



NETWORKS

Local Business Flex Product Proposal Consultation

Issue Date: April 2026
DOC-270326-ILB



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1. Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

This glossary defines the abbreviations used throughout this document.

Abbreviation	Term
CRU	Commission for Regulation of Utilities
DSO	Distributor System Operator
FSA	Flexibility Service Asset
FSP	Flexibility Service Provider
H2 2026	Second half of 2026
HH	Half-hourly metered connection
MCC12	Meter Configuration Code 12
MPRN	Meter Point Reference Number
QH	Quarter-hourly metered connection
QSQ	Qualification System Questionnaire
SU Firm	Schedule Utilisation Firm
SU Flex	Schedule Utilisation Flex

2. Definitions

The section below sets out some definitions for terms that are relevant to this initiative.

Term	Definition
Baseline	Normal expected behaviour of a Flexible Service Asset when not providing flexibility, calculated using a Flexible Service Asset's historical meter data.
Delivery Period	The daily period/s of time contracted to deliver flexibility, for example from 10am to 12pm. Flexibility requirements will vary by location.
Flexible Capacity	The contracted change in active power relative to the Baseline for the Flexible Service Asset, which is offered, and which is delivered during the Delivery Period.
Flexible Service Asset	The single standalone customer asset identified by one Meter Point Reference Number (MPRN) capable of providing the Flexible Capacity. The Flexible Service Asset shall have the technical and operational capability to respond to Upward Flexibility needs.
Flexible Service Provider	The legal entity that contracts with ESB Networks to provide flexibility with one or several Flexible Service Assets.
Local Peak Events	Local Peak Events are short-notice, location-specific periods of network need.
Performance scalar	A factor that adjusts the payment based on the monthly performance.
Qualification System Questionnaire	A questionnaire to assess applicants seeking entry into the flexibility product. It evaluates whether applicants meet the technical, legal, and operational requirements needed to qualify.
Service Window	The period specified in the contract, for example, from October 2026 to March 2027 and continuing annually until 2030, during which flexibility is delivered within the agreed Delivery Periods.
Upward Flexibility	A service to reduce electricity demand or increase supply by injecting power from generation or storage.

3. Executive Summary

ESB Networks is working closely with the CRU to enable and incentivise demand flexibility needed to deliver Ireland's national flexibility targets, and in this document, we outline a proposal for two medium-term flexibility products, under the initiative, **Local Business Flex**.

This initiative proposes two **Upward Flexibility** products designed to enable participants to either **decrease electricity demand or inject power from generation or storage**.

Flexibility Service Providers (FSPs) with Flexibility Service Assets (FSAs) that meet the eligibility criteria and are connected to selected substations are invited to apply.

Subject to the outcome of this consultation, procurement is expected to open for qualification in H2 2026, and participants will be able to commence providing services once qualification is passed and the contract is signed. New participants will be accepted on a rolling basis, and applications will remain open for a minimum of one year; however, ESB Networks won't be able to procure additional flexibility once the maximum capacity required for a given location has been reached. Contracts will conclude at the end of 2030. The timeline from application to signing contracts can vary significantly, largely due to the preparedness of the applicant.

Locations will be determined by a needs assessment. The exact substations, maximum MW and MWh, the Service Windows and Delivery Periods, will be published prior to the commencement of the procurement process.

This consultation will seek feedback on specific characteristics to help ESB Networks further refine the proposed products or possibly inform future product design.

The products are :

- Scheduled Utilisation Firm (SU Firm)
- Scheduled Utilisation Flex (SU Flex)

4. Introduction

This section sets out the context that has led to the design and creation of this initiative, the initial products design and the specific areas of consultation.

Following the recent success of Beat the Peak Business¹, a nationwide initiative where mid to large businesses shifted or reduced electricity demand during peak hours, ESB Networks will build on this experience to implement a new initiative targeted at procuring **localised flexibility** from non-domestic customers, such as commercial, industrial and other energy users in several locations.

It has been forecasted that from 2026-2030 several substations are expected to be operating at levels above their designated firm capacities at certain times of the day/year when peak loads occur. To mitigate the increased electricity demand in these locations, it has been deemed necessary to procure flexibility services to solve local congestion. While solving the local congestion, these flexible services will also help facilitate new connections.

In addition to addressing network congestion as outlined above, this flexibility initiative is intended to build the local flexibility market and customer participation, using a fixed price approach. Future flexibility products will operate under pay-as-bid type auctions.

This consultation is intended to give stakeholders a clear understanding of the current products proposal and seek feedback before finalising the design. Section 5 provides an overview of the products, and sections 6, 7, and 8 contain the consultation areas and questions.

Section 6 Technical consultation	Section 7 Commercial consultation	Section 8 Market participation consultation
6.1 Schedule	7.1 Payment structure	8.1 Stacking
6.2 Local Peak events	7.2 Performance scalar	8.2 Market participation
6.3 Eligibility criteria	7.3 Procurement approach	
6.4 Baselineing	7.4 Contract duration	

¹ [Beat the Peak Business](#)

5. Products Overview

This initiative proposes two products, and these are based on the Elexon’s¹ Scheduled Utilisation product.

Scheduled Utilisation Firm (SU Firm)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilisation as per fixed Delivery Periods pre-agreed in the contract.
Scheduled Utilisation Flex (SU Flex)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilisation as per fixed Delivery Periods pre-agreed in the contract. Utilisation as per instructions to respond to Local Peak Events.

Utilisation as per fixed Delivery Periods pre-agreed in the contract.

Participants will be compensated for delivering Upward Flexibility, as per Service Windows (e.g. October to March) and Delivery Periods (e.g. from 4pm-6pm or 6pm-8pm, Monday to Sunday) fixed in the contract. This is applicable to both products.

Utilisation as per instructions to respond to Local Peak Events.

Customers will be compensated for delivering Upward Flexibility during Local Peak Events following instructions closer to real time. This is applicable to SU Flex customers only.

The common characteristics include:

Direction of change	Upward Flexibility. Decreasing demand or increasing injection from generation or storage.
Payment Structure	Utilisation Only (no availability payment).
When Prices are set	Fixed, at contract signing via direct-award.
Delivery Expectation	Continuous delivery over the Delivery Period.
Utilisation Payment Unit	€/MWh.
Utilisation Period	Settlement Periods of two hours.
Power Type	Active Power.
Target Customers	Non-domestic customers connected to specific substations that will be published.
Locations	Locations will be determined by a needs assessment and will be published prior to the commencement of the procurement process. Further locations may be added throughout the initiative’s duration.
Service Window	Different locations will have different Service Windows during the year, for example October 2026 to March 2027.
Delivery Period	There may be multiple two-hour Delivery Periods per day, per location during the Service Windows, for example from 10am to 12pm and 4pm to 6pm. Flexibility requirements will vary by location.
Maximum Delivery Periods a day	A maximum of two Delivery Periods of two hours each may be contracted per day. The Delivery Periods selected must be the same time across the selected days of the week (e.g. Monday to Sunday 4pm – 6pm and 6pm – 8pm).
Contracts Start	It is intended that procurement for the initiative will begin in H2 2026. A rolling QSQ process will be used, allowing continuous applications. Participants may apply at any time from the procurement opening and at least throughout the first year.
Contracts End	Contracts will run from the contract signing until year end 2030.

¹ [FMR-PD - Product definitions - Elexon Digital BSC](#)

Some of the key differences between the products are:

Scheduled Utilisation Firm (SU Firm)

- **Utilisation:** Utilisation as per fixed Delivery Periods pre-agreed in the contract
- **Minimum Days a Week:** The FSP agrees to provide flexibility for a minimum of four days a week during specified Delivery Periods (up to two Delivery Periods per day)
- **Performance:** If the FSP performance falls below 80% of the contracted capacity, then the FSP will not be remunerated
- **Utilisation Instruction Timings:** No instructions are sent. The utilisation timings are scheduled and fixed in the contract
- **Schedule:** Pre-agreed schedule fixed in the contract that remains the same across the contract length

Scheduled Utilisation Flex (SU Flex)

- **Utilisation:**
 - Utilisation as per fixed Delivery Periods pre-agreed in the contract
 - Utilisation as per instructions to respond to Local Peak Events. These are short-notice, location-specific periods of network need. The remuneration for this flexibility will be higher than the pre-fixed scheduled utilisation in SU Flex. Refer to section 6.2 for more details
- **Minimum Days a Week:** The FSP agrees to provide flexibility for a minimum of two days a week during specified Delivery Periods (up to two Delivery Periods per day)
- **Performance:** If the FSP delivers less than their contracted capacity they will still be remunerated for the flexibility they do provide. This product will receive less compensation for the flexibility they provide per MWh, compared to SU Firm
- **Utilisation Instruction Timings:**
 - For fixed utilisation, no instructions are sent as the Delivery Periods are scheduled and fixed in the contract
 - For Local Peak Events, instructions will be sent closer to real time
- **Schedule:**
 - For fixed utilisation, a pre-agreed schedule is fixed in the contract and will remain the same across the contract length
 - For Local Peak Events, there is no schedule, and the instructions will only be sent if they occur within the FSP contracted Delivery Periods under SU Flex

6. Technical Consultation

6.1 Schedule

The Service Windows and Delivery Periods are pre-agreed in the contract and remain unchanged throughout its term. Therefore, there are no utilisation instructions sent through the contract duration, as the contract acts as a standing instruction (except for Local Peak Events that will receive instructions when they occur).

Each Delivery Period will have a duration of 2 hours.

At a later stage and closer to when procurement opens, ESB Networks will publish the locations, the Service Windows, and the Delivery Periods according to network needs.

For some of the locations currently identified, there might be opportunities to provide flexible services for the full week, including weekends. Consequently, these products will procure flexibility Monday through Sunday where applicable.

FSAs will only be able to contract two Delivery Periods per day, (e.g. 2pm–4pm and 6pm–8pm) and these will be uniform across the days they provide flexibility and remain fixed for the duration of the contract.

ESB Networks is conscious that providing flexibility daily could be challenging for FSAs and therefore are considering requiring contracting for a minimum of four days a week for the participants in SU Firm and a minimum of two days a week for the participation in SU Flex.

Flexibility Product	Minimum requirement
Scheduled Utilisation Firm (SU Firm)	Four days per week
Scheduled Utilisation Flex (SU Flex)	Two days per week

Consultation questions:	
6.1.1	What are stakeholders' views on maintaining a fixed schedule throughout the contract?
6.1.2	What are stakeholders' views on having a minimum requirement of four days for the SU Firm?
6.1.3	What are stakeholders' views on having a minimum requirement of two days for the SU Flex?
6.1.4	What are stakeholders' views on providing flexibility services during weekends?
6.1.5	What are stakeholders' views on the two-hour Delivery Periods?

6.2 Local Peak Events

ESB Networks proposes including within this initiative the option of responding to Local Peak Events for the customers participating in the product **SU Flex only**.

These events are short-notice, location-specific periods of network need.

Local Peak Events will be communicated through instructions sent by ESB Networks closer to real time if the event occurs within the contracted Delivery Period/s. For example, if an FSA is contracted for SU Flex 8am-10am on Mondays and receives a notification of a Local Peak Event in that slot, delivering the Flexible Capacity is of higher importance and therefore will be remunerated at the Local Peak Event rate instead of the SU Flex rate.

Consultation questions:

- 6.2.1 What level of notice do stakeholders think they require in order to respond and participate in a Local Peak Event? For example, more than 24 hours before the event, or notice given the day before the event.

6.3 Eligibility criteria

ESB Networks has identified the technical and operational characteristics of the flexibility products required to alleviate the network congestion. All technology asset types / providers capable of delivering in line with these requirements will be eligible to tender. Eligibility is assessed based on each MPRN.

The table below outlines the key characteristics that will be specified in the Qualification System Questionnaire (QSQ). Note this is not an exhaustive list.

Required service characteristics	Description
Flexible Service Provider	Participation is limited to non-domestic (business customers). Domestic customers are not eligible.
Location	Participants must be connected at the substation(s) in question.
Direction of change	Upward Flexibility. Be able to decrease electricity demand from the distribution network or increase power injection from generation assets or energy storage by the amount of contracted Flexible Capacity.
Power type	Active Power
Connected to the Distribution Network	Connected to the electricity system at the distribution level – operated by ESB Networks as DSO.
Connection agreement	Be able to offer the service without breaching their Connection Agreement and/or the Distribution Code. For example, typically customers cannot use standby generation while connected to the system and as a result such generation is not suitable for this flexibility service.
Interval metering	Interval metering is required to enable validation of FSAs' performance to respond to Upward Flexibility services during the contracted Delivery Periods, as well as to enable the financial settlement process, and to calculate the Baseline. This means FSAs must have either a quarter hourly (QH) meter or a half hourly (HH) smart meter set to MCC12.
Meter readings	Be able to have meter readings available for at least 12 months prior to contract start date and throughout the duration of the contract. This is required to support the baselining approach.
Minimum Flexible Capacity	Be able to offer a minimum Flexible Capacity of 2kW.

Consultation questions:

- 6.3.1 What are stakeholders' views on the minimum 2kW Flexible Capacity?
- 6.3.2 Do stakeholders believe they could provide 12 months of historical meter data?
If no, what challenges do stakeholders foresee?

6.4 Baselineing

The baseline methodology defines how a participant's normal electricity consumption is estimated in the absence of flexibility, and it is a critical component for the fair measurement and financial settlement of delivered flexibility. The proposed methodology uses the most recent data to calculate the Baseline which will address any structural or behavioural changes in the data patterns which will improve efficiency and accuracy of the Baseline.

Under the proposed approach, a rolling quarterly Baseline will be established using average consumption meter data over the previous 12 months. The calculation will exclude days on which flexible services were delivered and outliers in order to better reflect the operating patterns. The Baseline will be updated every quarter.

The first Baseline will be calculated from the closest three-month period from the last 12 months historical meter data.

Consultation questions:

6.4.1 What is the preferred baselining frequency?

- Historical Baseline set on an annual basis
- A Summer and a Winter Baseline set on an annual basis
- A rolling quarterly historical baseline set on an annual basis

7. Commercial Consultation

7.1 Payment structure

Payment for the flexibility services provided will be made based on the Flexible Capacity contracted and delivered, against the agreed Baseline (**Utilisation payments only**).

The service is proposed as a fixed-price direct-award contract and ESB Networks will publish the prices along with the locations and MWh required before procurement is open.

Overall, the SU Firm product attracts a materially higher €/MWh price than SU Flex – typically a 60–80% increase – to reflect its firmer delivery commitments, higher minimum participation requirements and exposure to underperformance penalties, while SU Flex will be priced lower for scheduled delivery but can receive uplifted payments during Local Peak Events, bringing its event based remuneration broadly in line with SU Firm levels.

Utilisation type	SU Firm	SU Flex
Flexible capacity delivered as per the fixed Delivery Periods pre-agreed in the contract	Price (€/MWh) to be published	Price (€/MWh) to be published
Flexible capacity delivered as per Local Peak Events	N/A	Price (€/MWh) to be published

The prices will remain unchanged throughout the contract. This approach is designed to provide steady income and predictable revenue streams for FSPs, supporting long-term planning and investment.

There will be no remuneration for performance above the contracted Flexible Capacity. Performance will be validated at the same time period as the meter data. This is to ensure that the contracted Flexible Capacity is delivered consistently over the Delivery Period.

ESB Networks envisages allowing contracted FSAs to switch either way between the two products once during each six-month period.

Consultation questions:	
7.1.1	What are stakeholders' views on allowing FSAs to switch between the two products once during each six-month period?
7.1.2	What are stakeholders' perspectives on the proposed payment structure, which is based solely on a fixed utilisation schedule guaranteeing the use of Flexibility Service Assets, without availability payments?
7.1.3	What are stakeholders' views on having a fixed price from the start of the contract until the end of the contract?
7.1.4	For SU Firm, what €/MWh price or pricing range do stakeholders consider appropriate, considering their potential Flexible Capacity, potential costs, expected revenues under a regular utilisation schedule of at least four days per week (with the option to provide more), the penalties for underperformance outlined in this proposal, international benchmarks, and previous ESB Networks pricing ¹ ?
7.1.5	For SU Flex (fixed Delivery Periods), what €/MWh price or pricing range do stakeholders consider appropriate, considering their potential Flexible Capacity, potential costs, expected revenues under a regular utilisation schedule of at least two days per week (with the option to provide more), the absence of penalties for underperformance as outlined in this proposal, international benchmarks, and previous ESB Networks pricing ¹ ?

¹ [Beat the Peak Business](#)

7.2 Performance scalar

SU Firm customers are subject to performance scalars as ESB Networks needs to ensure the FSA is delivering the Flexible Capacity during the Delivery Periods.

As shown in Table 1 below, non-performance is defined as providing less than 80% of the contracted capacity, during the contracted delivery period, compared to the agreed Baseline, which means, that below 80%, no payment for that Delivery Period will be made.

The performance scalar is applied to single Delivery Periods to incentivise individual delivery performance, rather than averaging performance across the entire Service Window.

The table below shows how performance is measured, using a linear relationship between delivered capacity and the performance scalar. It calculates the remuneration of the Flexible Capacity delivered based on the performance scalar.

Flexible Capacity Delivered	Performance Scalar
100%	100%
95%	95%
90%	90%
85%	85%
80 %	80%
Below 80%	0%

Table 1. Performance Scalar

Consultation questions:	
7.2.1	What are stakeholders' views on only penalising for underperformance to SU Firm customers?
7.2.2	What are stakeholders' views on the performance scalar percentages for SU Firm customers?

7.3 Procurement approach

This initiative is designed to incentivise participation and promote inclusivity through a direct-award procurement approach rather than a competitive tender. Competitive tenders are issued from time to time and flexibility is procured by ESB Networks based on the most economically advantageous bids.

Under a direct-award procurement approach, ESB Networks will accept all FSPs / FSAs that pass the tender criteria. One exception to this is if we exceed the maximum MW or MWh required at a specific location, as in that case ESB Networks won't be able to procure for that excess of flexibility.

Procurement will be based on a rolling QSQ, followed by the signing of a standard contract. The contract will reflect the specific details agreed for each FSP/FSA, including the product, capacity, selected Service Windows, Delivery Periods and Baseline.

The price for each product will be the same for all FSPs participating in this initiative.

Consultation questions:

7.3.1 What are stakeholders' views on adopting a direct-award procurement approach instead of a competitive tender?

7.4 Contract duration

The initiative will begin in H2 2026, and the tender will remain open for applications for at least one year. The initiative will close at the end of 2030, irrespective of when a contract was signed.

A rolling QSQ will be available for FSPs to apply for participation while the initiative remains open.

The medium-term duration is designed to ensure a stable revenue stream for FSPs offering income security to compensate for potential asset investments aimed at improving reliability in delivering flexibility services.

Consultation questions:

7.4.1 What are stakeholders' views on offering a longer-term contract with fixed prices - like the proposed initiative - versus a shorter-term contract?

8. Market Participation Consultation

8.1 Stacking

Stacking this product with others is permitted, but the principle around this is that FSAs are not paid twice for the same MWs in different markets. This is consistent with previous initiatives.

Consultation questions:

- 8.1.1 Do stakeholders envisage any challenges in stacking this product with other markets that an FSA may be participating in?

8.2 Market participation

ESB Networks is advancing its local energy flexibility strategy to help meet its targets and aims to design this product as an opportunity to enable broader participation and remains active for a meaningful medium-term duration.

Consultation questions:

- 8.2.1 What challenges do stakeholders see to achieving high participation from Flexible Service Providers in this initiative?
- 8.2.2 Is there anything else stakeholders would like to share or provide feedback on that has not been addressed in this consultation?

9. Appendices

9.1 Operational example

The following sample information is provided to support the consultation document and is not intended to represent the entire process.

Section 1: ESB Networks Flexibility Needs

ESB Networks will publish the flexibility needs ahead of procurement opening, including:

- Substations where flexibility is required
- Service Windows per location (timeframes when flexibility is needed)
- Delivery Periods per location (specific hours within Service Windows)
- Capacity requirements (MW) per location
- Total flexibility required (MWh) per service window and location

Please note:

- Eligible FSAs need to be connected to the substation/s where flexibility is being sought
- Flexibility requirements will vary by location: some Delivery Periods may not require flexibility, and certain locations may only need flexibility during winter months or on weekdays

SAMPLE DATA								
Substation Name								
winter					summer			
weekday			weekend		weekday		weekend	
Service Window	Oct- March		Oct- March		April - May		April - May	
Delivery Period	MW	MWh	MW	MWh	MW	MWh	MW	MWh
8am - 10am	2.5	652	1.0	104	2.0	174	0.5	17
10am - 12pm	2.0	521	1.2	125	2.0	174	1.0	35
12pm - 2pm	1.5	391	1.7	177	1.5	130	0.2	7
2pm - 4pm	1.5	391	1.5	156	1.5	130	0.0	0
4pm - 6pm	2.5	652	1.7	177	2.0	174	0.3	10
6pm - 8pm	3.0	782	2.0	209	2.5	217	1.0	35
8pm - 10pm	2.5	652	1.6	167	1.5	130	0.5	17

Table 2. Sample Data of Flexibility Requirements for a Substation

Section 2: FSP Application and Contracting

Interested non-domestic FSPs must follow the public procurement process on eTenders and qualify their FSAs.

- The FSP applies via the eTenders portal
- If eligibility criteria are met, the contracting process can proceed
- In the contract, the FSP commits to:
 - Product (SU Firm or SU Flex)
 - Service Windows and Delivery Periods
 - Flexible Capacity (MW)
- A Baseline is calculated based on historical meter data
- A proving test is performed to confirm the Flexible Capacity can be delivered by the FSA/s
- Once all of the above is successful, flexibility operations commence

Please note:

- FSPs will be able to apply from the launch of the procurement, and the application window will remain open for at least one year; however, ESB Networks won't be able to procure additional flexibility once the maximum capacity required for a given location has been reached. All contracts will cease at the end of 2030
- Eligibility is per FSA (MPRN)
- ESB Networks envisages allowing FSAs of contracted FSPs to switch between the two products once during each 6-month period

Section 3: Contracted Service

The schedule is pre-fixed in the contract and carried over across the full length of the contract.

Service Window

The locations that will be published might need flexibility seven days/week, but only a minimum participation applies if the FSA cannot deliver flexibility everyday:

- **SU Firm:** The contract needs to be for a minimum of four days/week
- **SU Flex:** The contract needs to be for a minimum of two days/week

Delivery Period

Locations might have multiple Delivery Periods a day, but FSPs can only contract to deliver Flexible Capacity for a maximum of two Delivery Periods per day:

- Minimum one Delivery Period/day, maximum two Delivery Periods/day
- Each period = two hours

Sample:

This example represents one winter season; however, contracts can span several years, meaning the same FSP commitment will apply across multiple winter seasons during the contract term.

- **Service Window:** Winter (October–March)
- **Total Months:** Six
- **Total Weeks:** 26 weeks ≈ (approx.)
- **Days:** Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Sunday
- **Product:** SU Firm
- **Delivery Periods:** 12:00–14:00 and 18:00–20:00
- **Total hours:** Four hours/day × four days/week × 26 weeks = 416 hours
- **Flexible Capacity:** 100 kW
- **Total expected energy:** 416 hours × 100 kW = 41.6 MWh

Section 4: Flexibility Operations

Flexibility operations are streamlined because schedules are fixed in the contract, requiring less ongoing management compared to other flexibility products.

Pre-fixed Schedule

For both SU Firm and SU Flex, Delivery Periods within Service Windows are fixed in the contract. There are no operational instructions ahead of these periods.

Local Peak Events (SU Flex only)

ESB Networks may issue ad-hoc instructions to SU Flex customers during contracted Service Windows and Delivery Periods to respond to Local Peak Events.

As these events are high priority, a different remuneration, higher than the standard SU Flex rate, will apply.

Section 5: Performance and Financial Settlement

The Baseline will be recalculated on a quarterly basis to ensure more accurate measurement of performance against the contracted Flexible Capacity.

Performance

- **SU Firm:** Payment is based on the Performance Scalar, which adjusts remuneration according to the percentage of contracted capacity delivered.
 - ≥80% delivered – Paid according to scalar
 - <80% delivered – No payment
- **SU Flex:** Payment is based on actual capacity delivered, with no penalties for underperformance. This rate will be lower than the one for SU Firm.

Financial Settlement

- It is carried out monthly
- Each month, ESB Networks compares the actual delivered flexibility against the agreed Baseline to calculate the performance, at each Delivery Period level of two hours

9.2 Consolidated consultation questions

Section 6: Technical Consultation

Section 6.1: Schedule

- 6.1.1 What are stakeholders' views on maintaining a fixed schedule throughout the contract?
- 6.1.2 What are stakeholders' views on having a minimum requirement of four days for the SU Firm?
- 6.1.3 What are stakeholders' views on having a minimum requirement of two days for the SU Flex?
- 6.1.4 What are stakeholders' views on providing flexibility services during weekends?
- 6.1.5 What are stakeholders' views on the two-hour Delivery Periods?

Section 6.2: Local Peak Events

- 6.2.1 What level of notice do stakeholders think they could respond and participate in a Local Peak Event? For example, more than 24 hours before the event, or notice given the day before the event.

Section 6.3: Eligibility criteria

- 6.3.1 What are the stakeholder views on the minimum 2kW Flexible Capacity?
- 6.3.2 Do stakeholders believe they could provide 12 months of historical meter data? If no, what challenges do stakeholders foresee?

Section 6.4: Baseline

- 6.4.1 What is the preferred baselining frequency?
 - Historical Baseline set on an annual basis
 - A Summer and a Winter Baseline set on an annual basis
 - A rolling quarterly historical baseline set on an annual basis

Section 7: Commercial Consultation

Section 7.1: Payment structure

- 7.1.1 What are stakeholders' views on allowing FSAs to switch between the two products once during each six-month period?
- 7.1.2 What are stakeholders' perspectives on the proposed payment structure, which is based solely on a fixed utilisation schedule guaranteeing the use of Flexibility Service Assets, without availability payments?
- 7.1.3 What are stakeholders' views on having a fixed price from the start of the contract until the end of the contract?
- 7.1.4 For SU Firm, what €/MWh price or pricing range do stakeholders consider appropriate, considering their potential Flexible Capacity, potential costs, expected revenues under a regular utilisation schedule of at least four days per week (with the option to provide more), the penalties outlined in this proposal, international benchmarks, and previous ESB Networks pricing?
- 7.1.5 For SU Flex (fixed Delivery Periods), what €/MWh price or pricing range do stakeholders consider appropriate, considering their potential Flexible Capacity, potential costs, expected revenues under a regular utilisation schedule of at least two days per week (with the option to provide more), the absence of penalties as outlined in this proposal, international benchmarks, and previous ESB Networks pricing?

Section 7.2: Performance scalar

- 7.2.1 What are stakeholders' views on only penalising for underperformance to SU Firm customers?
- 7.2.2 What are stakeholders' views on the performance scalar percentages for SU Firm customers?

Section 7.3: Procurement approach

- 7.3.1 What are stakeholders' views on adopting a direct-award procurement approach instead of a competitive tender?

Section 7.4: Contract duration

- 7.4.1 What are stakeholders' views on offering a longer-term contract with fixed prices - like the proposed initiative - versus a shorter-term contract?

Section 8: Market Participation Consultation

Section 8.1: Stacking

- 8.1.1 Do stakeholders envisage any challenges in stacking this product with other markets that an FSA may be participating in?

Section 8.2: Market participation

- 8.2.1 What challenges do stakeholders see to achieving high participation from Flexible Service Providers in this initiative?
- 8.2.2 Is there anything else stakeholders would like to share or provide feedback on that has not been addressed in this consultation?



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