General

Public

Demand Flexibility Service

Participation Guidance Document

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Version Control

Version	Date	Change
v.17	15/04/26	Changes throughout document to reflect evolution to a bi-directional service and updates following Article 18 Consultation.
v.18	10/08/26	Section 3.6, updated Type in Table 1 to reflect correct description

Introduction

The Demand Flexibility Service (DFS) was introduced in winter 22/23 as an enhanced action to allow the ESO (now NESO) to access additional flexibility when the national demand is at its highest, typically during peak winter days. This new innovative service supports suppliers/aggregators, as well as industrial & commercial users, to incentivise end consumers for voluntarily flexing the time when they use their electricity.

On 27 November 2024, the DFS transitioned to function as an in-merit margin tool. This change provided the NESO with an additional option when addressing margin requirements.

As part of the ongoing review and evolution of DFS, we have made several changes to the service include expanding the capability of DFS to a bi-directional service and introducing the ability to procure negative margin. We expect the DFS will be used in periods of minimum demand, and the negative margin service will extend the range of tools at our disposal to balance demand and supply, complementing existing balancing services such as the Balancing Mechanism.

We have also introduced a locational procurement element and embedding primacy rules within DFS. Other changes include reducing the eligibility criteria of a DFS unit from a minimum threshold of 1MW to 0.1MW which is a positive step in removing barriers for entry and we are also introducing an optional self-nominated baseline methodology for Industrial & Commercial (I&C) participants and intermittent renewable assets.

As a result of these changes, we have been able to make several developments to the service which are covered in this document.

This Participation Guidance Document should be read in conjunction with the following documents. For the avoidance of doubt if there is any confusion the below documents take precedence:

- The DFS Procurement Rules;
- The DFS Service Terms; and
- The DFS Communication Principles.

These can be found on the Demand Flexibility Service webpage: Demand Flexibility Service (DFS) | National Energy System Operator (neso.energy). Specifically, in this Participation Guidance Document, we refer to the Procurement Rules and Service Terms we included as part of our Article 18 submission. These terms and conditions were approved by Ofgem on 25 March 2026.

1.1 Changes to The Demand Flexibility Service and key topics for awareness

Bi-directional Service/Demand Turn-up

To further enhance the DFS, we have expanded the capability of DFS to a bi-directional service, introducing a Negative Margin (Demand Turn Up) element alongside the existing Positive Margin (Demand Turn Down) functionality. We see value in increasing market access for DFS participants to deliver in both directions, offering additional revenue stacking for providers in their consumer offerings and industry has consistently provided a positive appetite for the introduction of this delivery.

Procurement Timescales

In line with the existing derogation, the service can be procured at any time in a day, up to a maximum of twenty four hours ahead of the start of any Service Requirement window.

The requirement windows for the positive margin (demand turn down) aspect of the service are unlikely to change and will continue to predominantly be within the evening peak period, between 4pm and 11pm.

We foresee that the requirements for negative margin will largely fall outside of core business hours – this table represents the indicative timings for both positive and negative requirements.

Indicative Requirement Notice & Service Window Timings for a bi-directional DFS

Negative Margin – Demand Turn Up (new additions to the DFS)

Scenario	Issue Service Requirement	Requirement Windows
1	8pm to 10pm	Early Morning - 1am to 5am
2	8am to 9am	Weekday Solar Peak - 11am to 3pm
3	8am to 9am	Weekends & Bank Holidays - 10am to 5pm

Positive Margin – Demand Turn Down (no change)

Scenario	Issue Service Requirement	Requirement Windows
4	9am to 12pm	Winter (GMT) - 4pm to 7pm
5	9am to 12pm	Summer (BST) - 4pm to 11pm

We also foresee that we could potentially have a requirement for negative margin in the early hours, typically between 1am to 5am with a Service Requirement issued between 8pm to 10pm the evening prior. Although we recognise that with DFS currently being dominated by manual actions moving to overnight delivery is not something we are likely to see initially in the implementation of the changes.

Locational Procurement

For locational procurement, Great Britain is divided into 12 zones corresponding to the most heavily loaded transmission boundaries. This approach enables targeted DFS procurement to ensure effective delivery.

Requirement for DFS is still calculated at a national level, based on overall energy margin. Yet, depending on the transmission forecasts through zonal boundaries, NESO can limit the portion of the requirement that is in the different zones. NESO aims to procure DFS only where it contributes to the overall energy margin while not exacerbating existing or forecasted transmission constraints.

Each service requirement will include the maximum volume that can be procured in each zone.

Primacy Rules, Timing and MPAN Eligibility

In DFS, primacy refers to the situations where DNOs' network requirements take precedence over NESO's balancing service requirements. This is to protect network security and promote efficient procurement.

The primacy processes in DFS determines when MPANs are not eligible to participate in the service due to a DNO network requirement. This process operates on a **daily assessment cycle** determining **specific periods and directions** where an MPAN should not be used for DFS (i.e. is **primacy excluded**).

Where applicable, we will share **Primacy Exclusion Reports** daily with DFS Participants by 14:00 each business day. The primacy exclusion report will set out any MPANs which are ineligible for DFS the following business day.

DFS Participants should remove volume associated with any excluded MPANs (for the specific time and direction) in corresponding bid periods as we will not settle volume delivered by these MPANs.

Further detail has been provided in section 2.7 Primacy Rules and Process.

Baseline Methodology

We are retaining the existing P376 baseline methodology for Domestic participants. We are introducing an optional self-nomination baseline for Industrial & Commercial (I&C) participants and intermittent renewable assets.

Eligibility Criteria

A DFS Unit threshold is 0.1MW. Parties can register multiple units providing it meets the minimum threshold and can be made up from aggregated assets within a zone.

This change reflects the smaller average unit delivery values expected under a zonal aggregation model and supports the removal of long-standing barriers to entry, with the 1MW threshold having been widely cited as a constraint to flexibility participation.

Stacking

We unlocked the ability to stack DFS with the Capacity Market (CM) and DNO Flexibility Services.

A list of permitted services that can stack with the Demand Flexibility Service (DFS) can we found on the DFS Website. Click the Guidance Documents tab and look for the latest version of the DFS Stacking List document**.**

Performance Incentives

To incentivise good performance from participating units, NESO has a performance incentive structure in place that works as follows:

- No penalties when delivery is in the range between 50% and 120% of procured quantities.
- Reduced payments for delivery between 25% and 50% of procured quantities.
- Zero payments for delivery below 25% of procured quantities.
- Cap for delivery above 120% of procured quantities.

We have maintained the existing structure and extended this for negative margin.

For Auto Opt-in Unit Meter Points, we have maintained the rule whereby delivery against the service would result in that meter point adversely impacting the Units delivery and would be subject to pay NESO if overall delivery were in the incorrect direction. We limit the volume for which auto-opt-in participants are exposed to penalties and the cap is 100% of the bid quantity.

Data and Processes

We've made several data and process changes to DFS moving forward.

- Introduced the ability to publish more than one Service Requirement per day where necessary
- Include an Event ID within each Service Requirement
- Ability to reduce the tender bidding window from 60 minutes to 30 minutes. We plan to continue to operate a 1 hour bid window as we embed the new changes to the evolved DFS but have the functionality to change this in the future.
- Introduced a mechanism whereby we will specify the DFS Bid Submission close time for bids in the published Service Requirement
- We have removed the Weekly Indicative Forecast and Anticipated DFS Service Requirement

1.2 Demand Flexibility Service Overview

Eligibility for DFS

To participate in the DFS, Registered DFS Participants, and associated DFS Units (and their constituent Unit Meter Points), need to meet the below:

1. Have half-hourly metering.
2. DFS units must be able to respond for a minimum of 30 minutes.
3. Be half-hourly settled for all meters, except providers participating on a domestic boundary meter/sub-meter or where Industrial and Commercial Unit Meter Points are in Profile Classes 3 or 4.
4. Unit Meter Points cannot be allocated to more than one Registered DFS Participant or DFS Unit.
5. Cannot form part of a BM Unit *(except a Supplier Base BM Unit).*
6. Cannot be providing any NESO Response or Reserve balancing services.
7. 0.1 MW minimum DFS Unit size, up to 100 MW maximum per DFS Unit. Parties can register multiple units.

8. Be able to respond to an instruction up to a maximum of 24 hours ahead of the start of any Service Requirement window.

9. DFS Units shall only have MPANs located in the same DFS Zone.

DFS Procurement Documentation

To complete registration via the Single Markets Platform (SMP), providers will be required to accede to the DFS Procurement Documentation through submission of the DFS Declaration and Adherence Form.

The DFS Procurement Documentation consists of:

DFS Procurement Rules; and the

DFS Service Terms.

Other relevant documentation include:

The Communication Principles

The Common Flexibility Service Terms and Conditions:

Standard Agreement for Flexibility Services Ver 3.0 (Apr 2024)

The Balancing Services Glossary of General Terms and Rules of Interpretation: https://www.neso.energy/document/346591/download

DFS Units

A guidance document for how to register DFS Units on the SMP is accessible on our webpage.

Section 3.4 outlines how you can structure your DFS Units when submitting DFS Bids and allocating Unit Meter Points to DFS Units. All assets in a DFS Unit need to be located in the same zone. We reserve the right to conduct an audit at any time to check that providers units are defined in the correct zones.

Providers must ensure that unit sizes and details in SMP are maintained and reflect the true scale of their portfolio. NESO acknowledges that this was not standard practice in earlier DFS iterations but stresses the importance of this information being kept up to date.

2. Onboarding

This section explains what steps are required to become a Registered DFS Participant and be ready to participate in the DFS.

1.1 Onboarding steps to participate in DFS

- Register on Single Market Platform:
    1. Register as a provider on the Single Market Platform (SMP) – (skip to step 2 if you are already registered in SMP)
    2. Register DFS Units
    3. Pre-qualify DFS units by acceding DFS Declaration & Adherence Form (form B)
- Complete DFS IT process check (see section 2.3).
- Submit an online form to become a 'DFS Registered provider' on our website:
    - Provide details of your campaign (if applicable);
    - Confirm completion of all the onboarding steps.
- You are now ready to participate in the Demand Flexibility Service.

Further information on the processes within the steps is shared in section 2. Onboarding.

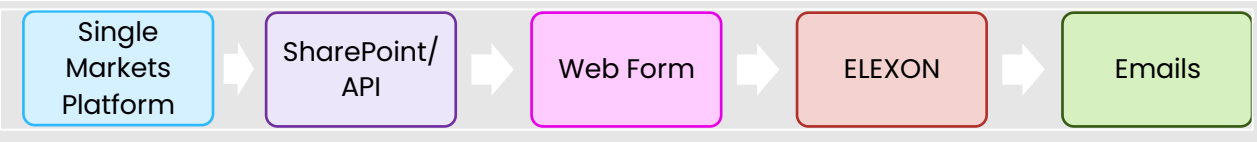
1.1.1 DFS onboarding process

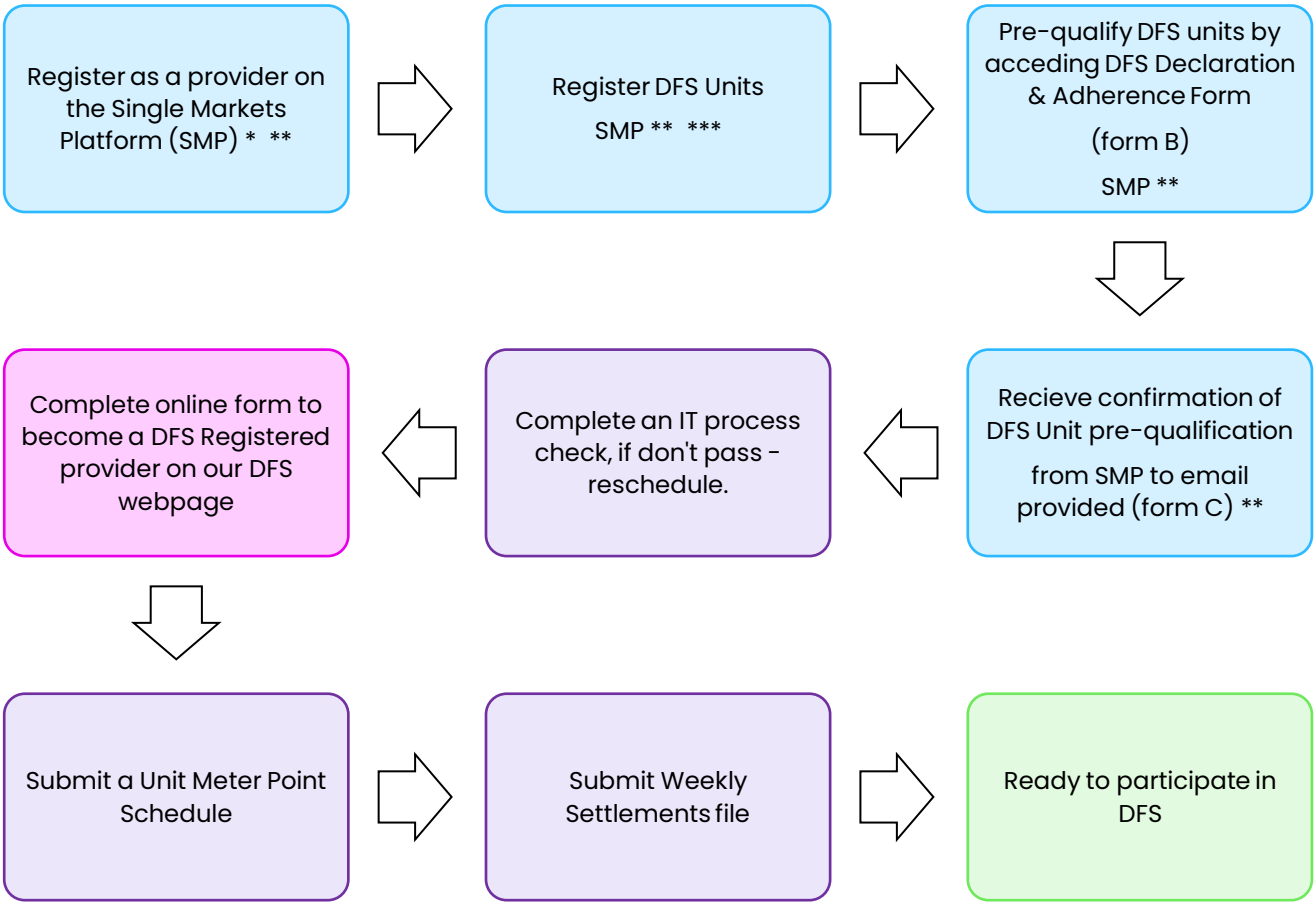
The following flow diagrams show the steps required to onboard with the DFS. Asterisks indicate points in the flow where there are sub-steps or additional steps based on the nature of individual providers. These are detailed in subsequent diagrams.

As part of the DFS onboarding process, a Primacy eligibility check is applied to newly added assets. This introduces a pre-participation waiting period of three business days before those assets can take part in DFS. Further detail on this requirement is set out in Section 2.7

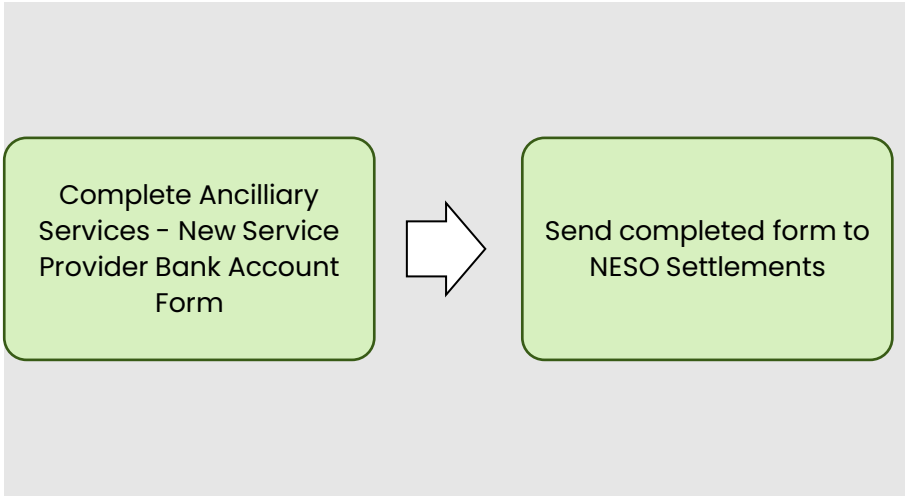
Detailed explanations of all steps are shown on the following pages.

Systems Key:



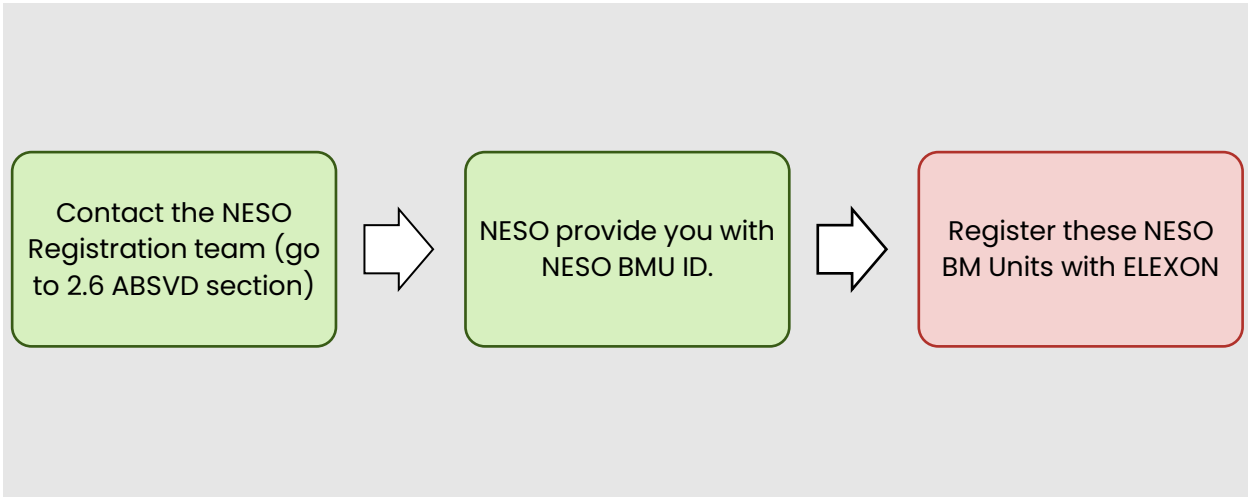


*If you are a new provider to NESO, go to section 2.6 for more details on the below required steps:



**If you have been a DFS participant previously (Prior to April 2026). Your previously approved DFS Units will no longer be eligible. You will need to create new DFS Units in SMP (from 9th April 2026). However, previously signed Form B and C will be valid and can be stored against your new DFS Units.

***If you are representing Domestic consumers whose MPAN is signed up to provide DFS with a supplier or via a supplier representative and ABSVD and the ELEXON BMU ID are not fully registered with ELEXON and/or you do not have a NESO BMU ID, go to section 2.6 ABVSD, for details on the following required steps:



2.2 Single Market Platform

To participate in the DFS, you need to register on the SMP. This is where you will accede to the DFS Procurement Documentation and register DFS Units for participation in the Demand Flexibility Service.

The SMP can be accessed via this link: https://portal.nationalenergyso.com/smp/s/login/.

Participants in DFS

New DFS Units added are required to meet the requirements of the latest DFS Procurement Rules and remain valid for submission of DFS Bids.

Units are no longer able to be aggregated nationally and will now be required to be created and split into the 12 individual zones, detailed in the GeoJSON file on the DFS webpage.

When creating a new unit in SMP, you will be asked to select if your unit is Generation or Demand or both. If you select only one option, then only that selected field will appear for input and it will always remain as just one direction.

If you select both then you will have the capability to deliver for both directions. SMP will expect both a Generation and Demand value, noting that the smallest denomination it will accept is 0.1MW.

For clarity, once a unit is in accepted status, we are unable to add the other field for either Generation/Demand. Therefore, if a provider wishes to add this other capacity in, the unit will need to be de-registered, and you will need to complete the SMP registration again. In this instance, you will be assigned a NEW DFS Unit ID as you are not able to have the same one again and therefore careful consideration should be given to the likely future capability of the unit.

After the unit has been accepted in SMP, no further changes can be made by the provider. Any requests to update capacity must be submitted via email or by contacting the contract managers directly. The contract managers will then update the capacity within the SMP administrative system. It is integral that parties ensure the unit sizes remain regularly updated to reflect their portfolio.

Please contact demandflexibility@neso.energy to arrange DFS Unit Validation and an IT Process check with the Contracts team.

2.3 DFS IT process check

Once you have started registration on the SMP, you will be contacted by our DFS team to arrange an IT process check. You will be provided with the relevant information to complete this, and access to the development area of the DFS Assessment Platform.

The purpose of the IT process check will be to ensure you have access to the correct templates, and the required data flows are in place for you to be able to take part in the service. During these checks, we will simulate a DFS Service Requirement.

A DFS IT process check will be completed within a single day (typically between 12:00 – 16:00) but will simulate the normal weekly process for all DFS Service Requirements (including Tests). The file submissions will be checked for both routes, i.e. SharePoint and API.

The typical steps involved in the IT process check will be:

- Setting up an IT Process Check by sending in your details as mentioned below to your Account Manager with possible date options.
    - Registered DFS Participant Name
    - Contact Number
    - Email address (if multiple people are involved in the process, then all the email addresses would have to be mentioned)
    - Outgoing IP address or IP range (IP's need to be whitelisted for participating in the process check and auction)
    - Preferred date and time options
- Receive an email from DFS Team to Registered DFS Participant outlining the calendar details of IT Process Check, copy of Participation Guidance document, blank templates of required files to be populated by Participant and a version of each required file populated with sample data for assistance. Please note this email would be received 48 hours prior to the IT Process check.
- Receive an email from DFS Team on the day of IT Process check outlining the timeline for the day and setting the order for file submission.
- Provider to send Consolidated MPAN forecast file if the Consumer Type is non-Domestic and Baseline Methodology is Self-Nominated files by SharePoint and/or API
- Provider to send Unit Meter Point Schedule files by SharePoint and/or API (if applicable)
- NESO to send the Service Requirement (via email for IT process check only). Please subscribe to the Demand Flexibility Service dataset for updates about the future requirements.

- Provider to send DFS Bids by SharePoint and/or API (if applicable), NESO to notify Provider of DFS Acceptance
- Providers to check bid results via Sharepoint and/or API (if applicable)
- Provider to send Weekly Settlement Submission via SharePoint and/or API (if applicable)
- Email to confirm successful completion of IT Process check

NESO will confirm once you have successfully completed an IT process check. If you are notified that the IT process check was not completed successfully you will be given the reasons why and an appointment to perform a subsequent IT process check will be scheduled.

For the purposes of the IT process check, no payment from NESO will take place as no demand change from customers is required at this stage. This checkpoint is to support technical/operational readiness only.

2.4 Register as a DFS provider

The next onboarding step is to submit a form to become a DFS registered provider. Once completed and verified, we'll add you to our DFS Registered Provider Page.

To become a Registered DFS Participant, the provider must be registered in SMP, have uploaded the signed DFS Declaration and Adherence Form, and have successfully completed an IT process check to be listed as an approved DFS provider.

If you are a third party participating via an aggregator, you must have a signed contract with the 'Registered DFS Participant'. The 'Registered DFS Participant' must confirm the contracts have been signed and notify us in writing of your participation by emailing demandflexibility@neso.energy.

Once verified, your information will be uploaded to the NESO website in 10 working days.

Please complete this Microsoft form to notify us you have been completed steps above and we will add you as an approved DFS provider (Registered DFS Participant) to our website:

Request to become a NESO DFS Registered Provider

2.5 Onboarding – Weekly Submissions

After completing DFS IT process check, you will be provided with access to the production area of the DFS Assessment Platform (further information on the DFS Assessment Platform is contained within Appendix 1).

The penultimate onboarding step is to submit (via API or SharePoint) a list of participating Unit Meter Points to the NESO for validation, using the Unit Meter Point Schedule file template. NESO will check this for any duplications across Registered DFS Participants. In addition to Unit Meter Point Schedule file, Registered DFS Participants must submit a Consolidated MPAN Forecast file if Consumer Type is not Domestic and have Self-Nominated baseline. NESO will publish service requirements on the Data Portal which will allow Registered DFS Participants to send Bid Submissions. Upon receiving bid acceptance from the DFS Team, you will be asked to submit a Weekly Settlement Submission file for accepted bids. More information on these files is contained within the appendices.

Unit Meter Point Duplication

Under the Procurement Documentation, it is the responsibility of the Registered DFS Participant to ensure that their customers are only signed up to DFS once. Registered DFS Participants should clearly state this to their customers, and it should form part of the contractual agreement/terms and conditions with the end customer.

If a Unit Meter Point is found to be duplicated as part of the registration or Unit Meter Point submissions, NESO will look for the date and time that this meter was signed up by each participant. The meter will be allocated to the participant that has the latest time stamp.

NESO encourages providers to make it clear to their customers they can only sign up to one provider at a time. Parties should also ensure it is easy and clear for customers to both register and de-register from a Registered DFS Participant as outlined in our Communication Principles.

The Unit Meter Point Schedule file will require you to identify the DFS Consumer Type (Industrial & Commercial, Domestic, Solar Generation, Wind Generation, Other) of each Unit Meter Point.

There are two types of DFS Initiation Measures (known as Type in Unit Meter Point Data file): Manually Initiated and Directly Instructible.

“Directly Instructible” – the facility made available to a Registered DFS Participant by the owner and/or occupier of a Unit Meter Point during the DFS Procurement Period for the Registered DFS Participant to initiate delivery of DFS from a Unit Meter Point by communicating directly with the Unit Meter Point (which may be by an appropriate signal to the on-site **Metering Equipment**).

"Manually Initiated" – the initiation of delivery of DFS from a Unit Meter Point by an action on the part of the owner and/or occupier of the premises associated with that Unit Meter Point in response to a communication from the Registered DFS Participant.

For audit purposes, you will be required to keep evidence of instructions sent to Directly Instructible Unit Meter Points, and acceptances from the consumer for Manually Initiated Unit Meter Points, for each relevant Contracted Settlement Period.

Unit Meter Point Queries

We have a set of standard procedures to address issues surrounding requests from consumers asking which registered provider they were signed up with for DFS.

If a consumer (or provider acting on behalf of a consumer) contacts us to ask who their DFS provider is, we will acknowledge their request, then will ask their current provider (i.e. the provider who has the latest MPAN timestamp with respect to that consumer) to get in touch with that consumer and inform them that they are currently signed up with them.

For avoidance of doubt, in the procedure we are now introducing, we will not share provider details with other providers. In line with our Communication Principles to ask providers to get in touch with their customers.

2.6 Settlement and Registration process requirements

2.6.1 New provider: bank registration details

The final onboarding step is to register bank details for settlement. If you are a new provider to NESO, we will need to set up your bank details in our settlement systems. Please complete the "Ancillary Services - New Service Provider Form" or contact demandflexibility@neso.energy or settlement.queries@neso.energy to receive more support.

Please send completed and signed form, on company headed paper and PDF copy to demandflexibility@neso.energy or settlement.queries@neso.energy.

More information about New Provider guidance could be found here. Existing providers do not need to complete this final step, you will already be registered in our settlement systems.

2.6.2 Applicable Balancing Services Volume Data (ABSVD)

As part of settlement, Applicable Balancing Services Volume Data (ABSVD) process will apply to Half Hourly (HH) Settled meters' delivered volume (not subject to performance monitoring). This includes Sub-Meters which are not Half-Hourly Settled where the associated Boundary Meter is Half-Hourly Settled, ABSVD procedures and rules will apply to associated Boundary Meters of participating Sub-Meters.

Intermittent Renewable assets will be treated as Industrial & Commercial MPAN's and have the same process/rules applied.

Industrial and Commercial (I&C)

ABSVD process will apply to HH Settled I&C consumer via P354 'Use of ABSVD for non-BM Balancing Services at the MPAN level'.

More detailed information about P354 process and requirements is explained in P354_FMR_D_Business Requirements_v3 (1) available in https://www.elexon.co.uk/bsc/mod-proposal/p354/

For further information regarding profile class classification please refer to BSCP516: Allocation of Profile Classes and SSCs for Non-Half Hourly Metering System Registered in SMRS - Elexon Digital BSC.

For the avoidance of doubt Profile Class 3 &4 will be able to participate in DFS and its volume will not be ABSVD. Profile classes 5-8 are not HHS and therefore any Unit Meter points under these classifications cannot participate in the service.

DFS registered Participants must provide and ensure the following is always updated (as it is when is required) for ABSVD purposes:

a. Within Unit Meter Point Schedule:

1. **Import MPAN** (core 13 MPAN digits)
2. Associated **Export MPAN** must be provided if it exists, if not leave blank (core 13 MPAN digits). If you are representing a site with multiple participating meters and there are more export meters than Import please repeat Import meter while declaring all participating MPANs.
3. MPANs Effective From: the date from which the DFS Participant may provide MPAN Pair Delivered Volumes in relation to this MPAN Pair. Therefore, this can be the first Settlement Date from which the MPAN Pair will be utilised or instructed. It's also can be the first day that the MPAN pair can have ABSVD submitted. It should be later than the form submission date and need to be earlier than MPAN Effective To. This is only applicable in relation to ABSVD.

4. MPANs Effective To: the last date which the DFS Participant may provide MPAN Pair Delivered Volumes in relation to this MPANs. Therefore, the last Settlement Date on which the MPAN Pair will be utilised or instructed. It's also the last day that the MPAN pair can have ABSVD submitted. Once this date expires, a new registration is required for the MPANs to be utilised/ABSVD'd.
5. MPANs Customer Consent refers to consent to Elexon sharing the MPAN pair ABSVD volumes with the Energy Supplier. If the consent is TRUE, the SVAA must provide the ABSVD and ABSVD (Losses) to the Supplier responsible for the metering system. If the consent is FALSE, the data will NOT be sent to the Supplier.
6. Consent Effective From means the first Settlement Date on which the MPAN pair Customer Consent is valid. It needs to be equal to "MPANs effective from" in the initial registration. Subsequent registrations should start at 1 day after de-registration or previous Customer Consent to (whichever happens first). Different provisions apply when changing Customer consent.
7. Consent Effective To means the last Settlement Date on which the MPAN pairs Customer Consent is valid. It should be equal to "MPANs effective to" for the initial registration. For subsequent registration this can be updated.

Please note requirements a.3-a.7 will not be required for I&C and intermittent renewable assets Unit Meter Points that are not HH Settled i.e. Profile Class 3 and 4 exception.

b. Relevant information required within Settlement file used for ABSVD:

1. **Import MPAN** (core 13 MPAN digits)
2. Associated **Export MPAN** must be provided if it is existent, if not leave blank (core 13 MPAN digits)
3. Date of delivery
4. Delivery start time
5. Delivery end time
6. Baseline kWh
7. Metered kWh
8. HH Settled

Please note Settlement files contains more fields, those are detailed in Appendix 1 of this document.

Domestic

For consumers whose Unit Meter point is signed up to provide DFS with a supplier or via a supplier representative, ABSVD process applies via the BMU ID.

BMU ID registration is relevant, and Registered Participant must apply ABSVD via BMU ID if all the below is true:

1. Consumer is Domestic.

2. DFS Participant is the Supplier of Electricity or representative of the Supplier of Electricity authorised under contractual arrangement by the consumer to participate in DFS.

If the asset is not registered with ELEXON and does not have a NESO BMU ID, providers are required to:

Contact bmu.registration@neso.energy to request a NESO BMU registration form.

The form returned by the team will include the NESO BMU ID allocated by the registration team.

Providers register these NESO BM Units with ELEXON by completing the BSCP15/4.1 form or via ELEXON Kinnect Platform, setting the FPN to 'Yes' and associating the NESO BM Unit with the settlement ID.

For the avoidance of doubt, any Domestic Unit Meter Points (Boundary and Sub-meter) that are not signed up to provide DFS with a Supplier or via a Supplier representative, ABSVD process will not apply and in the Settlement file ELEXON BMU ID shall be left blank.

2.6.3 Settlement Calendar

The DFS Service Terms outline the provisions and processes required for payment with regards to settlement of the Demand Flexibility Service. The payment calendar that the NESO Settlement team follow can be found here.

It is crucial for providers to submit the relevant settlement files in a timely manner, as outlined in the contractual terms, to receive payment. If file submission is not made in line with the contractual terms this may result in late or no payment. Providers should notify NESO ahead of any possible delays so we can support late payment where feasible.

2.7 Primacy Rules and Processes

Pre-Participation Waiting Period

When an MPAN is **first included** in a DFS Participants Unit Meter Point Schedule, it is subject to a mandatory **Pre-Participation Waiting period**, during which it is considered **Primacy Excluded**. Any new MPANs submitted by 09:00 will be subject to this period until the end of the following business day (or the next business day if not submitted by 09:00).

The purpose of this is to allow for the daily primacy process to operate with new MPANs. That is, it gives DNOs 24 hours to prepare a Risk of Conflict Report with respect to new MPANs before they participate in the service.

At the end of the Pre-Participation Period the MPAN becomes eligible for DFS **unless** it is determined as Primacy Excluded for a specific window and direction in accordance with a Primacy Exclusion Report.

Daily Primacy Assessment Process

Each day, the following process is run:

1. **NESO submits MPANs to DNOs**
   We will extract all prevailing MPANs from Unit Meter Point Schedules, including those submitted the same business day by 09:00. We will group these MPANs by DNO area and submit the relevant MPANs to each DNO by 11:00.
2. **DNO Risk of Conflict (RoC) assessment**
   DNOs assess MPANs against forecast network conditions and submit to NESO by 11:00 a **Risk of Conflict Report**.[1] This shall include anticipated conflicts by reference to a specific **timebound, service direction, likelihood,** and **reason**. The Risk of Conflict Report may include conflicts up to one week ahead.
3. **NESO Primacy exclusion determination**
   Reflecting information in the most recent Risk of Conflict Report from each DNO, NESO will produce and submit to relevant DFS Participants by 14:00 a Primacy Exclusion Report. Applying to the following business day, this shall set out which MPANs are unavailable to provide DFS:
   - at specific **times**,
   - in a specific **direction** (e.g. demand turn up or demand turn down), and
   - for what **reason**
4. **DFS Participants submit bids reflecting primacy**
   DFS Participants should remove volume associated with excluded MPANs from their DFS

[1] This means any new MPANs NESO submits to the DNO that day will not be included. That is why we have introduced the Pre-Participation Waiting Period as set out above.

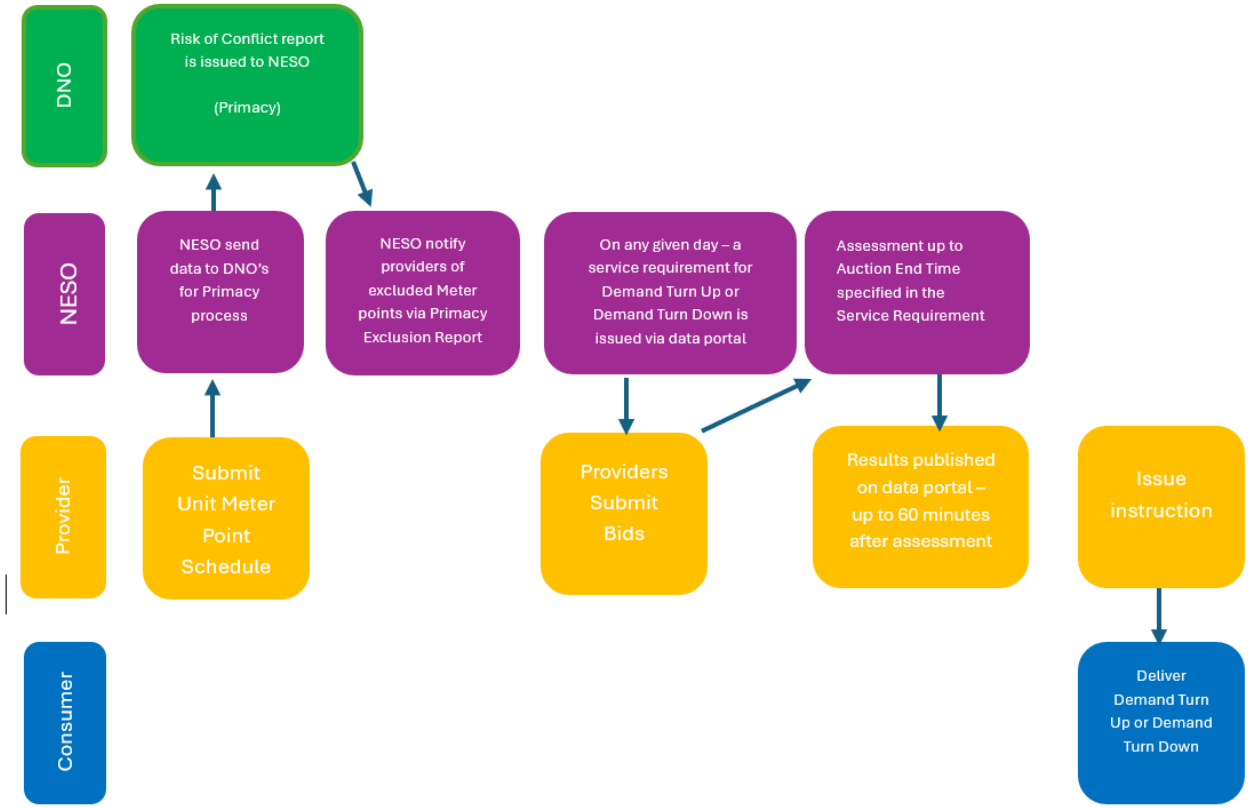
Bid Submissions for the relevant service periods as indicated by the Primacy Exclusion Report. NESO will not settle (i.e. pay for) volumes delivered by these MPANs.

3. Participation in DFS

Once you have completed the onboarding process you will be able to participate. This section outlines the processes and requirements involved with participating in the DFS.

3.1 DFS high-level weekly process

This is the weekly process for the DFS, section 3.2 explains this in further detail.



3.2 Communications between Registered DFS Participants, industry and the NESO

There are several communications between the Registered DFS Participant, industry and the NESO. This section explains what these are, where they are shared, who sends the information, the frequency of the interactions and the time frames.

NESO Data Portal communications

The NESO has created an area on the Data Portal to share updates on the Demand Flexibility Service, this can be accessed via this link: Demand Flexibility Service | National Energy System Operator (neso.energy). There will be one dataset for this year to consolidate all DFS data, with information related to DFS service requirement clearly indicated. The Demand Flexibility Service dataset has various data files which would be updated individually as required.

Industry can subscribe to the dataset to receive updates. Please be mindful that NESO would only be issuing updates/ notifications via the Data Portal, so please subscribe to the link: Demand Flexibility Service | National Energy System Operator (neso.energy).

DFS file transfers

There are several required file transfers and communications between the Registered DFS Participant and the NESO. The NESO has developed the DFS Assessment Platform for these file transfers. Additionally, some files (Unit Meter Point Schedule and DFS Bids) can be submitted to NESO via a special purpose API. Further detail on submitting these files, and the requirements to follow, can be found in the appendices.

This table shows each communication, who it is from and to, when and how the communication will be sent, and its frequency.

File no	File name	From	To	How	Frequency	When	Period
1	Unit Meter Point Schedule	Provider	NESO	SharePoint or API	At most daily (only if portfolio changes)	Daily, before 9:00 AM	7 days

2	Consolidated MPAN Forecast	Provider	NESO	SharePoint or API	Adhoc	Can be sent daily, including delivery dates from today to next business day	7 days
3	Participant Exclusion Report	NESO	Provider	SharePoint or API	Daily	When any conflicted MPAN is identified	7 days
4	Service Requirement	NESO	Provider	NESO Data Portal	within day	Variable	NA
5	DFS Bids	Provider	NESO	DFS Assessment Platform or API	within-day	Before Auction End Time mentioned in Service Requirement	NA
6	DFS Utilisation Report (DFS Acceptance)	NESO	Provider & Industry	DFS Assessment Platform or API and NESO Data Portal	Post assessment	Within 60 mins of Assessment	NA
7	DFS Utilisation Report Summary	NESO	Industry	NESO Data Portal	Post assessment	As soon as possible following DFS Acceptances	
8	Weekly Settlement Submission	Provider	NESO	DFS Assessment Platform or API	Weekly	Monday after the end of the DFS service week	7 days (Mon-Sun)

3.3 DFS Tests & Guaranteed Acceptance Price (GAP)

NESO has retained the ability to call test events within the contractual terms; however, we do not have any immediate plans to call tests. Should NESO choose to utilise any tests they may be accompanied by a GAP. In line with previous years, NESO may choose to share insights into this

through the publication of a Market information Report. The GAP will be shared as part of any Service Requirement for test events.

For further information on the GAP and tests, please see our DFS webpage where we will publish DFS Market Information Reports and any subsequent updates.

3.4 Submitting DFS Bids

This section covers how you submit your DFS Bids. Note it is the Providers responsibility to identify if a Service Requirement has been published.

Key information on submitting DFS Bids:

- Bids can be submitted by SharePoint or API.
- Bids need to be submitted by DFS Submission Time (specified in Service Requirements file).
- Each individual bid needs to:
    - Be for a specific Event ID and Event Type
    - Be for a specific DFS Unit.
    - Be for a single Settlement Period.
    - Have only one volume (between 0.1MW and 100MW) and what is expected to be delivered if accepted.
    - Have only one Utilisation Price (£/MWh).
- Registered DFS Participants can:
    - Submit multiple bids for different DFS Units for the same Settlement Period;
    - Submit multiple bids for the same DFS Unit for different Settlement Periods.
- Registered DFS Participants cannot:
    - Submit multiple bids for a single DFS Unit for the same Settlement Period;
    - Keep the same MPANs/assets across multiple units.
    - Link bids or have mutually exclusive bids. (The NESO will accept DFS Bids in cost order. If all of your bids are accepted you must be able to deliver all of the Demand Reduction Volume).

3.5 Data Portal Dataset & API

The NESO will share all information pertaining to DFS via the Demand Flexibility Service dataset on the NESO Data Portal. Four data resources will be updated throughout to provide Registered DFS Participants with the following information:

DFS Service Requirements

This resource will be updated to notify all Registered DFS Providers that a Service Requirement has been issued for either an Upwards Flexibility or Downwards Flexibility Event Type, Test or Live Service Requirement Type, System or Energy System Tag. This resource would contain the Zonal Cap for each zone. Updates will indicate the settlement periods for which a Service Requirement has been issued and the MW required. Updates to this resource constitute the initiation of a Service Requirement and indicate that the NESO will accept DFS bids for the corresponding Service Requirement until DFS Submission Time.

DFS Utilisation Report

This resource will be updated within one-hour of bid submission gate closure and detail the acceptance or rejection of each bid submitted by Registered DFS Participants for a Service Requirement.

DFS Utilisation Report Summary

This resource will be updated alongside the DFS Utilisation Report and will detail the total volume of DFS procured and indicative cost of the service for each Service Requirement and settlement period. Once the NESO has processed the relevant settlement data for each Service Requirement, this resource will be updated to indicate the volume and cost of the delivered demand flexibility.

The dataset resources can be viewed and downloaded from the Data Portal in CSV format, but Registered DFS Participants can also utilise the CKAN Data API. Instructions for connecting to the

API are provided on the NESO Data Portal. The Demand Flexibility Service Data Portal dataset is found at the following link:

Demand Flexibility Service | National Energy System Operator

Up to the point of service "go-live", the dataset resources will be populated with dummy data in the first row to allow Registered DFS Participants to familiarise themselves with the formatting and contents of each resource and test calling the API. Any updates to the resources occurring after go-live of the service should be treated as genuine.

This report is sent from NESO before 2 pm on the day to every Registered DFS Participant's SharePoint folder. This report lists MPANs that are anticipated to have DNO conflicts. If an event occurred during the conflict period, these MPANs will not be settled. The report can also be accessed by API. Please note this report is not published on Data Portal.

3.6 Paying for Delivered Demand Reduction/Turn-up

Registered DFS Participants are required to calculate the operational baseline, using the agreed industry methodology, for each of their participating Unit Meter Points and then use this to calculate the Delivered Volume of their DFS Units following a Service Requirement. This is submitted to the NESO via the Weekly Settlement File and details of this file are outlined in the appendices.

For any Unit Meter Points that have confirmed participation via the 'manual opt-in' method, only delivery in the direction of the requirement is considered, and any delivery in the opposite direction will not be settled. However, to gain further information into end-consumer participation, the settlement data must include all delivery, regardless of direction. Both reductions and increases are considered in the settlement process for those who instructed participation via the 'auto opt-in' method.

Non-participating meter points should not be included in Weekly Settlement File and providers should keep a record of this "opt-out" confirmation. Further information on the baseline calculation methodologies is contained within Appendix 5.

NESO will then calculate the payment due to each of the Accepted DFS Units according to the scales described in the Performance Incentives Section.

For example, a DFS Unit was contracted to deliver 30 MW (15 MWh) of demand reduction in a given settlement period at a price of £300/MWh. Note the delivery numbers are in MWh for this example but in the actual files they will be in kWh. If this DFS Unit delivers 100% of its contracted quantity, it should be paid 15 MWh*300£/MWh = £4,500. The meters inscribed in this unit are shown in Table 2.

Table 2 Example of meters inscribed in DFS Unit.

MPAN	DFS Unit	Type	Delivery MWh	Accepted Utilisation Price (£/MWh)
1234	Un-1	Manual Opt-in	3.5	300
1235	Un-1	Manual Opt-in	-1 (0)	300
1236	Un-1	Manual Opt-in	0	300
1237	Un-1	Auto Opt-in	3	300
1238	Un-1	Auto Opt-in	-1	300

Even though MPAN 1235 increased demand and will not be settled because it is Manual Opt-In, the amount delivered still needs to be included in the settlement data for feedback and insight purposes, as well as any potential ABSVD application (see ABSVD section).

The total delivery from DFS Unit Un-1 on that period would be 5.5 MWh. In percentage terms that is 36.7% (5.5/15).

Because delivery is less than 50% but more than 25%, we can calculate that Settled proportion is 23.3%. So, the equivalent Settled MWh in that period and from that unit would be 0.233 * 15 MWh = 3.495 MWh which means the participant should be paid 3.495 MWh * £300/MWh = £1,048.5.

Unit Meter Points – further information

Registered DFS Participants must calculate the Operational Baseline for all Unit Meter Points and keep a record of this for each Unit Meter Point that was submitted as delivering Demand Reduction in the Weekly Settlement Submission for audit purposes.

DFS Initiation Measures evidence must be captured, as described in section 2.3.

- Registered DFS Participants must get an acceptance/confirmation from each Unit Meter Point to say that that Unit Meter Point will participate in the specific Contracted Settlement Periods the Registered DFS Participant had accepted from their DFS Bids.
- Example: if Registered DFS Participant submits a bid for today at 16:00 to 16:30, and the bid is accepted, the Registered DFS Participant MUST get confirmation between when the bid was made and the delivery time 16:00 to say that that Unit Meter Point will participate in that Contracted Settlement Period if they were selected as Manual Opt

In. This MUST be kept as a record for auditing. If the Manually Initiated Unit Meter Point does not confirm during this time, this Unit Meter Point CANNOT be included within the Weekly Settlement calculation. For Unit Meter Points where the reduction is Directly Instructible, the instruction sent to the Unit Meter Point is considered the confirmation. Again, this instruction must be kept as a record, and the Unit Meter Point can be used for the Weekly Settlement calculation.

- If the NESO identifies the Unit Meter Point as a duplicate with another Registered DFS Participant, the duplicate Unit Meter Point may not be entered for any volume for settlement of DFS until it is accepted as part of a Registered DFS Participant's portfolio via the Unit Meter Point Schedule. Please see section 2.5: Unit Meter Point duplication for further information on how Unit Meter Point duplications can be resolved.

The following assumptions are taken regarding Import and Export MPAN sign conventions:

- Export MPAN: Metered > 0 when exporting to the grid. Baseline > 0 when exporting to the grid.
- Import MPAN: Metered > 0 when importing from the grid. Baseline > 0 when importing from the grid.
- This convention ensures that NESO pays for positive delivery, regardless of the type of event instructed.
- The tables below outline how you can submit data from multiple associated meter points in your settlement file depending on the event type:

Demand Turn-down

One import and one export MPAN in same row

Import MPAN	Export MPAN	Baseline	Metered	Delivered
123	456	$Baseline_{123} - Baseline_{456}$	$Metered_{123} - Metered_{456}$	$(Baseline_{123} - Baseline_{456}) - (Metered_{123} - Metered_{456})$

- Separate rows[2]

Import MPAN	Export MPAN	Baseline	Metered	Delivered
123		$Baseline_{123}$	$Metered_{123}$	$(Baseline_{123} - Metered_{123})$
123	456	$Baseline_{456}$	$Metered_{456}$	$Metered_{456} - Baseline_{456}$

[2] Another way the participant can submit the same data could be in separate rows. One for the import MPAN data and others for any other associated export MPAN. This is because we don't allow an Import MPAN to be empty in the settlements file.

Demand Turn-up

One import and one export MPAN in same row

Import MPAN	Export MPAN	Baseline	Metered	Delivered
123	456	$Baseline_{123} - Baseline_{456}$	$Metered_{123} - Metered_{456}$	$(Metered_{123} - Metered_{456}) - (Baseline_{123} - Baseline_{456})$

- Separate rows

Import MPAN	Export MPAN	Baseline	Metered	Delivered
123		$Baseline_{123}$	$Metered_{123}$	$(Metered_{123} - Baseline_{123})$
123	456	$Baseline_{456}$	$Metered_{456}$	$Baseline_{456} - Metered_{456}$

3.7 Contact details

If you need to contact the Demand Flexibility Team with any queries regarding onboarding, service design or other general queries, please email demandflexibility@neso.energy

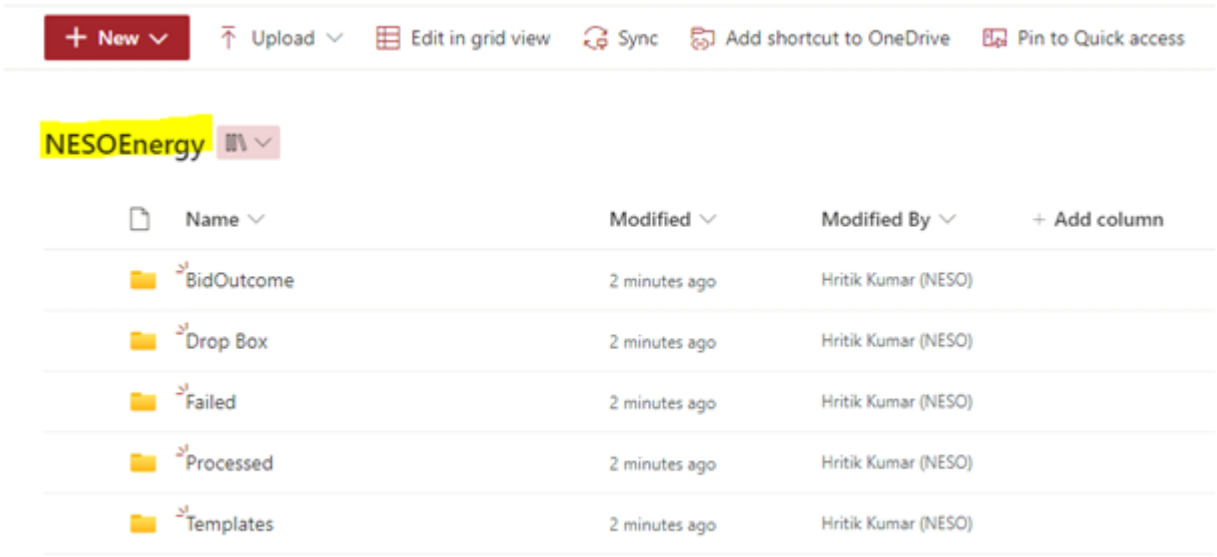
Appendices

Appendix 1 – General information on file submissions

This appendix contains general information for submitting the required files via the DFS Assessment Platform.

DFS Assessment Platform (NESO DFS SharePoint Site)

1. Each Provider will have their respective SharePoint Area allocated where they can see the following folders as shown in the figure (using "NESOEnergy" as an example provider).



2. All files are uploaded to the "Drop Box" folder and then validation checks take place. Further information on the validation checks undertaken can be found in Appendix 2.

3. The "Templates" folder contains templates of the required files

(explained further in Appendix 2) and Sample Example files as a reference.

4. The "Bid Outcome" folder will be loaded with your DFS Utilisation Report (DFS Acceptances) containing information on your accepted and rejected bids as soon as the assessment is complete for a Service Requirement, around 60 minutes after the Bid Submission Time. You will be notified via email when this happens. Please note it is the Data Portal publications that are legally binding and form any DFS acceptance.

5. NOTE: If your submitted file moves from the "Drop Box" folder to the "Failed" folder you will receive an email detailing the reason for the failure, an example of this is shared in Appendix 2.

6. Only files that move from the Drop Box folder to the Processed folder have been

successfully submitted.

Using and understanding the templates

Accepted files and naming conventions

PLEASE NOTE NESO will only accept files where:

a. the correct file naming convention is used, and

b. the file must be sent with .CSV extension.

Please do not add in additional columns or information to the templates or they will not upload correctly to the DFS Assessment Platform (NESO DFS SharePoint area).

File names follow this convention:

• **Provider** – Don't change this

• **ProviderName** – Change this to the name of the Registered DFS Participant (E.g., NESOEnergy)

- **FileType** – (don't change the file names)
  - UnitMeterPointschedule
  - DFSBids
  - WeeklySettlementSubmission
  - ConsolidatedMPANForecast
- **ddmmyyyy** – Change this to the relevant date depending on the file type:
  - For **ProviderDFS Bids** - use the **submission date**
  - For **WeeklySettlements** - use the **week-start Monday date**
  - For **UnitMeterPointSchedule** - use the **submission date**
  - For **Consolidated MPAN Forecast** - use the **submission date** the forecast applies to

Further information on the different data validation checks that will be completed can be found in

Appendix 2, below examples the file validations that will be completed.

File validations:

These are validations that will be completed on each file uploaded to the "Drop Box" folder. If files fail these validations they will be moved to the "Failed" folder and if they pass, they will be moved to the "Processed" folder. Note that similar validations will be performed to files submitted via the API.

File Name	• Each part split by (_) underscore (Example: Provider_NESOEnergy_DFSBids_09032026.csv) • 1st Part Provider (as it is) • 2nd Part 'Provider Name', in this case NESOEnergy • 3rd Part should be DFSBids (or relevant file name) • 4th Part should be the relevant date depending on the file

File Headers	• Trim spaces from File Headers and it should exactly match the predefined headers – as shown in the File Template • No special characters allowed in File Headers • Order of Headers should also be same.

File column headings and their descriptions

Table 3 File Headers and Descriptions

Header	Description
Submission Date	The date on which the UMPS file is submitted to NESO. Must not be a future date or a date before the actual submission moment. Used to validate effective dates for I&C MPANs
Registered DFS Participant	The name of the organisation registered as the DFS provider. Must match *exactly* across all DFS files and what SMP holds. Used for cross-validation and consistency checks.
Import MPAN	The primary MPAN for the meter point. Always mandatory. Must be 13 digits long, numerical only, and must pass the MPAN check-digit modulus validation. Also used as the unique identifier for a site.
Export MPAN	Secondary MPAN for export (where applicable). Optional except for certain I&C cases. Must be 13 digits, numeric, valid check-digit, and must

	NOT match the import MPAN. Used when a site has separate import/export metering.
MPANs Effective From	Start date defining when the MPAN became active under the participant for DFS. Mandatory for I&C + HH Settled = TRUE. Must be *after* Submission Date. Used for settlement and eligibility checks.
MPANs Effective To	End date defining when the MPAN ceases to be part of the DFS service. Mandatory for I&C + HH Settled = TRUE. Must be a valid future date. Ensures NESO does not settle on inactive MPANs.
MPANs Customer Consent Flag	TRUE/FALSE indication of customer consent for I&C HH-settled meters. When FALSE → Consent From/To must be blank. Domestic sites *must always* leave this blank. Used to ensure compliance with consent-based participation.
Consent Effective From	Required only if Customer Consent Flag = TRUE. Shows when customer gave consent. Used by NESO to validate active contractual coverage. Must be a valid date.
Consent Effective To	Required only if Customer Consent Flag = TRUE. Must be after "Consent Effective From." Determines end of consent validity window.
Sub Meter Serial Number	Identifier for sub-metering (e.g., behind-the-meter assets). Optional. Used for advanced validation of disaggregated assets. Not used for eligibility.
Timestamp Subscribed	This field indicates the date and time when the end consumer subscribed to the Demand Flexibility Service with your company as Registered Service Provider. The format is dd/mm/yyyy hh:mm
Postcode	MPAN's postcode. Mandatory. Used to support zonal and DNO mapping, plus for Primacy cross-validation
Zone	Mandatory DFS Zone assignment (e.g., 1–12). Pulled from SMP in some cases. Defines region for zonal caps and locational constraints. Critical for procurement logic.
DFS Unit ID	The DFS Unit the MPAN belongs to (e.g., Unit-01-Z2). Must match SMP and Settlements files. Used for bidding, acceptance tracking, validation, and settlement aggregation. Considered the ground truth link between MPANs and units.
Opt In	Whether the asset behind the boundary meter is opted in or out. Options: Auto / Manual. All meters behind the same boundary must be the *same value*. Used for ABSVD logic (especially Domestic). Contractually driven.

HH Settled	TRUE/FALSE flag whether meter is half-hourly settled. Used for settlement sequencing, MPAN validation and ABSVD calculations. Some validations only apply for HH = TRUE
Consumer Type	Must be one of: Industrial & Commercial, Domestic, Solar Generation, Wind Generation, Other. Defines eligibility, baseline rules, ABSVD approach, and validations for various files.
Baseline Type	Mandatory. Options: P376 (mandatory for Domestic) or Self-Nominated (allowed for I&C, Solar, Wind, Other). Drives how baselines are provided, validated, and settled.
Flexibility Type	Shows whether the meter supports Upwards, Downwards, or Both. (Upwards Flexibility = DTU; Downwards Flexibility = DTD.) Used for bi-directional DFS validation and Primacy conflict direction.
DFS Initiation Measure	Whether the unit is Manually Initiated or Directly Instructable. Determines how dispatch instructions are communicated.
Action	Add / Remove. Controls provider portfolio updates. “Add” inserts MPAN into master list; “Remove” purges the MPAN from provider’s active DFS portfolio.
Event ID	Unique identifier for each DFS event. This is Mandatory because DFS may run multiple overlapping or simultaneous events (DTU and DTD). Used to associate a bid to the correct event window and ensure clearing/building of the correct auction.
Event Type	Indicates whether the bid is for Upwards Flexibility (DTU) or Downwards Flexibility (DTD). Determines the direction of delivery expected from the unit. Must align with the event’s requirement file.
Event Day	The calendar date on which the service is expected to be delivered. Determines which settlement period (SP) rows the bid corresponds to. Must match the date in the DFS Requirements file for that Event ID.
Registered DFS Participant	Company name of the Registered DFS Participant i.e., the supplier or aggregator. This needs to be the same name across all the files explained in Appendix 2. As per your SMP registration
DFS Unit ID	DFS Unit ID must follow the format: <UnitName>-<UnitNumber>-Z<Zone>. It must exactly match the ID the provider registered in SMP/NESO systems. The zone at the end (e.g., Z5) must align with the MPAN zone in UMPS. No spaces, extra characters, or changes to casing/structure are allowed.

	Example: P2-1-Z5.
DFS Volume MW	The MW volume the DFS Unit is offering to provide (increase or decrease depending on event type). Mandatory for auction clearance. Must be non-negative. This must be a number between 0.1MW and 100MW. May be capped by zonal or unit limits as defined in DFS Requirements
Utilisation Price GBP per MWh	The price at which the provider is willing to deliver the MW volume. Must be zero or positive.
DFS Submission Time	The deadline by which participants must submit their bids for this Event ID. Provided in dd/mm/yyyy HH:MM format. This timestamp directly controls bid acceptance, any bids after this time are automatically invalid.
Event Tag	Indicates whether the event is an Energy action or a System action.
From_Local	The start time of the DFS event in local UK time (hh:mm). Must end in :00 or :30.
To_Local	The end time of the DFS event in local UK time (hh:mm). Must end in :00 or :30.
From_UTC	The start time of the event in UTC (hh:mm). Must match the UTC equivalent of From_Local.
To_UTC	The end time of the event in UTC (hh:mm). Must match the UTC equivalent of To_Local.
Service Requirement MW	DFS Service Requirement will contain details of service requirements for an event and details of Registered DFS participant bid eligibility.
Service Requirement Type	This field in the Service Requirements File indicates whether the requirement for each service window corresponds to a Live or Test event.
Guaranteed Acceptance Price (GAP)	The price (£/MWh) published by NESO from time to time with respect to Service Requirement; If participants bid at or below this price for a specific period, then they will be accepted for that period.
Dispatch Type	This field in the Service Requirements File indicates whether the dispatch is staggered and only a subset of participants can take part, (to ramp up demand or reduction to maintain system stability) or if all participants can take part.
Participant Bids Eligible	A list of all DFS providers eligible to bid for this specific event.
Zonal Cap	A structured list of the maximum MW NESO can procure per zone (e.g., {Z1:0, Z2:100, Z3:400…}). All zones appear, and each cap is an integer. Zonal

	caps limit how much flexibility can be accepted from each region and are used to satisfy locational constraints. Critical for the clearing engine.
Participating	Whether the associated Unit Meter Point was participating or not in the relevant service period.
Baseline kWh	This is the DFS Operational Baseline for each Unit Meter Point and for each Contracted Settlement Period, in kWh.
Metered kWh	This is the aggregate Half-Hourly Metered Data for each Unit Meter Point for each Contracted Settlement Period, in kWh.
Delivered kWh	This is the Delivered Flexibility Volume, the difference between the metered data and the baseline data, in kWh
Accepted Utilisation Price GBP per MWh	Utilisation Price that NESO accepted and will pay for the delivered Demand flexibility Volume allocated to each Unit Meter Point and for the relevant period, in £/MWh.
Participating Meter Electricity Supplier	This field should be True if the Registered DFS Participant is also the electricity supplier of the related boundary meter. It should be False otherwise.
Elexon BMU ID	This is the Supplier's Elexon Base BMU ID for settlement purposes. Elexon BMU ID is the settlement ID allocated to the market participants who are registered as suppliers with Elexon. This is a unique ID provided by Elexon to the Base Supplier, this normally starts with "2_". More detail available in the ABSVD section of this document.
Status	Shows whether the bid was Accepted or Rejected for that DFS Unit in that event.
DFS Procured MW	The MW actually procured across all accepted units for that event/period.
DFS Provider Bids Accepted Total Cost GBP	Total expected cost based on accepted MW and utilisation prices for that event.
Settled Volume MW	The total settled MW for the event after combining all unit-level settlement data.
Settled Cost GBP	Final settlement cost for the contracted period after applying settlement calculations.

Common issues when saving Unit Meter Point Schedule file

When saving the Unit Meter Point Schedule file, you can accidentally save the file in an UTF-BOM format. BOM characters are not visible and uploading files to the SharePoint with this format can result in processing errors. Below we explain how to remove BOM from any text/XML file:

1. Download Notepad++

2. To check if BOM character exists, open the file in Notepad++ and look at the bottom right corner. If it says UTF-8-BOM then the file contains BOM character (see image below).

3. To remove BOM character, go to Encoding and select Encode in UTF-8 4. Save the file and retry uploading this in the SharePoint.





Appendix 2 – Detailed information on file submissions

1. Consolidated MPAN Forecast File

The Consolidated MPAN Forecast File provides NESO with the forecast Baseline (kWh) for each eligible MPAN for every 30-minute settlement period of the delivery day. This file is used only for MPANs where the Consumer Type is not Domestic, such as Industrial & Commercial or Renewable Generation MPANs. Participants submit this file on a delivery day basis, giving NESO an accurate forecast for the upcoming day.

1. Participants can submit their baseline forecast any time up until NESO publishes the DFS Requirements for that delivery day. Providers may not submit the file further than 24 hours in advance of the point a Service Requirement is published. Each new submission overwrites the previous version.

2. The file must follow the naming format below:

   Provider_ProviderName_ConsolidatedMPANForecast_ddmmyyyy.csv

   Where ddmmyyyy is the delivery date to which the forecast applies.

3. NESO will accept the Consolidated MPAN Forecast File only if participants follow the required structure, naming convention, and validations. The file must contain a forecast Baseline kWh for each MPAN included, along with the required local time columns and delivery date.

5. For any given day, participants may submit the baseline from commencement of the previous business day. NESO always uses the latest received version before the DFS Requirements are published for the upcoming event.

Delivery Date
From_Local
To_Local
Registered DFS Participant
DFS Unit ID
Import MPAN
Export MPAN
Baseline kWh

Examples of When Participants Can Submit the Forecast

The rules allow participants to submit the file from the previous business day, but they may also submit it later, including on the actual delivery day, providing NESO has not yet published requirements. The following examples apply:

- Example 1:
  For Tuesday delivery, participants may submit on Monday or Tuesday before requirements are published.
- Example 2:
  For Monday delivery, participants may submit on Friday (the previous business day). They may also submit on Saturday, Sunday, or Monday, again, only until requirements are published.
- Example 3 (Bank Holiday Scenario):
  If Friday and Monday are Bank Holidays, the previous business day for Tuesday delivery becomes Thursday.
  Participants may therefore submit on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, or Tuesday, provided the requirements are not yet published.

Data Validations:

- At least the Import MPAN must be present.
- The Baseline kWh value must be provided for each MPAN.
- Time difference between From_Local and To_Local, should always be 30 minutes.
- No blank lines from starting, between and end in the file are allowed.

2. DFS Bids

DFS Bids are submitted by Registered DFS Participants in response to the DFS Service Requirement issued by NESO for each event. Every bid must include the Event ID, Event Type, DFS Unit ID, the delivery window, the MW volume being offered, and the utilisation price. Providers must only offer volumes that can be fully delivered if accepted, and DFS does not allow mutually exclusive or conditional bids.

1. Providers must submit their DFS Bids using the following naming convention:

   Provider_ProviderName_DFSBids_ddmmyyyy.csv

Where ddmmyyyy is the Delivery Date (today) for which the bid applies. This must match the delivery date in the DFS Requirements File for the corresponding Event ID.

2. Each bid must contain the Event ID, which uniquely identifies the DFS event. This ensures that bids are submitted against the correct requirement, especially when NESO runs multiple or simultaneous events. Event ID is now mandatory in the bids file to avoid ambiguity.
3. The Event Type must also be included in every bid. This indicates whether the bid is for Upwards or Downwards flexibility. This field aligns the participant's offer with NESO's requirement for that event.
4. Each bid must specify the DFS Unit ID in the format:

   <UnitName>-<UnitNumber>-Z<Zone> Example: P2-1-Z5

   This must match exactly what the provider registered in the Unit Meter Point Schedule and what SMP holds. We no longer collect delivery volumes per GSP Group, so the DFS Unit ID (with its embedded zone) is now the source of locational information.
5. The provider must submit their DFS Bids before the DFS Submission Time stated in the DFS Service Requirement. Any file submitted after this deadline will be rejected. Once a bid is accepted, the provider must deliver the full MW volume offered. All bids are treated independently.
6. Providers may also submit their DFS Bids through the API. The API submission format mirrors the CSV requirements and follows the same validations and mandatory fields as the file upload method.
7. NESO will only accept the DFS Bids file if all required headers are included, the file format is correct, naming standards are followed, and all values meet the validation rules. Missing or invalid fields will result in rejection.
8.

Event ID
Event Type
Delivery date
Registered DFS Participant
DFS Unit ID
DFS Volume MW
From_Local
To_Local
Utilisation price GBP per MWh

Data Validations:

- Event ID must be present and match the Event ID in the DFS Requirements.
- Event Type must be either Upwards or Downwards, based on DFS Requirement.
- DFS Unit ID must follow the format <UnitName>-<UnitNumber>-Z<Zone> and match registration.
- Delivery Date must match the date in the DFS Requirements.
- From/To times must be in hh:mm and end in :00 or :30.
- DFS Volume MW must be non-negative.
- Utilisation Price GBP per MWh must be numeric and >= 0.
- File name must follow the correct naming format.
- Submission must be before the DFS Submission Time
- No blank lines from starting, between and end in the file are allowed.

3. Weekly Settlement Submission

Registered DFS Participants must submit their Weekly Settlements File for all accepted bids delivered during a service week. The service week runs from Monday to Sunday, and providers must report the actual delivery for every MPAN associated with each DFS Unit that participated in an event during that week. The Weekly Settlements File is required for payment, and NESO calculates settlement based on the actual delivered kWh, including cases where participants have delivered more or less than their accepted volume, in line with the Performance Monitoring guidelines.

The following points are required in relation to submission of the Weekly Settlements File.

1. Providers must submit their Weekly Settlements File using the following naming format:

   Provider_ProviderName_WeeklySettlementSubmission_ddmmyyyy_NN.csv

   Where **ddmmyyyy** is the **Monday date** of the service week being reported.
   The suffix **NN** indicates the file number (see point 2).

   Example: If an event occurred on Thursday 12th March 2026, the service week began on Monday 9th March 2026, so the file name must use 09032026.
   If multiple events occurred within the same week (e.g., 13 and 14 March 2026), the same Monday date (09032026) must be used, and the file must contain records for all events in that week.

2. To ensure successful processing, each Weekly Settlements File must not exceed **100,000 rows**.

If the provider has more than 100,000 records, the submission must be split into multiple files:

The first file uses **NN = 01**

The second uses **NN = 02**, and so on.

3. Providers must submit their Weekly Settlements File no later than 10:00 hours on the second Monday after expiry of that calendar week (i.e., the second Monday immediately after the Monday–Sunday period they are reporting). This ensures NESO can perform settlement calculations in line with the monthly settlement cycle.

4. NESO will only accept the Weekly Settlements File if providers follow the required file format, naming structure, and field definitions. All mandatory headers must be included, and all values must comply with the validation rules (Baseline kWh, Metered kWh, Delivered kWh, MPAN structure, Consumer Type, Accepted Utilisation Price, and other defined constraints). The file must accurately show the actual delivery from each Unit Meter Point for every settlement period relevant to the events in that service week.

Event ID
Event Type
Delivery Date
From_Local
To_Local
Registered DFS Participant
DFS Unit ID
Import MPAN
Export MPAN
Sub Meter Serial Number
Participating
Baseline kWh
Metered kWh
Delivered kWh
Accepted Utilisation Price GBP per MWh
HH Settled
Participating Meter Electricity Supplier
Consumer Type
Elexon BMU ID
Baseline Type

Data Validations:

- Submit data only for Accepted Bids, ensuring that each row reflects the correct settlement period using the *From* and *To* columns on days where a DFS Service Requirement was active. Include data only for meters that opted in (or did not opt out) for that delivery period.
- You may include settlement data for multiple delivery days within the same Weekly Settlements File, provided all data belongs to the same service week (Monday–Sunday).
- The Registered DFS Participant field must match exactly the provider's name held in SMP and used consistently across all DFS submissions (UMPS, Bids, Consolidated Forecast, etc.).
- The DFS Unit ID must match exactly the DFS Unit ID submitted in the Unit Meter Point Schedule and SMP (e.g., UnitName-Number-Zone). Any mismatch causes the record to be rejected.
- The difference between the From and To times must always be 30 minutes, and both times must end in :00 or :30.
- The file must contain no blank rows at the beginning, between data rows, or at the end of the file.
- Provide Baseline kWh, Metered kWh, and Delivered kWh values with a maximum of two decimals, consistent with settlement requirements.
- For Domestic MPANs that are not enrolled for DFS through a supplier or supplier representative (i.e., Domestic MPANs not eligible for ABSVD Domestic): In the Unit Meter Point Schedule, HH Settled must be FALSE, and In the Weekly Settlements File, the Elexon BMU ID must be left blank. These MPANs are excluded from ABSVD Domestic calculations.
- Event ID is mandatory on each record and must match a valid Event ID from the DFS Requirements for the day being settled.
- Event Type must be present and must match the requirement for that Event ID: Upwards or Downwards Flexibility.

4. Unit Meter Point Schedule Submissions

The rationale for this submission is so NESO can validate that Unit Meter Points are not duplicated between participants. Please note that Unit Meter Point data is never released by the NESO, with the exception of sharing with DNO's as part of the Primacy process for which we have the relevant data sharing agreements in place. You should also use this file to allocate the Unit Meter Points to your registered DFS Units.

The file should only contain customers Unit Meter Points that have explicitly signed up to the DFS service through the relevant Registered DFS Participant. If successful in the daily checks (Unit Meter Point not flagged as duplicate and removed), the Unit Meter Point will enter a **Pre-Qualification Period.**

Although the primary purpose of the checks is to find duplicates between providers, we have built validations to ensure each participant only sends each Unit Meter Point once.

The Unit Meter Point submission passes through an initial validation stage to ensure consistency of the data (e.g., number of digits on the Import MPAN is 13, timestamp subscribed is not blank, etc.). The output of these validation checks will be saved to your SharePoint and you will be notified by email. Any meters that failed the validations will be rejected and the rest will pass through to the next phase. This early notification allows you to correct any errors and resubmit.

The second stage comprises checks for duplicates between the Unit Meter Point Schedules of all registered participants. The output of these checks will indicate, for each meter, if it was accepted or rejected and will be saved to your SharePoint. At present, the checks in this stage are executed between 9.30am and 11 am. You will receive an email notification following completion of these checks.

Following daily checks, we will also send you a link to your up-to-date Unit Meter Point Schedule portfolio via email. Depending on the size of your portfolio, it may be grouped into multiple files (up to 100k rows per file). If you want to opt-out from receiving these regular Unit Meter Point Schedule portfolio files, please do so by sending an email to the Demand Flexibility Service list.

Additionally, at any point you can query the API to get your up-to-date portfolio.

Note: The daily Unit Meter Point submissions are incremental, i.e., the participant does not need to submit all its portfolio every day; only those meter points that they wish to add or remove. For example, if on Day 1 you submit your initial portfolio comprising 100k meter points, and on Day 2 you want to add a further 10k meters, the submission of Day 2 would consist only of those additional 10k meters. NESO builds and maintains a database of your portfolio up to date based on your daily submissions. Note it is essential to update the Unit Meter Point Schedule to remove meters no longer present in your portfolio. NESO have outlined the importance of ensuring customers can clearly register and de-register with providers.

The following points are required in relation to submission of the Unit Meter Point Schedule.

1. Unit Meter Points will need to be submitted to the NESO, to check for duplications against other Registered DFS Participants using the template provided.
2. Unit Meter Points should only be submitted for customers who have agreed to participate in the Demand Flexibility Service ensuring timestamp information is available.
3. A check of the portfolios of each Registered DFS Participant will be carried out daily.
4. Providers may submit their Unit Meter Point Data file on a daily basis using the following template file. This only needs to be submitted if there is a change. This includes both adding and removing Unit Meter Points.

Unit Meter Point Schedule Template

Where “ddmmyyyy” enter the file submission date.

5. Alternatively, providers can submit Unit Meter Point Data via the DFS API. More details on how to submit meter points using the API are given in Appendix 4.

NESO will accept the Unit Meter Point Schedule only if providers follow the file template standards. The file headers are shown below and are described in Table 2.

Submission Date
Registered DFS Participant
Import MPAN
Export MPAN
MPANs Effective From
MPANs Effective To
MPANs Customer Consent Flag
Consent Effective From
Consent Effective To
Sub Meter Serial Number
Timestamp Subscribed
Postcode
Zone
DFS Unit ID
Opt in
HH Settled
Consumer Type
Baseline Type
Flexibility Type
DFS Initiation Measure
Action

Data Validations:

- DFS Initiation Measure must be completed with either “Manually Initiated” or “Directly Instructable”.
- Import MPAN and Export MPAN must be stored as numbers with zero decimal places and must not use scientific notation. Both must display all 13 digits in full before submitting the file.
- Import MPAN is mandatory and must be 13 digits long, numeric only, and pass the MPAN checkdigit validation. Export MPAN, if present, must also be 13 digits, numeric, valid checkdigit, and must not match the Import MPAN.
- All MPANs must be either Manual Opt-in or Auto Opt-in, but not both.
- If participating with a submeter, the associated boundary meter MPAN must also be included in the submission. Missing boundary meters will cause the file to be rejected.

- Consent Effective From and Consent Effective To must be completed only if:

- the meter is HalfHourly Settled = TRUE, and
- Consumer Type = Industrial & Commercial, and
- Customer Consent Flag = TRUE.
- Dates must be in dd/mm/yyyy format.

- MPANs Customer Consent Flag:

- If HH Settled = TRUE and Consumer Type = I&C, this field may be TRUE or FALSE.
- If HH Settled = FALSE and Consumer Type = I&C, this field must be blank.
- If Consumer Type = Domestic, this field must be blank.

- Consumer Type must be one of the approved values: Industrial & Commercial, Domestic, Solar Generation, Wind Generation, Other.

- Baseline Type must be either P376 or SelfNominated.

- Domestic MPANs must always use P376, no exceptions.
- All other Consumer Types may use either option.

- DFS Unit ID must follow the required naming convention and match registration exactly:

- <UnitName>-<UnitNumber>-Z<Zone>
- Example: P2-1-Z5

- A meter can belong to only one DFS Unit. The DFS Unit ID must match what is listed in the Unit Meter Point Schedule file and in SMP.

- Zone must be populated using the correct DFS Zone (e.g., 1, 2, 3, 4, 5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12) and must match SMP data.

- HH Settled must be TRUE/FALSE.

- For Domestic MPANs not enrolled with their supplier, HH Settled must be FALSE, and these MPANs will not have ABSVD Domestic treatment later.

- Action must be "Add" or "Remove".

- Add: MPAN becomes part of provider's active DFS portfolio.
- Remove: MPAN is removed from the master list and will no longer be used for duplication checks.

- Timestamp Subscribed must be in the past and follow dd/mm/yyyy hh:mm format
- Postcode must be entered and cannot be blank. Minimum 5 characters and maximum 7 characters including spaces.

5. File Validation Failure – communications from NESO

Registered DFS Participants will receive an email notification if any file they submit fails to meet the required filelevel or datalevel validations when uploading to the DFS SharePoint "Drop Box" folder or when submitting via the API. NESO's system automatically checks each file on upload and alerts the participant if the submission has not passed the required checks.

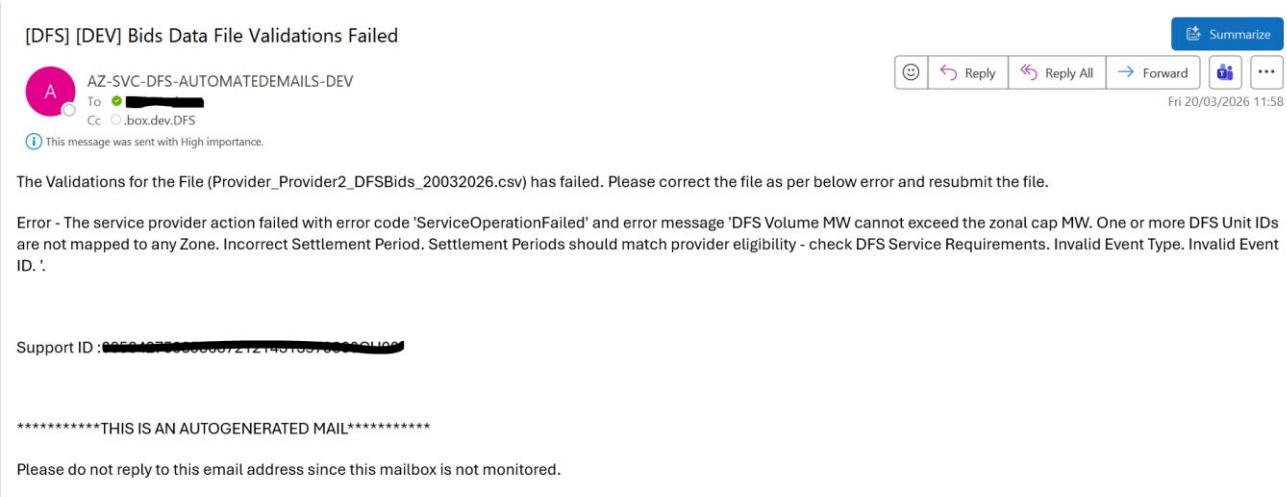
1. Providers must strictly follow the file format, naming conventions, and data validation rules for each DFS file type (UMPS, Bids, Settlements, Consolidated MPAN Forecast) files that do not follow the standards will be rejected automatically.

2. If a file fails validation, an automated email notification is sent to the provider's registered email address, from:

   dl.uk.rdt@neso.energy

   This message will include the relevant error message, describing why the submission failed and what needs to be corrected before resubmission.

3. Below is an example of a “failed validation” email notification:



[DFS] [DEV] Bids Data File Validations Failed

Summarize

Reply | Reply All | Forward

AZ-SVC-DFS-AUTOMATEDEMAILS-DEV

To [redacted]

Cc .box.dev.DFS

Fri 20/03/2026 11:58

This message was sent with High importance.

The Validations for the File (Provider_Provider2_DFSBids_20032026.csv) has failed. Please correct the file as per below error and resubmit the file.

Error - The service provider action failed with error code 'ServiceOperationFailed' and error message 'DFS Volume MW cannot exceed the zonal cap MW. One or more DFS Unit IDs are not mapped to any Zone. Incorrect Settlement Period. Settlement Periods should match provider eligibility - check DFS Service Requirements. Invalid Event Type. Invalid Event ID. '.

Support ID : [redacted]

**********THIS IS AN AUTOGENERATED MAIL**********

Please do not reply to this email address since this mailbox is not monitored.

Appendix 3 – NESO communications to Registered DFS Participants and Industry

1. DFS Service Requirement

NESO will publish a DFS Service Requirements through the Data Portal. The Service Requirement defines the DFS Event ID, the Event Type (Upwards or Downwards Flexibility), the delivery window, and the MW volume NESO intends to procure. All delivery times are provided in Local Time, with corresponding UTC times included to avoid ambiguity during time change periods.

NESO will publish the DFS Service Requirement to all Registered DFS Participants through the Data Portal, accessible via the link provided by NESO. The DFS Service Requirement file contains the following headers:

Event ID
DFS Submission Time (Local)
Event Type
Event Tag
Delivery Date
From_Local

To_Local

From_UTC

TO_UTC

Service Requirement MW

Service Requirement Type

Guaranteed Acceptance Price GBP per MWh

Dispatch Type

Participant Bids Eligible

Zonal Cap

While NESO has not committed to issuing test events this year, the capability remains in the Service Terms. If a test event is issued, NESO may indicate a specific bidding window for the test, consistent with previous years. The Service Requirement Type will clearly mark whether the event is a Live or Test event.

The Dispatch Type column will indicate whether all eligible participants may submit bids or whether the event will follow a Staggered Dispatch approach. Staggered Dispatch may be required where operational limits or volume thresholds are exceeded, and this will be shown clearly in the DFS Service Requirement.

The Participant Bids Eligible column will specify which Registered DFS Participants are permitted to submit bids for that service window. Eligibility is determined by internal assessment processes and crosschecking unit availability for that event. If a provider is not listed as eligible, they must not submit bids for that event.

Example – DFS Service Requirement with Zonal Caps

Let's assume NESO issues a DFS Service Requirement for Event ID 12, taking place between 17:00 and 18:00 Local Time. The event is tagged as a Live event, and the requirement is for 500 MW of flexibility (Downwards Flexibility).

Zone	**Registered Capacity (MW)**
Zone 1	500
Zone 2	120

Zone 3	80
Zone 4	200
Zone 5	100

Zones 1, 4 and 5 have high concentrations of flexible capacity. To manage system constraints, NESO applies Zonal Caps.

From_ Local	To_ Local	Service Requirement MW	Event Type	Event Tag	Service Requirement Type	Dispatch Type	Participant Bids Eligible	Zonal Cap
17:00	17:30	500	Downwards	Energy	Live	All Participants	A, B, C, D, E	{Z1:500, Z2:120, Z3:80, Z4:200, Z5:100}
17:30	18:00	500	Downwards	Energy	Live	All Participants	A, B, C, D, E	{Z1:500, Z2:120, Z3:80, Z4:200, Z5:100}

Participants' names will be displayed in the "Participant Bids Eligible" column, and this example is only a trimmed down illustration of the full DFS Service Requirement dataset.

Explanation of the Example

In this example:

- NESO requires 500 MW for the full 17:00–18:00 period.
- All registered participants are allowed to bid, ensuring the full-service volume is available.
- Zonal Caps control the maximum procurement from each zone, ensuring the requirement is met safely and efficiently.

This allows all participants to take part in event while ensuring NESO stays within zonal operational limits, as required in DFS.

2. DFS Utilisation Report (DFS Acceptances)

The DFS Utilisation Report is issued by NESO after all DFS Bids for the event have been assessed. The report contains the Accepted and Rejected status for every DFS Unit that submitted a bid for that event, along with key information such as Event ID, Event Type, delivery window, DFS Unit ID, accepted DFS Volume MW, Utilisation Price, and Dispatch information. Each Registered DFS Participant receives a single report containing only their own bid outcomes.

1. NESO will send the DFS Utilisation Report to each Registered DFS Participant after completing the bid assessment process, using the following file naming structure:

   NESO_ProviderName_DFSUtilisationReport_ddmmyyyy.csv

   Where ddmmyyyy corresponds to the delivery date of the DFS event.

2. Providers can view and download their DFS Utilisation Report from the Bid Outcome folder in their dedicated DFS SharePoint location. The report will appear automatically once NESO has finalised the event assessment.
3. The DFS Utilisation Report contains the updated DFS fields listed below, each of which is explained in detail within the file specification in Appendix 1.

Event ID
Event Type
Event Tag
Delivery Date

From_local
To_local
From_UTC
To_UTC
Registered DFS Participant
DFS Unit ID
Zone
DFS Volume MW
Service Requirement type
Utilisation Price GBP per MWh
Status

3. Participant Exclusion Report

This report lists MPANs that are anticipated to have DNO conflicts. If an event occurred during the conflict period, these MPANs will not be settled.

Column Headers	Description	Format	Mandatory	Validation
Conflict Start_local		Date time string		
Conflict End_local		Date time string		
Conflict Start_UTC		Date time string (e.g. 2025-09-18T00:00:00Z)		
Conflict End_UTC		Date time string (e.g. 2025-09-18T00:00:00Z)		
Registered DFS Participant	Name of DFS provider			Must be the same as all other files
MPAN			Y	

DFS Unit			N	
Reason code	What is the reason for conflict	string	Y	List possible reasons
Conflict Direction	Upwards, downwards or both			

Appendix 4 – API Submission

NESO provides an API interface that allows Registered DFS Participants to submit their DFS files programmatically, as an alternative to uploading them via the SharePoint "Drop box" location. This gives providers greater flexibility and supports automated workflows for submitting DFS data daily. The API supports submission of multiple DFS files including the Unit Meter Point Schedule, DFS Bids, and other files as they are released through the API catalogue.

The API applies the same file-level and data-level validations used in the SharePoint submission process. Any file submitted through the API must meet the exact schema, required headers, field formats, and validation rules defined for DFS Files that do not meet the validations will be rejected in the same manner as SharePoint submissions.

When a provider indicates during registration that they wish to use the DFS API, the authentication process will begin. This will require the user to obtain a secure Microsoft authentication token, which is then used to authorise the request with the DFS Assessment Platform. Only authorised users will be able to submit files or access information via the API.

NESO provides an API interface that supports submission and retrieval of several DFS files, including Unit Meter Point Schedules, DFS Bids, Consolidated MPAN Forecasts, Weekly Settlements, and selected outbound DFS reports such as Bid Results. Summarised Settlements, ABSVD files, and the Participant Exclusion Report. The API applies the same validation rules as the SharePoint upload process, and only authorised users may submit or retrieve data. Providers must obtain a valid Microsoft authentication token to authenticate against the DFS Assessment Platform. NESO publishes the API schema for all supported files on the DFS webpage and explain the required structure, endpoints, allowed fields, validation rules, naming conventions, and example payloads.

Providers should note that the API Schema may be updated periodically. NESO recommends subscribing to the DFS Newsletter to receive updates on API enhancements, file template changes, or additional DFS capabilities released throughout the year.

https://www.neso.energy/industry-information/balancing-services/demand-flexibility-service-dfs#Demand-Flexibility-Service

Appendix 5 – Example Operational Baseline calcu[illegible]

1. P376-based baseline methodology

This is available for all consumer types.

a. Find Eligible Days

- For Working days (Monday – Friday) The unadjusted baseline is calculated using data from the **10** most recent eligible days.
- For Non-working days (Saturday, Sunday and bank holidays) the unadjusted baseline is calculated using **4** most recent eligible days.
    - From the **4** most recent days the mean average of the 2 median days will be taken
- The selection of eligible days is taken from the time **D-60** to **D-1**

Selection of Eligible Days for use in calculating the baseline		
Day Type	**No. of Eligible Days identified in the 60-day window**	**Historical Settlement Days used to calculate the baseline**
Working Day	Ten or more Eligible Days	Ten most recent Eligible Days
Working Day	5 to 9 Eligible Days	All Eligible Days
Working Day	Less than five Eligible Days The Unit Meter Point cannot be used	Baseline Values default to out-turn metered data for the Metering System(s) in the Baselined Entity, and they will be reported to the Lead Party as having insufficient data.
Non-Working Day	Four or more Eligible Days	Four most recent Eligible Days
Non-Working Day	Less than four Eligible Days	Baseline Values will default to out-turn metered data for the Metering System(s) in the Baselined Entity, and they will be reported to the Lead Party as having insufficient data.

Days will **not** be eligible if they have been classed as **Event Days**.

Event Days include days where

- DFS was called, or
- A DNO instructed the meter for delivery of a flexibility service with 48 hours' notice or less.
- The meter point was part of a CM Unit that delivered as a response to a CM event.
- The meter point was part of another service or trial (see Stacking list) and delivered with 48 hours' notice or less.

b. Unadjusted baseline

- Based on historical actual metered data, calculating each eligible day's **Actual Usage** (kwh) using (MPAN +) – (MPAN -) to give you the MPAN Total.

Day type	From	To	Day 1 Import MPAN	Day 1 Export MPAN	Day 1 MPAN Total
Working Day	00:00	00:30			= Day 1 Import MPAN – Day 1 Export MPAN
Working Day	00:30	01:00			
Working Day	…	…			

  - You should never have figures in both "Export MPAN and "Import MPAN" fields in the same settlement period. One should always be 0.
- The unadjusted baseline is calculated by taking the average of all Eligible Days' Actual Usage (kWh), the steps are listed as follows:
  - Determine Time period (e.g., if it is for working day, you will need 10 most recent eligible days: days 1-10)
  - Add together all the days Actual Usage in each Settlement Period then divide by total number of days.
  - Unadjusted Baseline j = Σn Actual Usage / n
  - where j is the jth Settlement Period and n is number of Eligible Days
  - Repeat this for each Settlement Period to give your 24-hour unadjusted baseline.

Day type	From	To	Day 1 MPAN Total	Day 2 MPAN Total	…	Day 10 MPAN Total	Unadjusted Baseline (kWh)
Working Day	00:00	00:30					= Average (Day 1 MPAN Total : Day 10

				MPAN Total)
Working Day	00:30	01:00		…
Working Day	…	…		…

2. Self-nominated baseline methodology

This option is available for I&C and renewable generation MPANs. Not available for Domestic MPANs.

For a given DFS Participant, the Consolidated MPAN forecast might look like the below table

Delivery Date	From	To	DFS Unit ID	Import MPAN	Export MPAN	Baseline kWh
22/06/2026	00:00	00:30	UNI-01-Z5		1246	12.5
22/06/2026	00:30	01:00	UNI-01-Z5		1246	13
22/06/2026	…	…	…	…	…	…
22/06/2026	23:30	00:00	UNI-01-Z5			1.0
22/06/2026	00:00	00:30	UNI-01-Z5	2534		-2.5
22/06/2026	00:30	01:00	…	…		
22/06/2026	…	…	…	…		
22/06/2026	23:30	00:00	UNI-01-Z5	2534		-7.0

Note that, as the expected output from the meter point is required, the “Baseline kWh” number may be negative if pertains to an import MPAN.

Appendix 6 – Local Time Submissions

The DFS is now an all-year-round service, and we will call events in local time. All files should be submitted in local time depending on the time of year. Data portal files will be issued in both local time and UTC (Coordinated Universal Time).

Example

The following example outlines how to correctly submit data for a hypothetical event running on 30 March 2026 from 14:00 to 14:30 for Upwards Flexibility with event ID 575.

Consolidated MPAN Forecast

Delivery Date	From_ Local	To_ Local	Registered DFS Participant	DFS Unit ID	Import MPAN	Export MPAN	Baseline kWh
30/03/2026	14:00	14:30	Provider 2	P2-2-Z12	1234567890		25

Data Portal DFS Requirements

Event ID	DFS Submission Time (Local)	Event Type	Event Tag	Delivery Date	From_ Local	To_ Local	From_ UTC	To_ UTC
575	30-03-2026 11:00	Upwards	System	18-03-2026	14:00	14:30	13:00	13:30

Service Requirement MW	Service Requirement Type	Guaranteed Acceptance Price GBP per MWh	Dispatch Type	Participant Bids Eligible	Zonal Cap
100	Live	0	All Participants	Provider1,... Provider 3	Z1:0,Z2:0,...., Z12:100

Bid Submission

Event ID	Event Type	Delivery Date	Registered DFS Participant	DFS Unit ID	DFS Volume MW	From_ Local	To_ Local	Utilisation price GBP per MWh
575	Upwards	30/03/2026	Provider 2	P2-2-Z12	25	14:00	14:30	200

Settlement Data Submission

Event ID	Event Type	Delivery Date	From_ Local	To_ Local	Registered DFS Participant	DFS Unit ID	Import MPAN	Export MPAN
575	Upwards	30/03/2026	14:00	14:30	Provider 2	P2-2-Z12	1234567890	

Sub Meter Serial Number	Participating	Baseline kWh	Metered kWh	Delivered kWh	Accepted Utilisation Price GBP per MWh	HH Settled	Participating Meter Electricity Supplier	Consumer Type
	TRUE	25	10	15	200	TRUE	FALSE	Industrial & Commercial

Elexon BMU ID	Baseline Type
	Self-Nominated