Public

NESO Technology Advisory Council

TAC-23

Date:	05/06/2026	Location:	Virtual
Start:	09:00	End:	12:30

All material from the meeting can be found on the NESO Technology Advisory Council website:
https://www.neso.energy/about/our-people/nesos-stakeholder-groups/neso-technology-advisory-council-tac

Participants

Attendee	Attend/Regrets	Attendee	Attend/Regrets
Eric Brown (Chair)	Attend	Anthony Riding	Regrets
Cameron Shade (Facilitator) (CS)	Attend	Andy Hadland	Regrets
Shubhi Rajnish (SR)	Attend	Alex Waslin	Regrets
Joseph Stepney (JS)	Attend	Chris Dent	Regrets
Alastair Martin	Attend	Simon Pearson	Attend
James Houlton	Attend	Nick Huntbatch	Regrets
Kate Garth	Attend	Gareth Hislop	Regrets
Naomi Baker	Regrets	Alvaro Sanchez-Miralles	Regrets
Carolina Tortora	Attend	Fred Drewitt	Regrets
Teodora Kaneva	Regrets	Melissa Stark	Attend
Gina Brar	Attend	Karl Glover	Regrets

For specific Agenda Items

Sasha Shipulina	Darren Holyoake	Brendan Lyons	Lyndon Ruff

Agenda

#	Topic	
1.	Welcome & Apologies	Eric Brown
2.	Minutes of last meeting and matters arising	Eric Brown
3.	Feedback from the last meeting	Cameron Shade
4.	Connections to Energise	Darren Holyoake
5.	NESO AI Capabilities	Lyndon Ruff
6.	Sector Digitalisation	Carolina Tortora
7.	Open Balancing Platform Update	Brendan Lyons
8.	Subgroups update	Cameron Shade
9.	Next meeting	Eric Brown
10.	AOB	Eric Brown

Decisions and Recommendations

#	
1.	**Welcome & Apologies** The chair welcomed all and started the meeting after confirming there were no potential conflicts of interest and acknowledging received apologies.
2.	**Minutes of last meeting and matters arising** There were no further comments on the minutes from the last meeting. All outstanding actions were discussed and updated.
3.	**Feedback from the last meeting** Feedback received from the previous meeting was recapped, highlighting actions taken since that meeting.
4.	**Connections to Energise** NESO presented the ongoing work to integrate and track data from pre-submission through to energisation, highlighting the creation of a semantic layer, improved data quality and collaboration with external parties to streamline the connections process and provide actionable insights. • TAC questioned whether the approach is overly reliant on internal data and how external data integration will evolve. ○ NESO clarified that the current position reflects what is readily available, with further external integration expected as access improves. • TAC highlighted dependency on others to do this successfully is a great driver for sector digitalisation. • TAC commented that the availability of insight is beginning to drive improvements in data quality, as stakeholders recognise the value of accurate reporting. • TAC asked how much manual intervention is required to produce reports.

    - NESO confirmed that reports can be generated directly from the system at the current level of detail, without the need for further manipulation and that strong leadership alignment has been important in driving adoption and reducing reliance on offline processes.
- TAC suggested that encouraging users to remain within the system is critical to maintaining consistency of outputs.
- TAC asked how adoption is being sustained, particularly if teams previously had offline practices.
    - NESO said that usability improvements and continued leadership support are key to embedding the new approach.
- TAC observed that external dependencies, particularly around outage data, remain a key factor in understanding delivery timelines and identifying misalignment across stakeholders.
    - NESO confirmed that integrating these datasets has already begun to highlight inconsistencies and improve visibility of dependencies.

5. NESO AI Capabilities

NESO outlined their evolving AI strategy, focusing on building a strong central AI foundation, embedding AI in operational domains, ensuring responsible and sustainable AI use and fostering industry and global collaboration.

- TAC questioned whether there is a risk of adopting a technology-led approach rather than focusing on business outcomes.
    - NESO clarified that the intent is to redesign processes where required, rather than simply augment existing ones.
- TAC observed that different categories of AI use case require different delivery approaches, particularly when comparing productivity-focused applications with operational or control room use cases.
    - NESO highlighted that governance, assurance and explainability are essential, particularly for decision-making applications.
- TAC asked for clarification on how partners are defined within the operating model.
    - NESO answered that this remains an evolving concept, potentially including a range of external organisations depending on the use case.
- TAC said that data quality and communications infrastructure are key enablers, without which AI capability will be constrained.
- TAC highlighted the need to manage risks with dependencies on partners and the need to clearly define roles and ownership.
- TAC asked where initial AI deployment should be focused.
    - NESO responded that early use cases will prioritise areas where value is clear and outcomes can be validated.
- TAC suggested that starting with lower-risk use cases will be important in building confidence before progressing to more complex applications.
- TAC asked how risks associated with AI will be managed.
    - NESO said the key to managing these risks will be governance frameworks, validation approaches and careful selection of use cases.

6. Sector Digitalisation

The presentation covered NESO's expanding role in digitalisation, including the development of a target sector digital architecture, the Data Sharing Infrastructure (DSI) and the Data Domain Coordinator function, while discussing challenges such as legacy systems and industry-wide adoption.

- TAC questioned what the scope of the role would be.

- It was clarified that it is expected to cover architecture definition, data standards and coordination of digital assets.

- TAC stated that authority and accountability are critical, with coordination alone unlikely to be sufficient to deliver outcomes and questioned how authority for the role will be established.
  - NESO replied that this remains under discussion and will be clarified through consultation.
- TAC observed that achieving industry-wide adoption will require engagement across a wide range of stakeholders and must account for differing levels of maturity.
- TAC suggested that digitalisation should be viewed as an enabler of system outcomes rather than an objective in itself.
- TAC questioned how the various digital initiatives will interoperate.
  - NESO responded that this will be achieved through alignment of standards and coordination across delivery bodies.
- TAC suggested that legacy systems and differing maturity levels across the energy industry present a significant challenge and questioned how legacy systems will be addressed.
  - NESO replied that a phased, case-by-case approach will be required, balancing cost, value and risk.

7. Open Balancing Platform

A progress update was provided covering continued decommissioning of legacy systems, migration of functionality into the single platform and ongoing efforts to improve constraint management, data visibility and industry collaboration for future system enhancements

- TAC observed that delivery has moved to an incremental model, supporting continuous improvement and responsiveness.
- TAC questioned how optimisation within constraints is currently managed.
  - NESO responded optimisation is performed within defined boundaries, with further enhancements planned for the future.
- TAC highlighted that dependencies on industry participants remain a key factor, particularly in relation to interface migration.
- TAC questioned what limitations exist in the current data used for optimisation.
  - NESO responded visibility of certain assets and geographic detail remains a constraint.
- TAC observed that constraint management remains complex and will require continued development of both capability and supporting data.
- TAC asked how the transition to a single system will be managed.
  - NESO responded that coordinated migration across participants is required to avoid parallel operation of systems.

8. Subgroups Update

Updates were provided on the TAC subgroups, including digital and data strategy and control room of the future. The subgroups continue to evolve to ensure alignment with priorities and delivering value.

A new subgroup on Digital Architecture will be formed for a short period of time starting in July.

9. Next meeting

- 4th September 2026
- There was a discussion on locations and who could host which is to be determined.

10. AOB

- A change of the technical secretary was mentioned as the current one moves to a new role.
- Joint initiatives with other NESO advisory councils were discussed.
- There was an ask for attendees to give any topics they would like to see on a forward looking agenda.
- A new temporary subgroup between now and August was discussed to be setup shortly.

Action Item Log

ID	Description	Owner	Due	Status	Comments
~~A30~~	~~Organise a call with Chair, SR and CT on Innovation initiatives in the sector.~~	~~CS~~	~~05/06/2026~~	~~In Progress~~	
~~A31~~	~~Feedback any RIIO2 highlights NESO should ensure they cover.~~	~~All~~	~~05/06/2026~~	~~New~~	
~~A32~~	~~Pass on information to SR as CT DOA on Energy Network Centre of Excellence on AI~~	~~JS~~	~~05/06/2026~~	~~New~~	
A33	Investigate and resolve chat functionality issues on teams	JS	05/06/2026	New	
~~A34~~	~~Address minutes missing from the website~~	~~CS~~	~~04/09/2026~~	~~Complete~~	
A35	Send any forward agenda topics to the chair or secretary	All	04/09/2026	New	