

22/04/2026-14/07/2026

Balancing Programme: OBP Delivery Increment (DI)24-25 Closure Report

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Executive Summary:

DI24 and DI25 delivered a range of enhancements and new functionality into OBP, alongside relevant Ofgem and industry milestones. While delivery did not meet the programme's predictability target of at least 80% of committed features, the team delivered significant value to the Control Room and made progress that supported a substantial programme of work committed for DI26.

This report reflects delivery performance and the forward plan as understood at the close of DI25 on 14 July 2026. Subsequent changes are reflected in later programme reporting.

- **Ancillary Services:** Protection of reserve services from optimisation was enabled, alongside enhancements to the Services Monitor that improved the utilisation and situational awareness of reserve services.
- **All Instructions:** This remained a key area of change in preparation for the EDL/EDT transition and the authorisation of users on OBP. Across the two DIs, improvements were delivered to increase situational awareness and simplify dispatch journeys and screens. New ancillary-service instructions, pumped-storage manual extensions, state-change instructions and MVAR/Voltage capabilities were also delivered.
- **EDL/EDT** – GC0166 functionality was deployed to production, enabling the submission of the new MDO and MDB battery parameters and demonstrating OBP's ability to master data submitted by industry participants. Further network changes were also delivered to support market-participant testing with a wider group of software suppliers and participants. Further detail around the EDT/EDL transition from BM systems to OBP can be found [here](#) (September 2026 Balancing Programme Technology Focus Group), whilst further information on GC0166 implementation can be found [here](#).
- **User Experience:** Performance enhancements and simplified user journeys were delivered in response to Control Room user feedback.
- **Forecasting:** The Ofgem milestone for integration with PEF was met, and the integration was deployed to production.
- **Platform:** Work continued towards PI-aligned service readiness, a key dependency for EDL/EDT delivery, alongside a major platform upgrade.
- **Performance:** System performance remained a key focus, particularly in preparation for the additional load expected following the EDL/EDT transition and continued growth in BMU volumes.

DI24/25 Completion Report – Success Against Commitments

Committed Goals

 Exceeded
  Met
  Partially Met
  Not Met
  Deliver
  Develop
  Elaborate
  Market Participant Testing

DI24	Objective	Solution Train	Status	Description and Expected Value	Delivered Value
	Improved Reserve Dispatch protection, enabling efficient dispatch via optimisation with reserve margin protection	Ancillary Services		Protect procured reserve volumes within optimisation so the Control Room can dispatch efficiently, while maintaining the required reserve margins.	Live in the Control Room.
	Improved Instruction management with Active BOA enhancements including filters and improved Zonal graph situational awareness	All Instructions		In readiness for the EDL/EDT transition, OBP needs enhanced user journeys and situational awareness in Dispatch. This is because legacy systems will be made read-only this financial year and OBP needs to be able to support all of dispatch.	Numerous observations delivered: 1. Active Instruction Log 2. Last Time to Extend (with indicator) 3. Ability to filter by BMU or any value in the Instruction Log. 4. Table-state persistence, including saved column and filter settings. 5. Instruction Reviewer showing Unit graph

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DI24	Objective	Solution Train	Status	Description and Expected Value	Delivered Value
					6. Instruction Reviewer instruction table improved UX with AG-Grid 7. MWI Shortcut Keys 8. Extensions based on MW value 9. MWI federated with Instruction Log 10. pumped-storage instruction buttons in any order.
	Further market-participant testing (MPT) with a significant proportion of the market for EDL/EDT, laying the foundations for cutover and mastering	EDL/EDT		Continue to progress MPT with software suppliers to perform testing.	No additional participants completed market-participant testing during DI24/DI25. Engagement continued, and network changes were progressed to enable further testing.
 Develop	We will progress to a P2 service level with an always Green Trunk/path to production – whilst improving our operational procedures.	Strategic		We will progress to a P2 service level with an always Green Trunk/path to production – whilst improving our operational procedures.	Whilst the plan has progressed, delays to the NESO Azure migration impacted our ability to complete the remaining OBP Strategic deferral list and the remainder will close in the next DI period.

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DI24	Objective	Solution Train	Status	Description and Expected Value	Delivered Value
	Control Room has enhanced Wind Dispatch (power available, long MNZT), with further Pumped Storage functionality (Manual Extend, State Change BOA dispatch, PS Notifications).	All Instructions		Control Room has ability to dispatch MW instructions for all zones, including Pumped Storage – continuing with improved instructions journey (restrictions awareness, power available, manual extend).	All elements were delivered except Pumped Storage notifications and Power Available.
	Further Ancillary Services Instructions (MVAR, Volts and Fast Start) are available in the Control Room.	All Instructions		To be able to dispatch MVAR and Voltage instructions within the Transmission team.	Delivered into production and made available for training.
 Develop	We will systematically select appropriate PEF Wind Profiles and capture benefit evidence for capability rollout.	Forecasting		We will integrate with PEF and fetch wind profiles. Control Room users can update real time prediction values directly on graph.	Delivered the network integration and adapter required to read wind data from PEF.
	Rollout of enhanced AG-Grid across more screens with new fonts and styling, advanced	All		Enhanced data table that allows the Control Room the flexibility to add/remove columns and filter data as required.	AG-Grid in planned screens complete with new fonts and state persistence delivered.

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DI24	Objective	Solution Train	Status	Description and Expected Value	Delivered Value
	filtering and state persistence.				
	Role-based access implemented for further screens.	User Experience		Implement RBAC on Constraints MFE.	Delivered to production.
	Performance improvements across key areas of the system to enhance user experience and support anticipated future functionality.	All		Continued progress to maintain and improve system performance with each release.	Further performance optimisations delivered for GC0166.

DI25	Objective	Solution Train	Status	Description and Expected Value	Delivered Value
	Delivery of GC0166 – New Storage Parameters	EDL/EDT		Delivery of new MDO/MDB parameters for the changes to the grid code.	Live in the Control Room.
	Integration with PEF	Forecasting and Demand		Integration between OBP and the PEF system in Production.	Live in production.

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DI25	Objective	Solution Train	Status	Description and Expected Value	Delivered Value
	Completion of Pumped Storage 3.1 (Edit Start Time, Rapid Start)	EDL/EDT		The ability for the Control Room to issue rapid start and editable start time instructions for pumped storage units.	Live in production.
	We will progress to a P2 service level with an always Green Trunk/path to production – whilst improving our operational procedures	Strategic		We will progress to a P2 service level with an always Green Trunk/path to production – whilst improving our operational procedures	Whilst the plan has progressed, delays to the NESO Azure migration impacted our ability to complete the remaining OBP Strategic deferral list and the remainder will close in the next DI period.
	Improved Instruction management with Active BOA enhancements including filters & improved Zonal graph situational awareness	All Instructions		Further enhanced user journeys for Dispatch.	Numerous observations delivered: • Improved Fonts/Sizing in Tables/Screen • Zonal Graph “read-only” for situational awareness, Optimisable zones to default to show optimisation panel, and read-only mode if not • Y-Axis Zoom for graphs, Requirement & Unit Graphs hiding Tooltip by default, RTP graph enhancement – 48 hours view, select component day from graph etc

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DI25	Objective	Solution Train	Status	Description and Expected Value	Delivered Value
					Reworked Constraints screen merging overview with the main graph, 200MW grid lines on graphs
	Continue development and quality assurance of EDL/EDT functionality to enable Integration testing.	EDL/EDT		All key work needed to enable E2E testing has been delivered and E2E testing has commenced.	Delivered all work related to reverse profiling with BM, enhancements to EDL/EDT adapters and started delivery on the new unit registration process.
	Rollout of enhanced AG-Grid across more screens with new font/styling, advanced filtering and state persistence.	All		Enhanced data table that allows the Control Room the flexibility to add/remove columns and filter data as required.	AG-Grid in planned screens complete with new fonts and state persistence delivered.
	Role-based access implemented for further screens	User Experience		Implement RBAC Requirement Editor and Reactive Manager for MVAR	Delivered to production.

DI24 and DI25 Delivery Summary

DI24:

At the start of DI24 planning, the programme committed to delivering 68 features and enablers to the agreed definition of complete.

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The programme completed 30 of the 68 committed features and enablers, equivalent to 44% of plan. Delivery was significantly affected by the NESO Azure migration, which prevented some work from progressing through testing and into production. A substantial proportion of the affected DI24 scope was subsequently carried into DI25, so the two increments are reported together.

DI25:

At the start of DI25 planning, the programme committed to delivering 59 features and enablers to the agreed definition of complete.

The programme completed 32 of the 59 committed features and enablers, equivalent to 54% of plan. Delivery continued to be affected by the migration of the remaining test environments from National Grid to NESO Azure. This significantly affected the Platform and SRE plans and moved the P1-ready platform goal from 31 July to 31 August 2026 because the required failover scenarios could not be tested within the original timeframe. Ten of the features not completed in DI25 were completed early in DI26, having previously been blocked by a small number of defects.

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DI26 Objectives

Below is an extract of the DI Objectives from the DI Programme Plan. For the Commitment (Committed/Stretch), any items with an asterisk (*) are required to achieve the definition of done (to be in production and in use). Items without the asterisk are to be delivered to the definition of complete – completion of system test and may be foundational change for future releases.

Confirmed features for Build/Test DI26 – 64.



Status	Objective	Solution Train	Description	Expected Value
	*Expanded Reserve situational awareness for remaining Reserve services.	Ancillary Services	Margin calculations and situational awareness for Quick Reserve and Balancing Reserve.	Control Room will be able to better manage margins across procured Reserve services and secure the grid in a more economical manner.
	*Improved Unit and Instruction management with unit data available on multiple screens (including Power Available).	All Instructions	UX improvement providing increased unit situational awareness on multiple screens.	Improved situational awareness to increase speed and quality of decision and subsequent actions.
	*Complete remaining GC0166 Fast Followers including Submission History.	EDL/EDT	Implement functionality and feedback observations arising from initial GC0166 implementation.	Improved processes and awareness for GC0166 processes and state-of-charge and energy-volume information.

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Status	Objective	Solution Train	Description	Expected Value
	Completion of all other development and ST outside of Unit Registration to start formal E2E Test.	EDL/EDT	Completion of all other development and ST outside of Unit Registration to start formal E2E Test.	Progresses architecture and implementation for EDL takeover.
	We will progress to P1-aligned service with Platinum SLA with an always Green Trunk/path to production – whilst improving our operational procedures	Strategic and EDL/EDT	We will progress to P1-aligned service with Platinum SLA with an always Green Trunk/path to production – whilst improving our operational procedures.	Improved resilience and operational processes as OBP progresses towards becoming the main balancing system.
	Further Pumped Storage functionality (FATE Frequency, Step change compliant, Spin/Pump transition logic) and reworked streamlined screen flow.	All Instructions	Continued development of Pumped Storage functionality to enable management within OBP.	Continued progression of complex Pumped Storage functionality enabling start of authorisation in readiness for EDL takeover.
	*Further Ancillary Service Instructions (MVAR/Volts Metering, Hot Standby) are	All Instructions	MVAR/Volts and Hot Standby Ancillary Service instruction capability to be made available to Control Room.	Continued delivery of Instruction capability within OBP in advance of EDL takeover.

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Status	Objective	Solution Train	Description	Expected Value
	available to the Control Room.			
	*Constraint Optimisation (Small/Batteries)	Constraints	This capability will allow Control Room to utilise requirements and optimisation methodologies to resolve constraint management issues.	Improved constraints management using bulk optimisation and instruction capability – reducing manual analysis and instruction creation leading to more economical resolution of constraints issues.
 Develop	Initial telephone-instruction functionality and integration for NBM units.	All Instructions	Ability to manually log instructions when electronic communications are unavailable. This initial capability will be delivered for Non-BM units and will establish the foundation for telephone instructions for BM units.	Ability to support telephone instructions for units where electronic communications are unavailable, supporting loss-of-communications scenarios. The NBM capability will set much of the architectural groundwork required for this critical functionality prior to EDL takeover.
 Develop	Full Automatic Dispatch Extender solution to be in CTU training and ready for initial release.	All Instructions	Capability for Control Room to configure instructions to repeat automatically at defined intervals.	Automated instructions provide Control Room with an extra tool to manage the network, reducing manual workload.
 Develop	*We will systematically select and override appropriate PEF Wind Profiles and capture benefit evidence for	Forecasting and Demand	Integration of Wind Forecasts and ability for Control Room to select and override forecast profiles. Real Time Predictor improved logic and data selection.	Continuous improvement of forecast logic and Real Time Predictor functionality through feedback with Control Room via an accelerated iterative release process,

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Status	Objective	Solution Train	Description	Expected Value
	capability rollout through UI improvements and performance. *Real Time Predictor to support multiple component days and enable the transition in the ENCC.			supporting improved decision-making based on better forecasts.
	*Shortcut keys implemented on multiple screens, with Role-based access implemented for all remaining screens.	Strategic	Shortcut keys implemented on multiple screens, with Role-based access implemented for all remaining screens.	Keyboard shortcuts allow for fast actions by Control Room users, using existing learned controls. Role-based access provides procedural and controlled access for balancing actions.
	*System Stability and Observability – Trusted by Control Room.	Strategic	Support and observability tools to monitor system performance and stability.	Improved support and observability tools continued to be developed in preparation for EDL takeover, providing proactive monitoring and allowing for corrective action before the system is affected.

Appendix

Abbreviations:

- **ASDP:** Ancillary Services Dispatch Platform
- **BM:** Balancing Mechanism
- **BMU:** Balancing Mechanism Unit
- **BOA:** Bid Offer Acceptance
- **BP2:** Business Plan 2
- **CHT:** CNI Health Team
- **CNI:** Critical National Infrastructure
- **DAP:** Data Analytics Platform
- **EDL:** Electronic Dispatch Logger
- **EDT:** Electronic Data Transfer
- **IEMS:** Integrated Energy Management System
- **ITRIP:** Intertrip
- **MDA:** Modern Dispatch Advisor
- **MNZT:** Minimum Non-Zero Time
- **MPLS:** Multiprotocol Label Switching
- **NDO:** National Dispatch Optimisation / Optimiser

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- **OBP:** Open Balancing Platform
- **PEF:** Platform for Energy Forecasting
- **PI:** Programme Increment
- **PS:** Pumped Storage
- **RTP:** Real Time Predictor
- **SRE:** Site Reliability Engineer
- **UI:** User Interface
- **UX:** User Experience
- **P1:** Priority 1 (relates to operating a critical service)
- **P2:** Priority 2 (relates to operating a critical service)
- **RBAC:** Role-Based Access Control
- **MDO/MDB:** Maximum Delivery Offer/Maximum Delivery Bid
- **FATE:** Frequency and Time Error
- **CTU:** Control Training Unit
- **E2E:** End-to-End
- **GC0166:** Grid Code change 0166
- **MPT:** Market Participant Testing
- **MFE:** Micro Front End
- **MVAR:** Megavolt ampere reactive, a unit of reactive power
- **NBM:** Non-Balancing Mechanism

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- **SLA:** Service Level Agreement
- **ST:** System Test