
Evolution of the Standard Agreement Working Group Session

Meeting number	1	Venue	Virtual via MS Teams
Date of meeting	23 April 2025 – 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Classification	Public

Summary

1. Introduction and Context

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming attendees and providing an overview of Terms of Reference for the working groups. The Chair highlighted the scope and intent of these working group meetings which included clarifying the value of having a line of legal agreements for flexibility services, developing a view on desired future state and identifying any issues with the current version of the Standard Agreement (SA).

2. Purpose and context of ENA

- 2.1 Elxon presented the main aims of the SA as used by the NESO and other DSOs. Elxon highlighted the history of versions leading to the current 3.0 version that was published by Open Networks last year with aim of driving more alignment among all the different agreements from DNOs and NESO in terms of all the different agreements over time.
- 2.2 Elxon shared a high-level summary of different documents such as Standard Agreement, Service Terms, Procurement Rules and other documents from NESO and DSOs and how they all sit together.
- 2.3 Attendees asked questions on the status update on implementation of version 3 for each DNO, issues experienced with version 3 as it stands and on the standardisation of various pieces of information that can be codified.
- 2.4 Elxon shared that they are open to receive feedback from the members of the group through their networks and

3. Value of Standard Agreement

- 3.1 Elxon highlighted the different perceptions of the value to different decisions and end state of the Standard Agreements while considering the alignments of different legal agreements for the provision of flexibility services.
- 3.2 Attendees shared feedback on covering areas such as making the SA easier to access a range of services with a single framework; enabling faster time to market for Flexibility Service Providers (FSPs) and in turn potentially higher liquidity for SOs; having one source of truth for FSPs to refer to. The slido responses highlighted that creating level playing field for FSPs was equally as important as reducing FSP costs.

4. Desired end state for the Standard Agreements

- 4.1 Elxon reiterated the definition of the flexibility market rules that were referred to Technical Outputs by Ofgem in the previous consultations, their need, how they will be used, and when they will be implemented and their key dependencies and using change management once they are live from Day 1 to ensure they remain relevant and evolve with market needs.
- 4.2 Elxon highlighted maps highlighting how different rules will sit together, starting from Flexibility market catalogues that will be fed by lower-level components some of which will be owned by market facilitators and other by the NESO.
- 4.3 Elxon highlighted examples to demonstrate the process to amend the flexibility market rules once they go live.

- 4.4 Attendees shared feedback that referring out which elements sit within the Service Terms or Procurement Rules is better so that market facilitator need not to keep changing the terms reissuing but will need to make sure providers are aware of the changes.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 Elexon shared that next meeting of this topic will be on 21st May 2025 and shared the plan for the progression of this stream of work with final rules expected to be published in November 2025.
- 5.2 Elexon responded to attendee's feedback that there will be opportunities to seek members feedback on the legal drafting of the Standard Agreement before it goes out to consultation.
- 5.3 Elexon sought feedback from attendees on any issues they are facing on the current version 3.0 of the Standard Agreements that it should be aware of. Attendees shared few issues such as different variations that currently exists makes it difficult for FSPs, management of affiliates, complexity of FSP supply chains, service terminations clauses and data protection.