



Strategic Planning, Investment and the importance of Stakeholder Engagement

Kathryn Thomas

DSO Strategic Engagement Officer
National Grid Electricity Distribution

national**grid**



What we are working towards

1

We are committed to evolving and improving how we collaborate and coordinate the local energy transition across the whole system, in partnership with key stakeholders, working together in order to identify network improvements required for decarbonisation.

2

We are taking a more strategic approach to how we design and build our distribution network going forward with strategic investment that is evidence based.

3

This approach is based on open and transparent conversations about our network and doing all we can to support our stakeholders achieve their decarbonisation aspirations

The parameters we are working within

Ofgem regulates how much revenue we can earn and what we must deliver to earn it, this is all set out within our Business Plan

RIO-ED2 is our current Business Plan framework and runs from April 2023 for a five-year period

Investing to increase the capacity of our network is funded through bill payers, so it is essential that any investment is efficient and well-justified

Within RIO-ED2, we can request further funding to build more capacity on the network if there is clear evidence that this is required – **this is why it's so important to understand your local energy ambitions**

What do we do with the information from our stakeholders?

Strategic Investment Process



Forecasting



The **Distribution Future Energy Scenarios (DFES)** identify how customers will use our network in future

Network Impact Assessment



The **Network Development Plan (NDP)** uses forecasts to analyse and identify future network constraints

Optioneering



The **Distribution Network Options Assessment (DNOA)** outlines how we plan to invest in our network to solve constraints

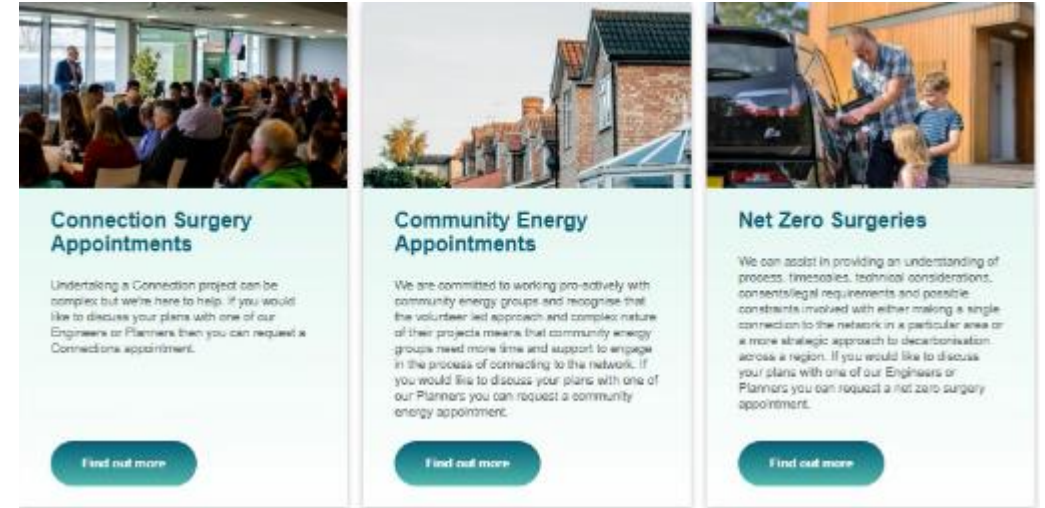
Engage with us

Application Journey

Please engage with us at the earliest opportunity

Discuss your plans with us at an early stage, it can help to provide and establish the viability of an individual scheme

To arrange a surgery, we have set up 3 x specialist surgeries to help with your enquiry



Connection Surgery Appointments

Undertaking a Connection project can be complex but we're here to help. If you would like to discuss your plans with one of our Engineers or Planners then you can request a Connections appointment.

[Find out more](#)

Community Energy Appointments

We are committed to working pro-actively with community energy groups and recognise that the volunteer led approach and complex nature of their projects means that community energy groups need more time and support to engage in the process of connecting to the network. If you would like to discuss your plans with one of our Planners you can request a community energy appointment.

[Find out more](#)

Net Zero Surgeries

We can assist in providing an understanding of process, timescales, technical considerations, consents/legal requirements and possible constraints involved with either making a single connection to the network in a particular area or a more strategic approach to decarbonisation across a region. If you would like to discuss your plans with one of our Engineers or Planners you can request a net zero surgery appointment.

[Find out more](#)

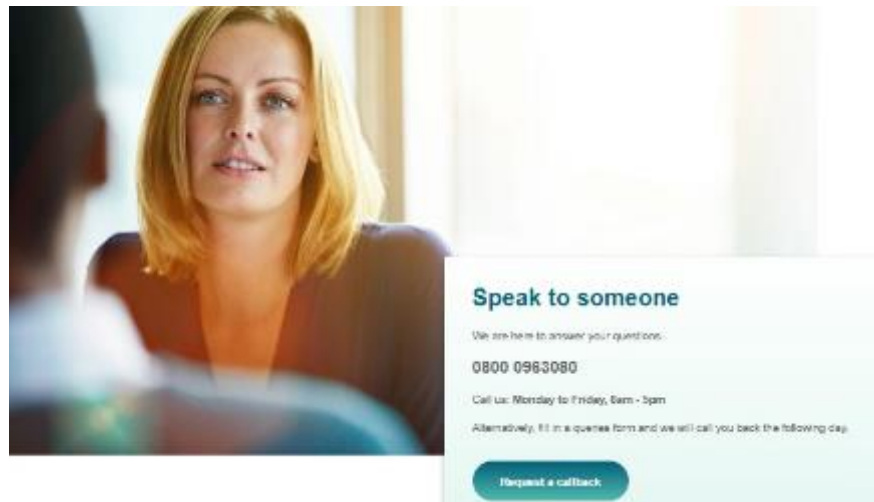
<https://connections.nationalgrid.co.uk/engage-with-us>

Alternatively you can speak to someone on 0800 0963080



gettingconnectedupdates@spenergynetworks.co.uk

spm_strategic_connections@spenergynetworks.co.uk



Speak to someone

We are here to answer your questions.

0800 0963080

Call us: Monday to Friday, 9am - 5pm

Alternatively, fill in a enquiry form and we will call you back the following day.

[Request a callback](#)