

Response template – Incentive on Connections Engagement June 2017

Question	Response																																		
About you and your work																																			
1. What is the name of your company?	Shropshire Council																																		
2. Which DNO's ICE submission is your response related to (see Annex 2 for DNO map)? Please indicate clearly in your response to the questions below whether your comments refer to the DNO's plans as a whole, or to one of the DNO's licence areas. If you wish to provide a response to the ICE submission of more than one DNO, please use a separate template for each DNO.	Western Power Distribution																																		
3. What type of connection do you generally require? And for each type of connection, how many connection applications, including total MVA (Mega Volt Ampere) of connections have you made in the past year? Please note that we will assess storage within the relevant metered generation market segment.	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Type of connection</th><th>Total number of connections</th><th>Total MVA of connections</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="4">Metered Demand Connections</td><td>Low Voltage (LV) Work</td><td>4</td><td>1.2</td></tr> <tr> <td>High Voltage (HV) Work</td><td>2</td><td>1.2</td></tr> <tr> <td>HV and Extra High Voltage (EHV) Work</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>EHV work and above</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">Metered Distributed Generation (DG)</td><td>LV work</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>HV and EHV work</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3">Unmetered Connections</td><td>Local Authority (LA) work</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Private finance initiatives (PFI) Work</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Other work</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Type of connection		Total number of connections	Total MVA of connections	Metered Demand Connections	Low Voltage (LV) Work	4	1.2	High Voltage (HV) Work	2	1.2	HV and Extra High Voltage (EHV) Work			EHV work and above			Metered Distributed Generation (DG)	LV work			HV and EHV work			Unmetered Connections	Local Authority (LA) work			Private finance initiatives (PFI) Work			Other work		
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Consultation questions

Section 1: Looking Back report 2016-17

We want your views on how well the DNOs have performed over the last year

1. Are you satisfied that the DNO had a comprehensive and robust strategy for engaging with connections stakeholders? Do you consider that the DNO implemented its strategy? If not, are you satisfied that the DNO has provided a reasonable and well-justified explanation?	WPD provided budget costs for various schemes and were more than willing to attend site and discuss. Very robust strategy for stakeholder liaison. Yes the DNO fulfilled and fully implemented the strategy
2. Are you satisfied that the DNO had a comprehensive work plan of activities (with associated delivery dates) to meet the requirements of its connections stakeholders? Do you consider that the DNO delivered its work plan? If not, are you satisfied that the DNO has provided a reasonable and well-justified explanation?	Very satisfied with the specific plan that was devised on a particular project. The ymet the dates for delivery of information which consisted mostly of costs to inform the Council of likely financial demands. The work plan was delivered satisfactorily.
3. Do you consider that the DNO's work plan provided relevant outputs (eg key performance indicators, targets etc.)? Are you satisfied that the DNO has delivered these outputs? If not, do you view the reasons provided to be reasonable and well justified?	Yes the output was on time and was discussed prior to issue of the costs, actually exceeded expectations. DNO delivery was good.
4. Do you agree that the DNO's strategy, activities and outputs have taken into account ongoing feedback from a broad and inclusive range of connections stakeholders? If not, has the DNO provided reasonable justification?	Yes they took account of each Client change and still produced the information In a timely manner

The following two questions refer to the specific areas we discuss in our letter – meeting the needs of all types of connections customers, and connecting when the networks are constrained.

5. Do you consider that the DNO's activities and outputs over the past year were adequate in meeting the needs of all types of connection customers, including the particular needs of newer types of connection customers?	Yes absolutely
6. Do you consider that the DNO's activities and outputs over the past year were adequate in meeting the needs of customers looking to connect when the networks are constrained?	Again yes absolutely Shropshire Council would like to work more closely with the DNO to influence the DNO's capital programme to ensure investment to improve the capacity of the network is used to maximum effect.

Section 2: Looking Forward plans 2017-18

We want your views on what the DNOs aim to achieve in the coming year

7. Are you satisfied that the DNO has a comprehensive and robust strategy for engaging with connection stakeholders and facilitating joint discussions where appropriate?	The strategy clearly sets out how connection stakeholders will be engaged. What is the membership of these stakeholders groups – could the Local Enterprise Partnership or established Business networks be represented?
8. Do you agree that the DNO has a comprehensive work plan of activities (with associated delivery dates) that will meet the requirements of its connection stakeholders? If not, has the DNO provided reasonable and well-justified reasons? What other activities should the DNOs do?	The proposals to improve availability of information are welcomed, in particular improvements such as an interactive costing tool, customer forum on network capacity and the map based traffic light system to highlight capacity issues. The strategy identifies the proposed plans to improve the communication flow, customer service processes and timescales with target dates and KPIs.
9. Do you consider that the DNO has set relevant outputs that it will deliver during the regulatory year (eg key performance indicators, targets, etc.)?	The proposal to produce guidance to assist customers seeking connections for energy storage should be tested more robustly rather than feedback from participating stakeholders.

10. Would you agree that the DNO's proposed strategy, activities and outputs have been informed and endorsed by a broad and inclusive range of connection stakeholders? If they have not been endorsed, has the DNO provided robust evidence that it has pursued this?	No comment
The following two questions refer to the specific areas we discuss in our letter – meeting the needs of all types of connections customers, and connecting when the networks are constrained.	
11. Do you consider that the DNO's planned activities and outputs will be sufficient to meet the needs of all types of connection customers, including the particular needs of newer types of connection customers? What other activities should the DNO undertake in this area?	<p>The proposed activities relating to Connection Offers & Agreements, Queues & capacity Management aim to improve customer service and streamline processes.</p> <p>Any other activities that would support Shropshire businesses and developments?</p>
12. Do you consider that the DNO's planned activities and outputs will be sufficient to meet the needs of customers looking to connect when the networks are constrained? What other activities should the DNO undertake in this area?	<p>Shropshire Council would like to work more closely with the DNO to influence the DNO's capital programme to ensure investment to improve the capacity of the network is used to maximum effect.</p> <p>There is a wider issue of the timescales for these consultation exercises. Consultations on the previous year's performance and the next years activities do not provide the opportunity to address more strategic planning issues and the means of resolving capacity issues . Shropshire Council would welcome early engagement in development planning proposals on the quantum of the development and implications on the network.</p> <p>We would see the Council's strategic development plan process being tied into the your capital programme process so that capacity issues can be related to your investment proposals and the approval by Ofgem. This would be a means of ensuring that the development plan strategy and local plan allocations are capable of being implemented and the District Network Operators can plan for growth accordingly .</p> <p>Where there are capacity issues which are not identified in the DNO's approved Investment Plan, Shropshire Council would welcome the opportunity to be involved in pilots or initiatives on small scale energy generation and the exploring the potential of battery storage give the rural nature of the area.</p>

