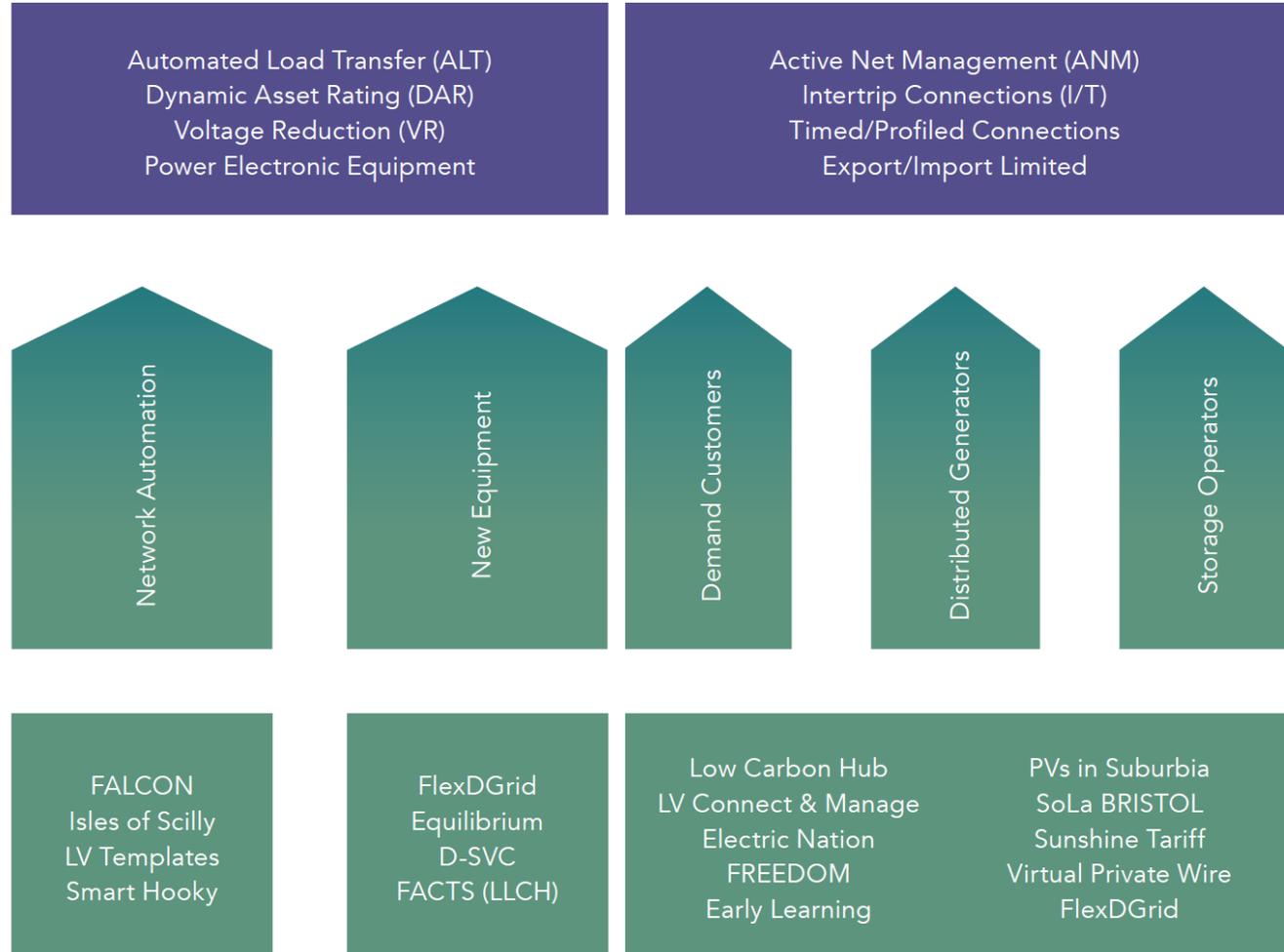
Electricity System Flexibility can come from three sources:



# Distribution System Flexibility

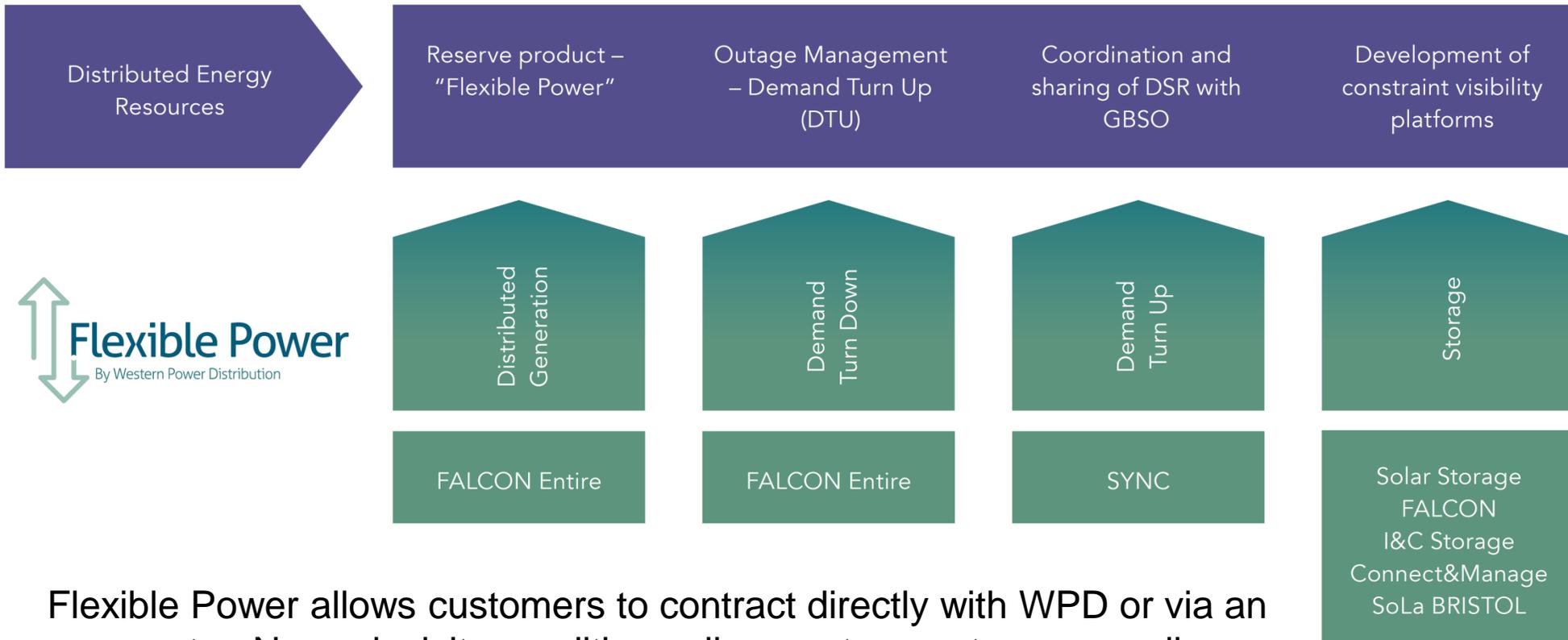
Distribution networks can inherently provide flexibility and DSOs will play a central role in ensuring this source of flexibility is utilised, helping reducing whole system costs and keeping bills low for customers.

Many of these forms of flexibility have been explored by WPD within our Innovation Programme.



# Customer Provided Flexibility

Consumers and businesses that invest in demand flexibility, storage or generation (that can offset local peak demand) could help reduce constraints and manage network costs.



Flexible Power allows customers to contract directly with WPD or via an aggregator. No exclusivity conditions allow customers to access all markets.

# Facilitation of Flexibility Markets

WPD strongly believes that customer connected flexibility and distribution network smart grid flexibility can help alleviate both transmission and distribution constraints and contribute to releasing additional capacity on both the transmission and distribution networks.

There is significant value for both active and passive customers connected to the electricity network in maximising the usage of these flexibility sources where it is effective and economic to do so.

In order to economically achieve this, the greatest number of participants must be able to provide services across a number of market procurers.

- Facilitating accessibility to markets,
- Increased transmission and distribution co-ordination,
- Product/Service convergence,
- Signposting for services.

# Facilitation of Flexibility Markets

During 2018 and 2019 WPD will begin to facilitate these new markets and empower our customers to provide benefits across the whole electricity system.

2018

Signposting for  
flexibility published

2019

Tenders for flexibility rolled  
out across all areas

# Efficient Whole System Flexibility

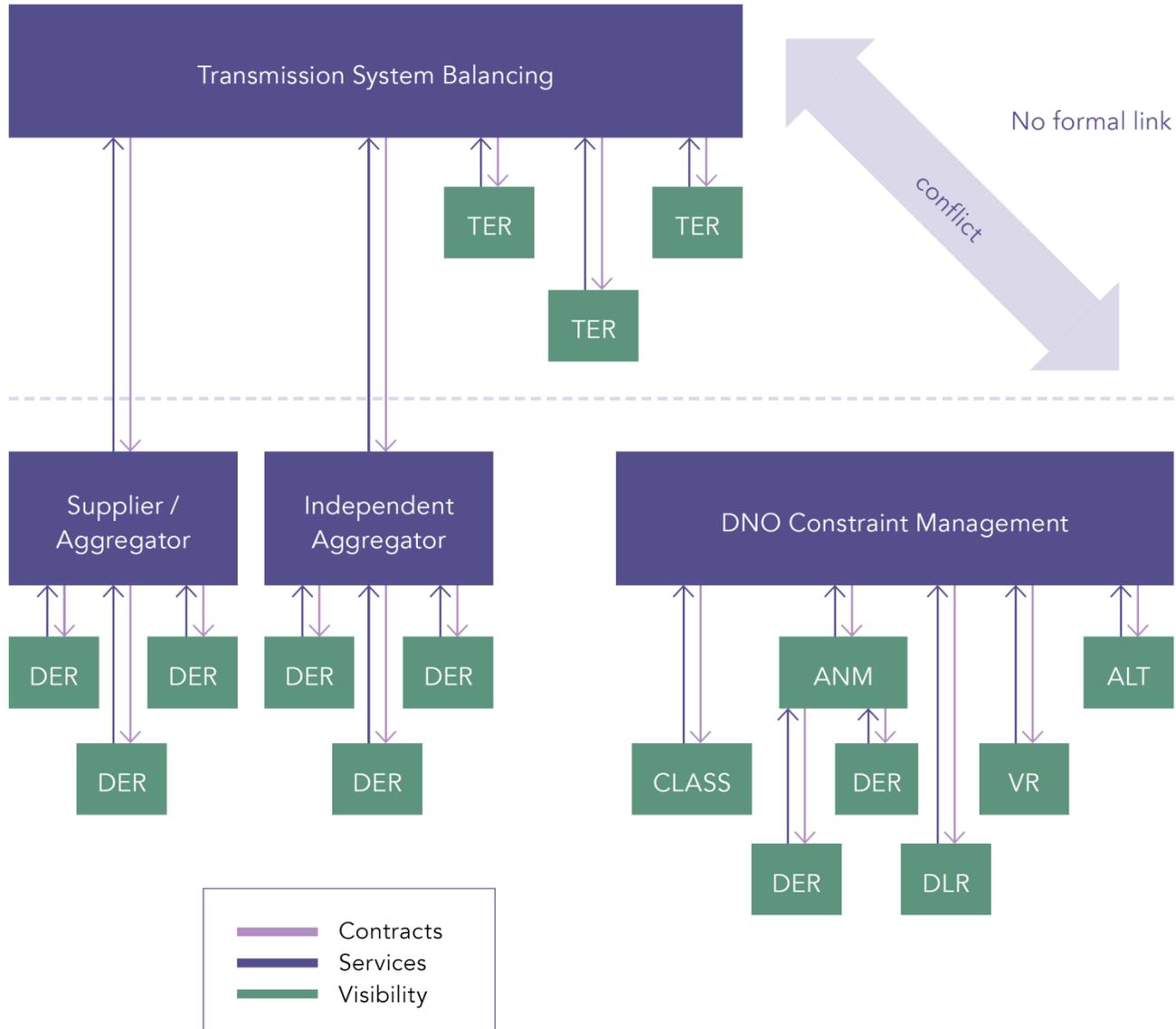
Whole system flexibility will be delivered through markets with multiple routes, enabling customers to choose which procurers to provide to and allowing multiple revenue streams to be stacked.

Co-ordination of these services and products will be key to ensuring conflicts are minimised and the electricity system remains efficient.

- DSO services will be regional specific, lower power and high energy.
- GBSO services will be nationwide, higher power and low energy.

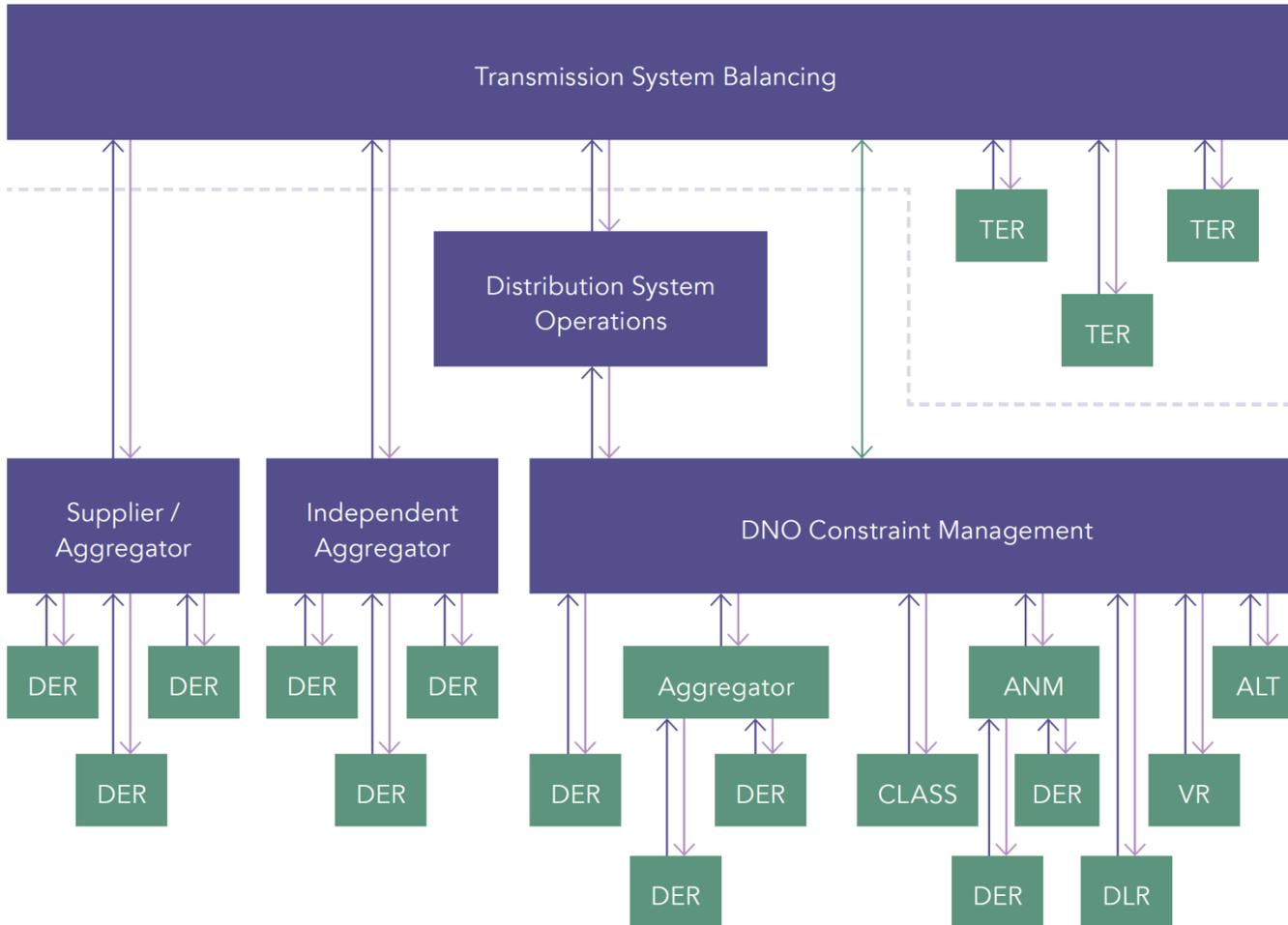
It is likely that DSO services will be able to be combined and stacked to deliver required services for the GBSO. GBSO services are unlikely to be able to wholly resolve distribution constraints.

# Current Market Model



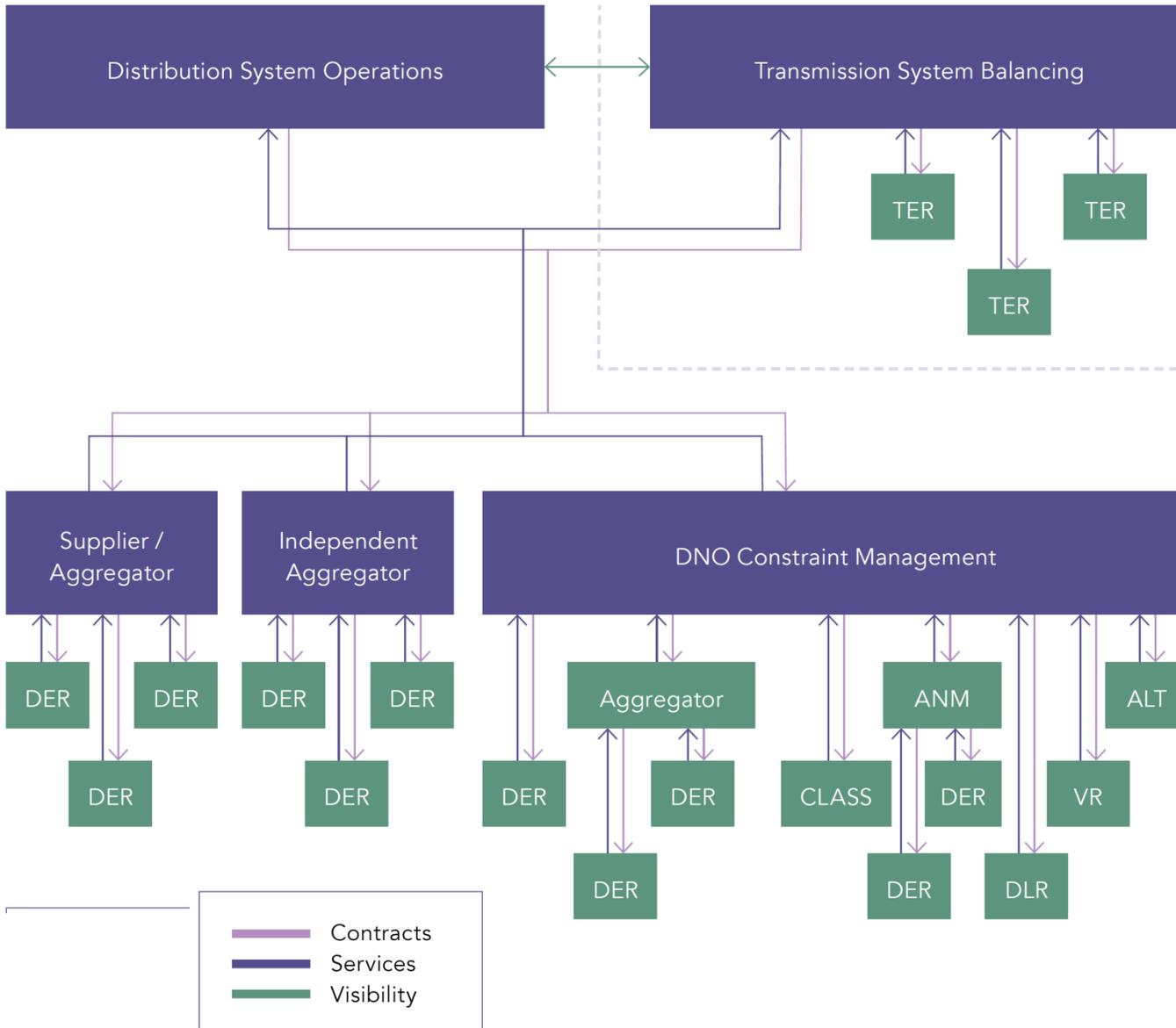
In passive networks this model has proven most efficient, however as distribution networks become more active, the current market model for procuring and controlling flexibility begins to become more inefficient due to increasing conflicts between System Operator actions and distribution constraint management.

# GBSO Led Market Model



The extension of the GB System Operator as market orchestrator relies on the SO understanding all distribution network constraints. It will require complex information exchange and duplication of investment planning and network management efforts. It also enhances the reliance on a single regulated monopoly.

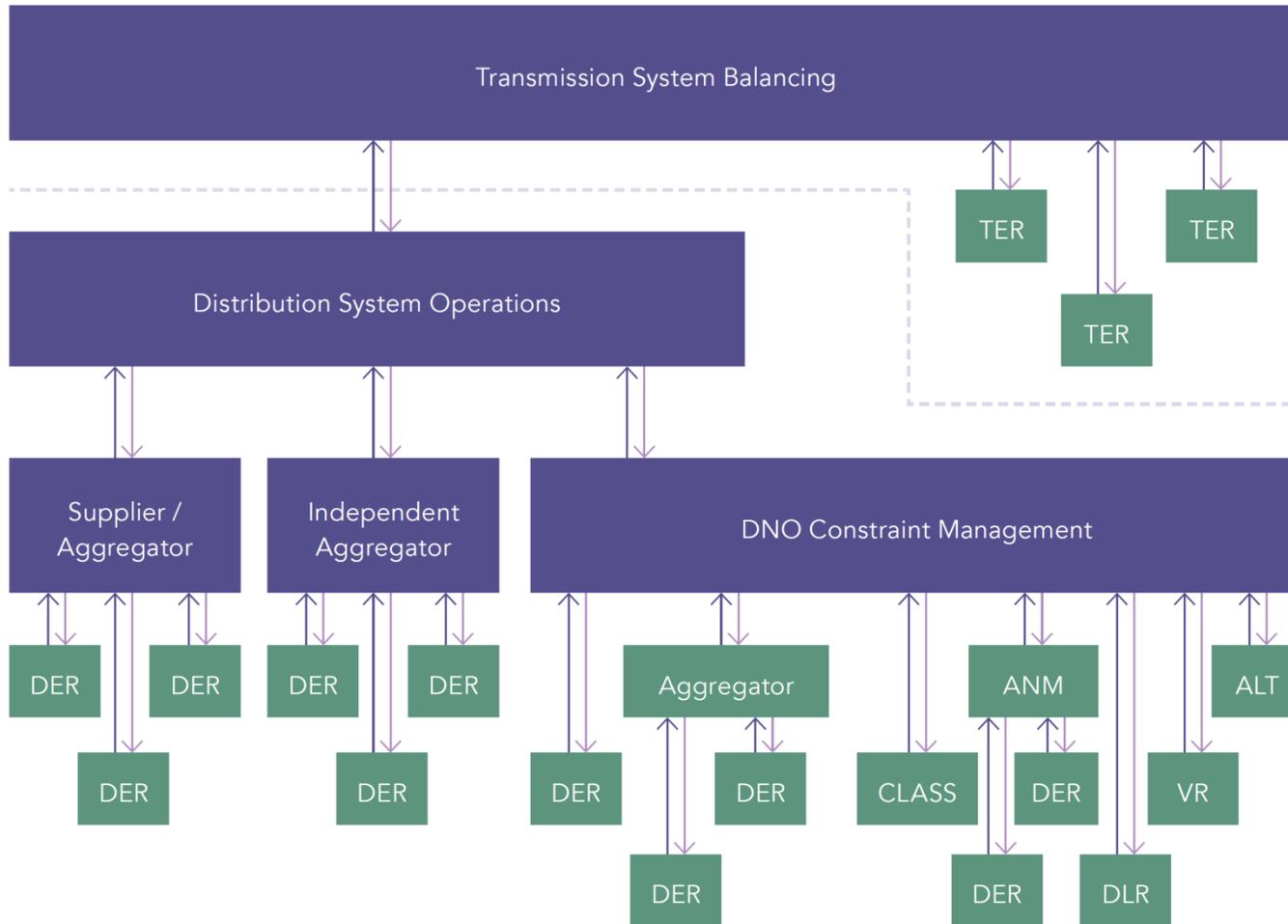
# Co-ordinated Market Model



**A co-ordinated market model for procurement and control of flexibility allows all parties to have visibility of actions and allows enables customers to choose all markets.**

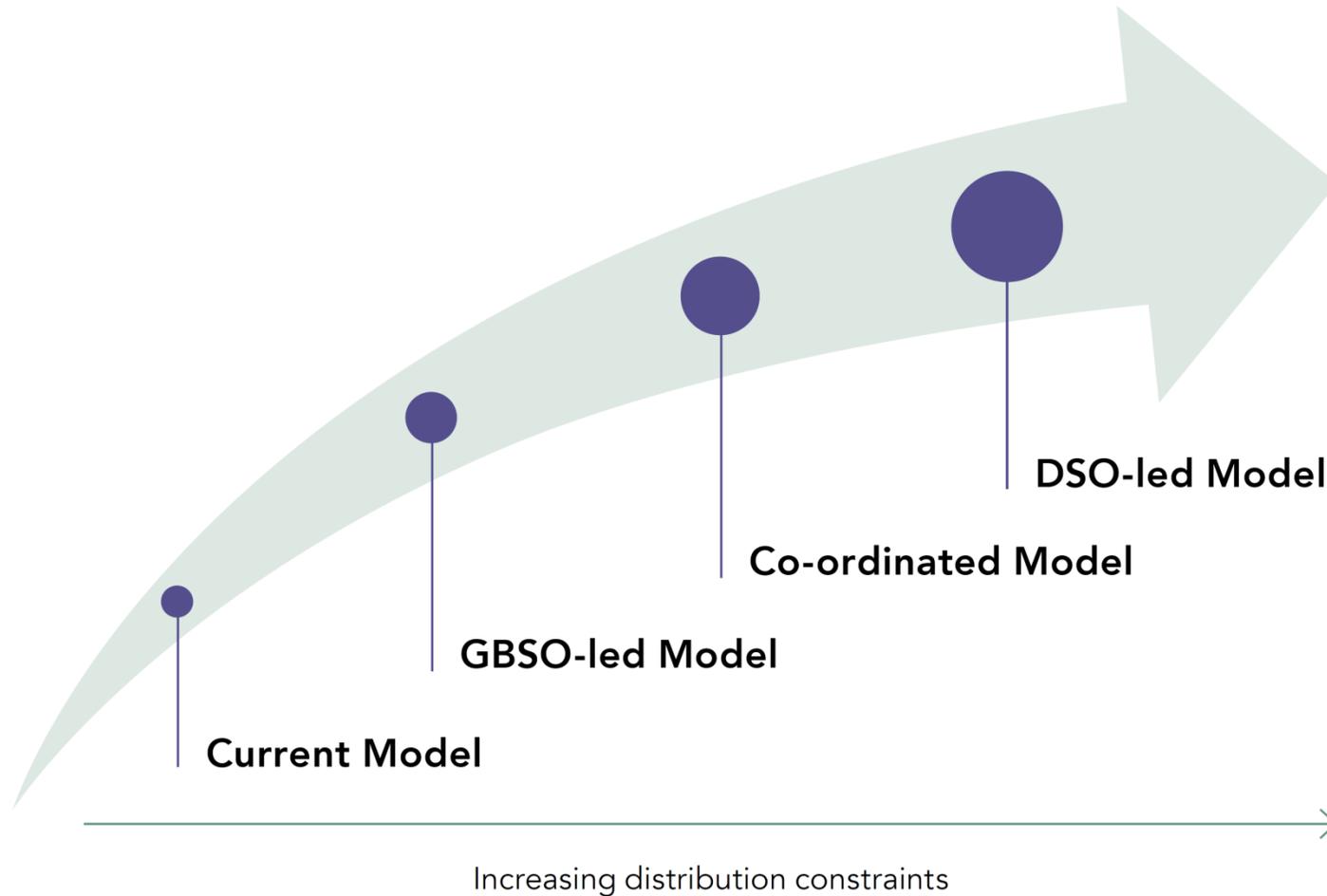
**It requires complex data exchanges and requires flexibility products and services to be designed to avoid conflict.**

# DSO Led Market Model



**With the Distribution System Operator as market orchestrator, the efficient co-ordination of the market is inherent, as the GBSO is only offered services which are not conflicted. The DSO will manage the system to ensure there is network capacity for the most economic services.**

# Market Model Transition



**As distribution constraints increase and the level of embedded DER grows, the amount and complexity of data required to manage the system efficiently greatly increases. To maintain system efficiency, the balance of decision making must become more regionally devolved.**

# Roundtable Discussions

## Questions:

- 1. Is there sufficient flexibility currently installed, but not utilised?**
- 2. What types of flexibility will be prevalent and upon what timescales will these appear?**
- 3. Who should provide flexibility to the networks? Should there be any rules or limits on this?**
- 4. What information would help customers invest in flexibility on the networks?**
- 5. What would a balance between market fluidity and certainty of contracts look like?**
- 6. Should all market models be considered? Are there any other market models that need to be considered?**

**NEXT GENERATION  
NETWORKS**

**Innovation Strategy & NIA Call**

**Jonathan Berry**  
*Innovation & Low Carbon Networks Engineer*



# Agenda

- **Innovation Strategy**
    - Electricity Network (Joint) Strategy
    - WPD Strategy – What, Why and When...
  - **Network Innovation Allowance Projects**
    - Outline of NIA projects
    - WPD's portfolio
    - Third Party experience
    - NIA Call
-

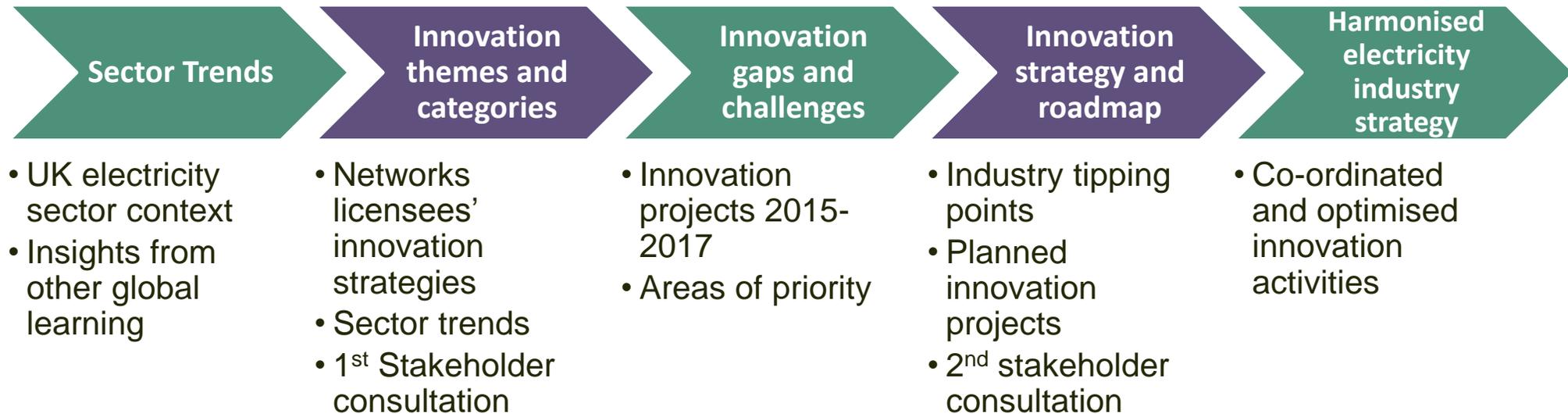
# Electricity Network Innovation Strategy

- 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017 Ofgem updated the licence conditions to include the production of a Joint Innovation Strategy (Electricity and Gas)
- Publication date – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018
- Stakeholders to be consulted

**The delivery of an Electricity Network Innovation Strategy is a critical part of the ENA's innovation work programme, as it makes the ongoing collaborative work within the ENA and its Members more visible. The Electricity Network Innovation Strategy will ensure that all the relevant network licensees work together in relation to innovation, which will result in coordinated action on priority areas such as reducing cost to the customer, making our service more reliable and supporting the low carbon economy. It will also have implications for the Distribution System Operator (DSO) Transition which is the subject of the Open Networks project, also being led by the ENA on behalf of the GB network operators.**

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# Strategy Production Process



# Strategy Themes

## Industry trends

1. Shifting power-generating sources and resulting revolution in the utilities industry
2. The power of customer choice and changing energy demands
3. Policy drivers
4. The smart, flexible energy system and the DSO transition
5. Uncertainty and choices for the electricity network companies

## Existing innovation strategies



## Innovation themes

#1 Networks improvements and system operability

#2 Transition to a low-carbon future

#3 New technologies and commercial evolution

#4 Customer and stakeholder focus

#5 Safety, health and environment

# WPD Innovation Strategy

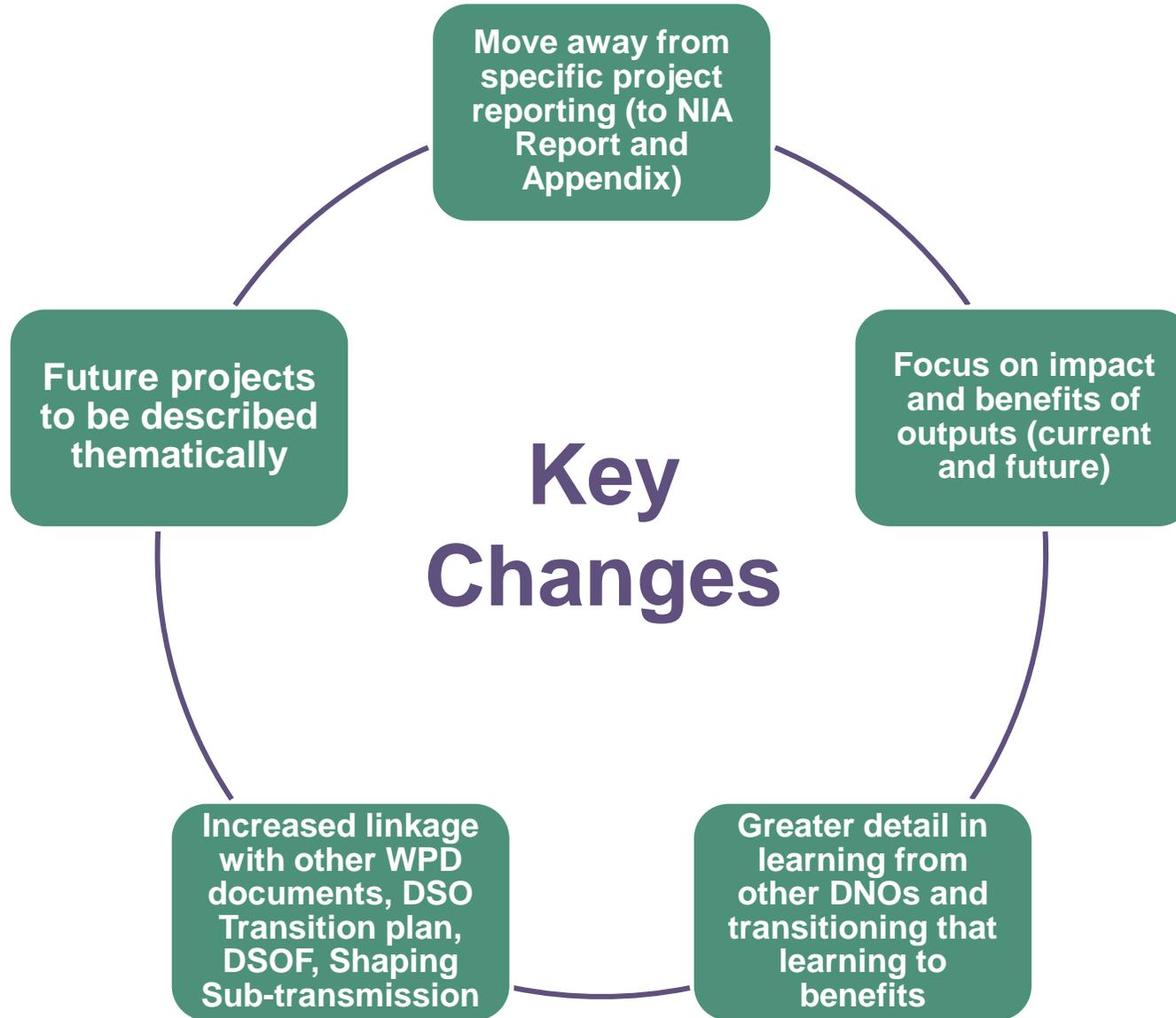
- Originally produced to support RIIO ED-1
- Updated annually – previously February
- To be updated in July 2018
  - Enabling synergies to the joint strategy to be included where appropriate
  - Aligning with the publication date of the NIA Annual Report

**Innovation Strategy**

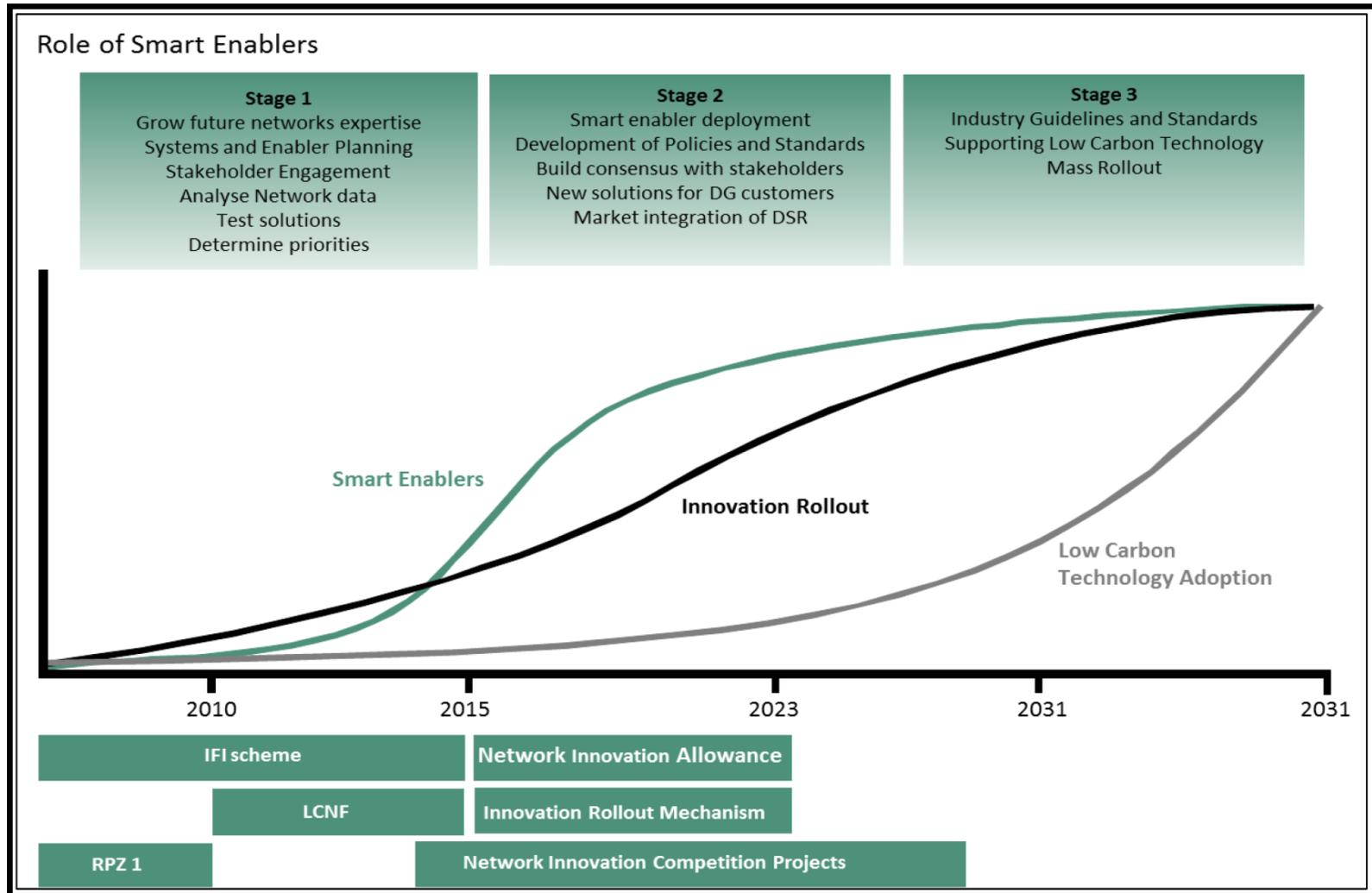
**NIA Annual Report**

**Project Detail Appendix**

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# Smart Enablers



# Themes

**Forecasting and DSO**

**Smart Technologies**

**EVs and Communities**

**Whole System**

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# Network Innovation Allowance

## Future Networks Programme

### Assets

- Telemetry
- Decision support
- Improved assets
- New assets
- Flexibility



### Customers

- New connections
- Upgrades
- Information
- Self Serve
- Products/Service



### Operations

- Reliability
- Forecasting
- DSO
- DSR
- GBSO Interface



## Network and Customer Data

- Airborne Inspections
- AIRSTART<sup>1</sup>
- Telecoms Analysis
- Superconducting Cable
- SF6 Alternatives
- MVDC Test Lab
- Smart Energy Laboratory
- Statistical Ratings
- Primary Network Power Quality Analysis

- FREEDOM
- Hydrogen Heat & Fleet
- Carbon Tracing
- Solar Storage
- LV Connect and Manage
- Sunshine Tariff
- Electric Nation
- Industrial & Commercial Storage
- Smart Systems and Heat<sup>2</sup>

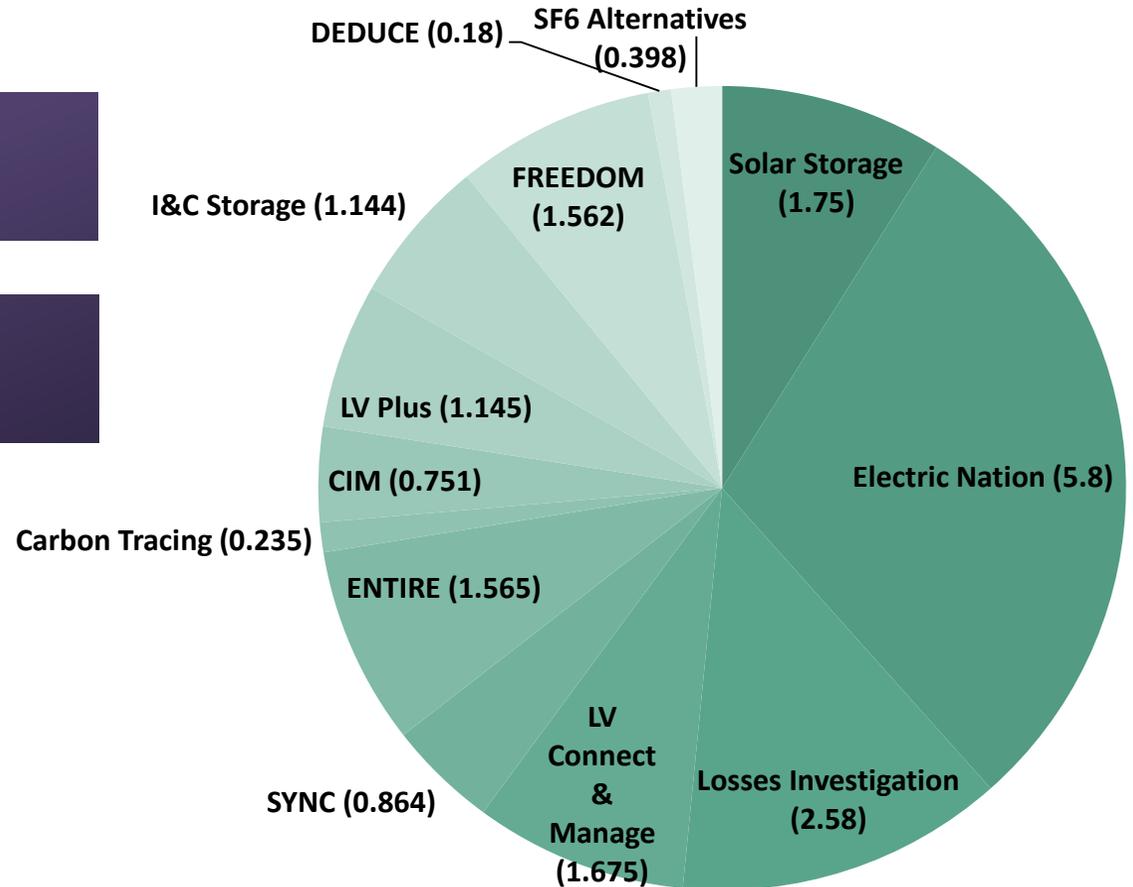
- DSO/SO Shared Services
- Project SYNC
- Project ENTIRE
- Smart Meter data for Network Operations
- Distribution Operability Framework
- Times Series Data Quality
- Voltage Reduction Analysis
- LV Connectivity
- Losses Investigation

# NIA Portfolio

**Completed NIA Projects: 14**  
**Projects' Spend: £2.52M**

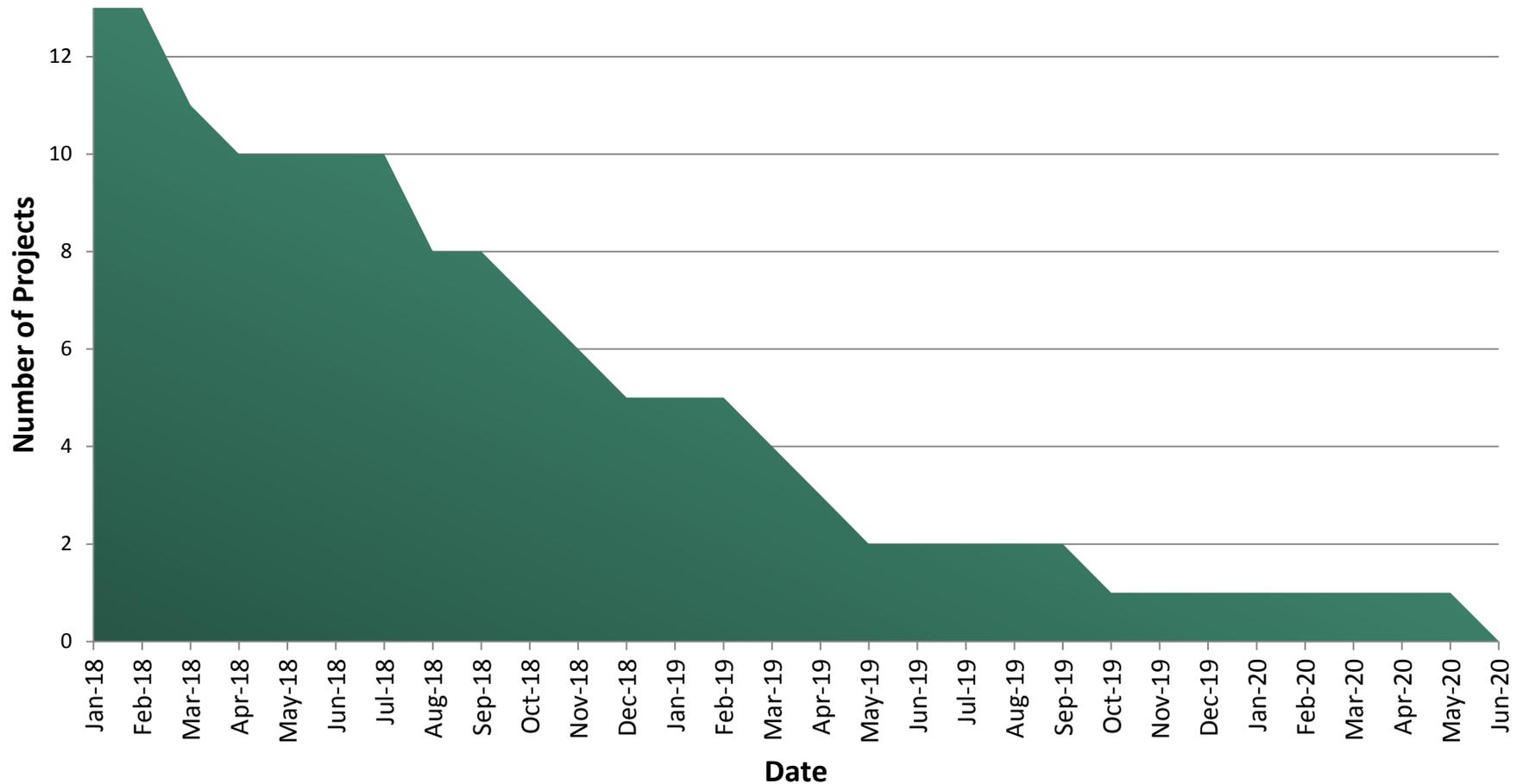
**Live NIA Projects: 13**  
**Projects' Value: £19.65M**

## Live NIA Projects by Value (£M)



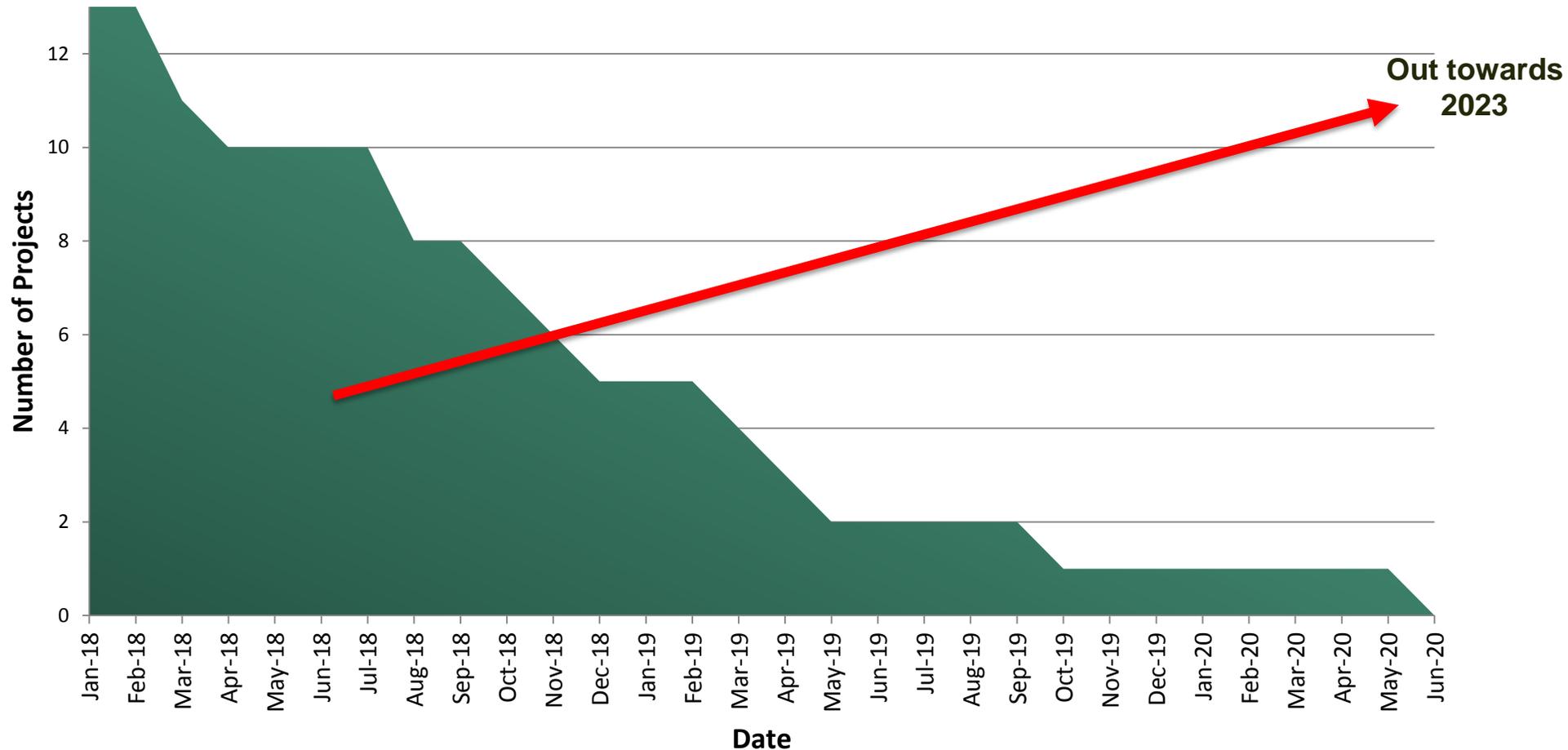
# NIA Project Timelines

## WPD NIA Project Pipeline



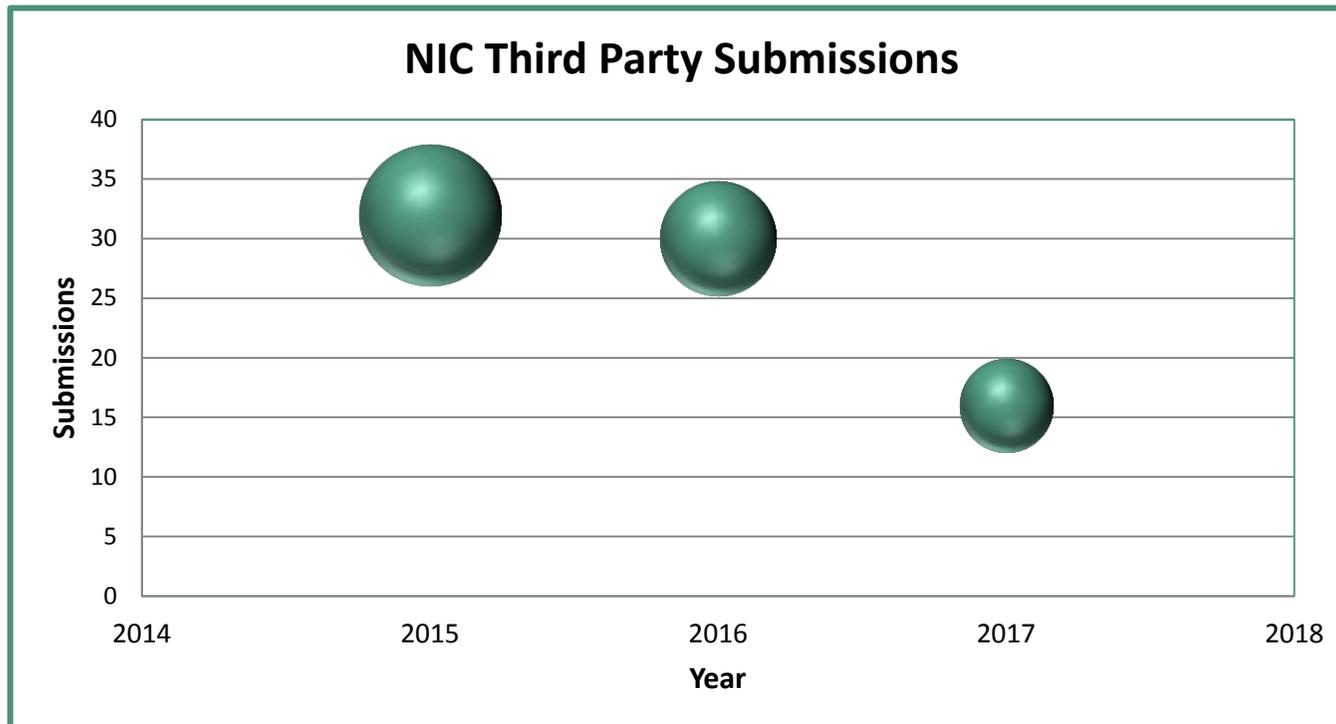
# NIA Project Timelines

## WPD NIA Project Pipeline



# Third Party Involvement to date

- Third party involvement at NIC level is now mandatory (included within the governance)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> year third party NIC call recently completed



# NIA Third Party Call

## Assets



This section focuses on the technology required to ensure WPD's network is at the forefront of the DSO transition. It includes three articles:

**Network Modelling and Analysis** focuses on the requirement for more advanced modelling and analysis in network design, operational planning, and real-time operation.

**Network Monitoring and Visibility** identifies the shortfalls in legacy monitoring and what will be needed for a successful transition to a full DSO.

**Data and Forecasting** highlights the need for more integrated and aligned data systems within WPD and improved interfaces within the industry. It also looks at the increased need for long-term scenarios and operational forecasting.

## Network Operations



Identifies some of the operational challenges which WPD predict will be difficult to manage as the electricity network becomes smarter. It includes three articles:

**Protection Schemes** outlines how recent and future changes to the distribution network will affect the design of protection schemes and may require new solutions to address these challenges.

**33kV and 11kV** outlines how the addition of extensive cable to the 33kV and 11kV networks has affected neutral-earthing design.

**Low Voltage Disconnection** assesses the suitability of current low voltage disconnection methods on the network as more distributed generation is connected to the network.

## Customers



Considers how WPD is developing new technologies and solutions to meet customers' needs in the context of the development of regional markets for the distribution network. It includes three articles:

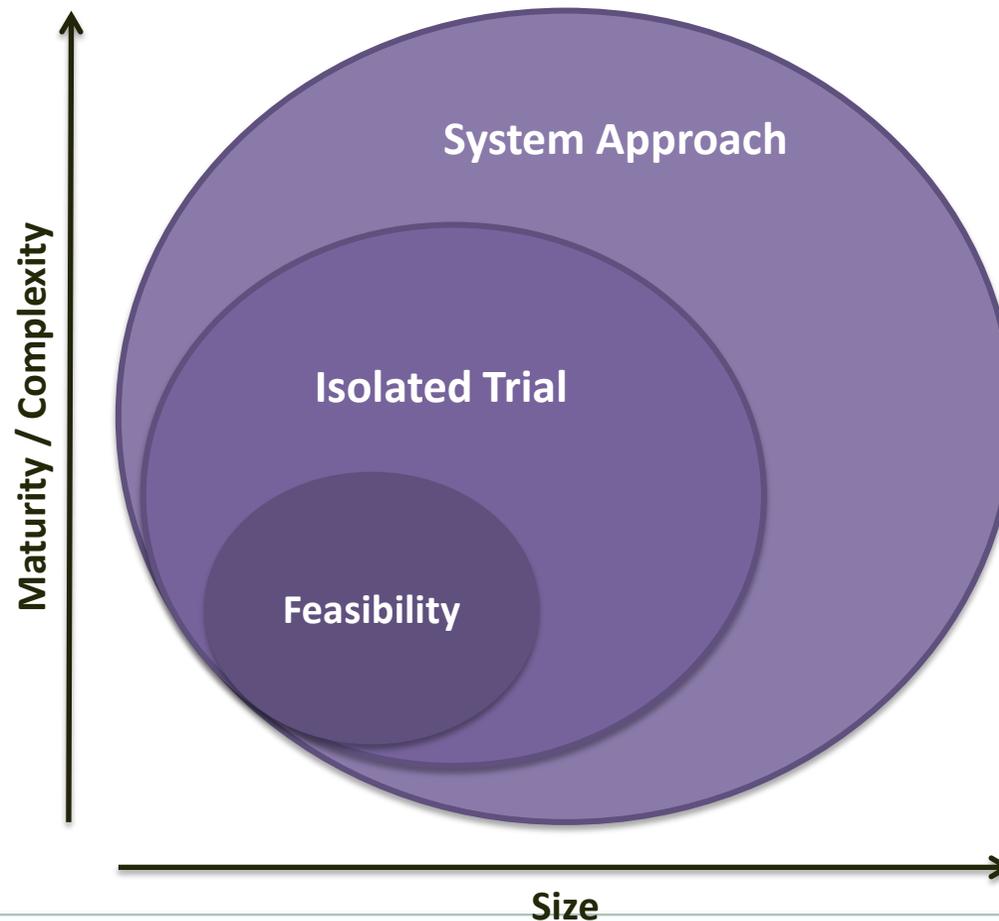
**Low Carbon Technologies** considers how WPD will contribute to the development of regional markets for the distribution network.

**Regional Markets** looks at what impact changes in demand behaviour will have on network operation and how voltage harmonic distortion is managed on the distribution network.

**Future Issues** provides an overview of how voltage harmonic distortion is managed on the distribution network and current and future issues surrounding the connection of non-linear equipment.

# NIA Third Party Call

- Looking for a range of projects covering the areas and themes



## NIA Third Party Call

- Clear and defined projects (not concepts or boxes)
- Identified deliverables, outputs and outcomes
- Capability and capacity to manage and deliver

To be released on the **26<sup>th</sup> January** via:

- Achilles;
  - ENA's Collaboration Portal; and
  - WPD's Innovation Strategy.
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# Further Collaboration

All our reports, webinars and presentations are published online at:  
<http://www.westernpower.co.uk/netstrat>

If you have any questions in relation to WPD's Network Strategy work, please contact WPD on the details below:

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