

Public

NESO Operational Transparency Forum

21 October 2026

Slido code #OTF

Welcome to the Operational Transparency Forum!

You are in listen-only mode with your camera turned off.

Live Captioning Available. To enable live captions in Microsoft Teams:

Click on the 3 dots icon / 'More'

Click 'Turn on live captions'

Key Points

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- **Ask Questions and give feedback:** Use **Sli.do event code #OTF**.
- **Submit early:** Ask questions early to give our experts time to answer.
- **No Edits:** Don't edit questions after submission; submit a new question, if needed.
- **Identify Yourself:** Provide your name or organization. Anonymous questions won't be answered live. If you have reasons to remain anonymous to the wider forum, please use the advance question or email options below.
- **Report Concerns:** Report concerns to the Market Monitoring team at marketreporting@neso.energy.
- **Question Order:** Questions are answered in upvoted order. Some may be taken away or answered later.
- **Sli.do Open:** Sli.do remains open **until 12:00** for maximum question opportunities. After that please use the advance questions or email options below.
- **Q&A:** All questions are recorded & published. Unanswered questions will be included in the next slide pack.
- **Ask questions anytime** whether for inclusion in the forum or individual response through our [Advance Questions form](#) or at: box.nc.customer@neso.energy.
- **Stay Updated:** Visit our webpage at: <https://www.neso.energy/what-we-do/systems-operations/operational-transparency-forum> for updates and previous OTF material.

Note: To access previous OTF webinars from Slido, click on the three lines to the left of forum title.

Focus Topics

Today

- September Balancing Costs

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Future

- 28 October
 - Reformed National Pricing Update
- 4 November
 - Grid code compliance and market monitoring
- 11 November
 - Auction Process (EAC) for Balancing Services and System Access Reform Update



If you have questions/suggestions of areas to cover during above presentations or ideas for focus topics you would like us to consider, please send them to us at: box.nc.customer@neso.energy

External Whistleblower investigation

- Eversheds Sutherland International have published their findings following their independent investigation into allegations raised about operational decision-making and record-keeping at NESO.
- The Investigation found no evidence to substantiate the core allegations, finding no evidence of inappropriate influence over operational decisions and no evidence that control room records were altered, managed or concealed, including to avoid public scrutiny.
- The report did identify areas for potential improvement, particularly in how colleagues can raise concerns, how those concerns are heard and how feedback is provided. NESO has accepted the recommendations in full and will take them forward.
- Full details of this report are published on NESO's website here – <https://www.neso.energy/news/independent-investigation-concludes-allegations-against-neso-were-unsubstantiated>

Ofgem's Operational Review

- Separate to the independent investigation by Eversheds Sutherland International, the regulator Ofgem is conducting a separate post-event review of the incidents of system stress during extreme heat across the week commencing 22 June.
- Ofgem have published a preliminary report setting out the evidence reviewed and the chronology or the period considered by the review.
- Details of this preliminary report are published here – <https://www.neso.energy/document/388826/download>
- The preliminary report does not contain conclusions, recommendations or lessons learned.
- The review remains ongoing, with final conclusions, recommendations and lessons learned due to be set out in a final report by Ofgem.
- The Focus Topic on margins during the week commencing 22 June will be delayed until this Ofgem commissioned review concludes.

5-Year View of TNUoS Tariffs (2027/28 to 2031/32)

On Friday 8 October we published the Five-year view of TNUoS Tariffs for 2027/28 to 2031/32. The report and the tables can be accessed through the links below.

- [Download the report](#)
- [Download the Tables File](#)

If you would like to ask any questions, please email us at TNUoS.queries@neso.energy

NESO Balancing Programme

Forecasting Stakeholder Focus Group

Date: 11.11.2026

Time: 11:00 – 12:30

Format: Microsoft Teams Online

We hope you can join us for our **Forecasting Focus Group**, where we'll revisit our Forecasting Strategy and delivery, review our goals, and highlight key areas of progress, including system developments. We will also:

- Discuss our new National Demand forecasting models, how they will be used, and the anticipated impact
- Provide insight into a Grid Supply Point (GSP) innovation project exploring the factors influencing GSP outturns & the accuracy of these
- Run interactive sessions looking at how you currently use the forecasts published by NESO ahead of planned changes, and what 'informative' forecasts mean to you to help us build out the information we provide. We also want to learn and understand from other organisations the approaches they are taking to enable effective modelling of small, embedded generation.

All are welcome to attend the session, but we believe it will be of most interest to our colleagues from DNOs and academia, as well as those with an interest in the forecasts NESO produce. If you are not signed up to our Forecasting Stakeholder Focus Group and would like to attend this session, please register [here](#) – a calendar invite will be sent to you within 48 hours of signing up.

If you have any questions, please contact the team at:
box.balancingprogramme@neso.energy



Scan to sign up

NESO Balancing Programme Optimisation Stakeholder Focus Group

Slido code #OTF

Date: 16.11.2026

Time: 12:30 – 14:00

Format: Microsoft Teams Online

Join our Optimisation Focus Group to hear the latest updates on the development of balancing optimisation capabilities delivered into the Control Room. During the session, we will:

- Recap on where we are in our journey to improve optimisation capabilities.
- Provide an update on the Future State of Energy (FSOE) model, including the development roadmap and key milestones.
- Share insights from data analysis on how Maximum Delivery Offer (MDO) & Maximum Delivery Bid (MDB) are being used in the Control Room.
- Explore the logic behind the 'Optimisation within a Constraint' capability, including how it operates today and how it is evolving to support additional asset types.

If you are not signed up to our Balancing Programme Optimisation Stakeholder Focus Group and would like to attend this session, please register [here](#) – a calendar invite will be sent to you within 48 hours of signing up.

If you have any questions, please contact the team at:
box.balancingprogramme@neso.energy



Scan to sign up

Future Event Summary

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Event	Date & Time	Link
Balancing Programme Forecasting Stakeholder Focus Group	11 November (11:00–12:30)	Register here
Balancing Programme Optimisation Stakeholder Focus Group	16 November (12:30–14:00)	Register here

Check out the [NESO Events Calendar](#) for more...

Public

Monthly Balancing Cost Update

September 2026

Balancing Costs Team

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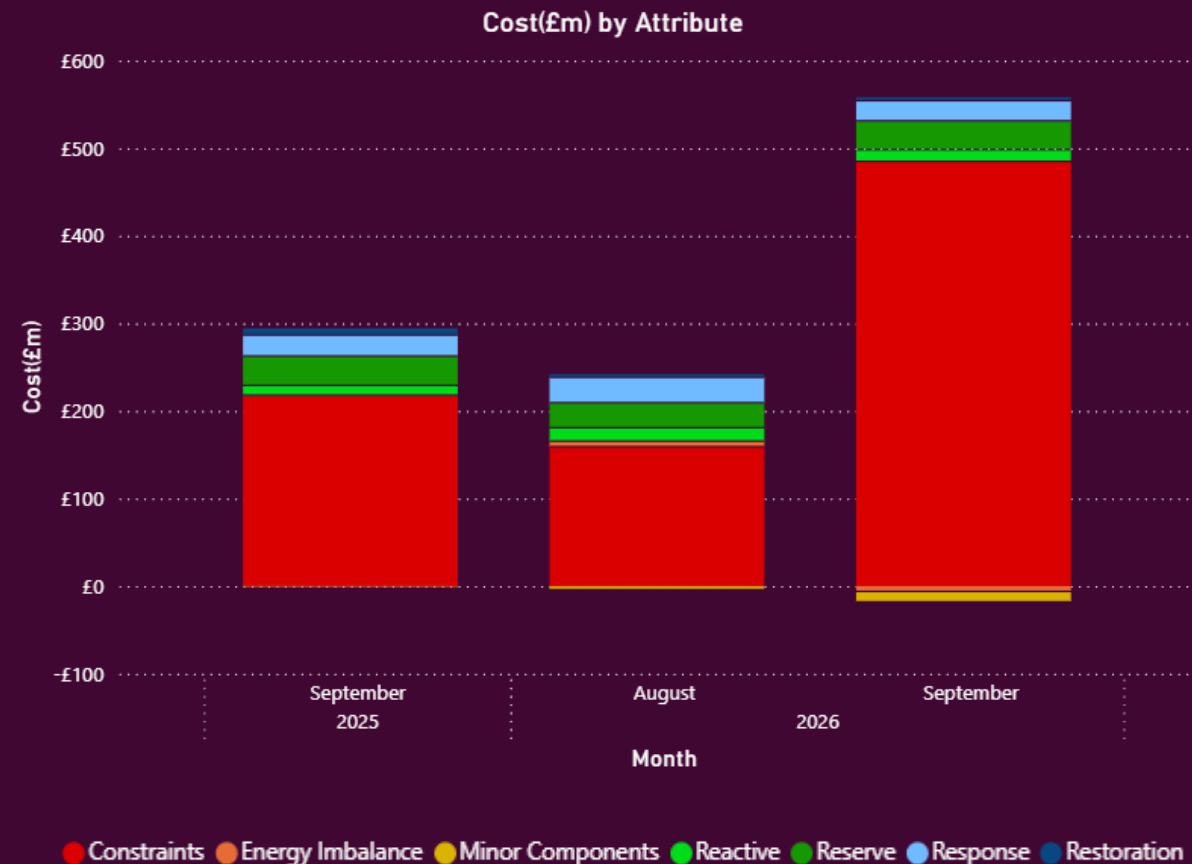
Monthly Cost Summary

Balancing costs in September were 2026 were £553m, the highest costing month on record.

This was an increase of £313m on last month and £259m on last year.

Key cost drivers:

- High wind outturn which reached 6.04TWh resulting in record levels of wind curtailment
- Lower demand – Demand was lower than September 2025, and season norms, reducing system requirement and increasing the need to curtail wind generation.
- High energy prices – Gas prices remained elevated due to the ongoing conflict and supply concerns. Gas and power prices were 136% higher than September 2025 increasing the cost of replacement energy and redispatch costs.
- Restricted network capability – Multiple transmission outages led to active constraints which reduced the transfer capability requiring large volumes of Scottish wind generation to be constrained off. These outages support the network reinforcement and infrastructure upgrades required to deliver CP30. While they can increase balancing costs in the short term by reducing network capability, they are expected to improve network capacity and help reduce constraint costs over the longer term.



Voltage: £13.9m ↓

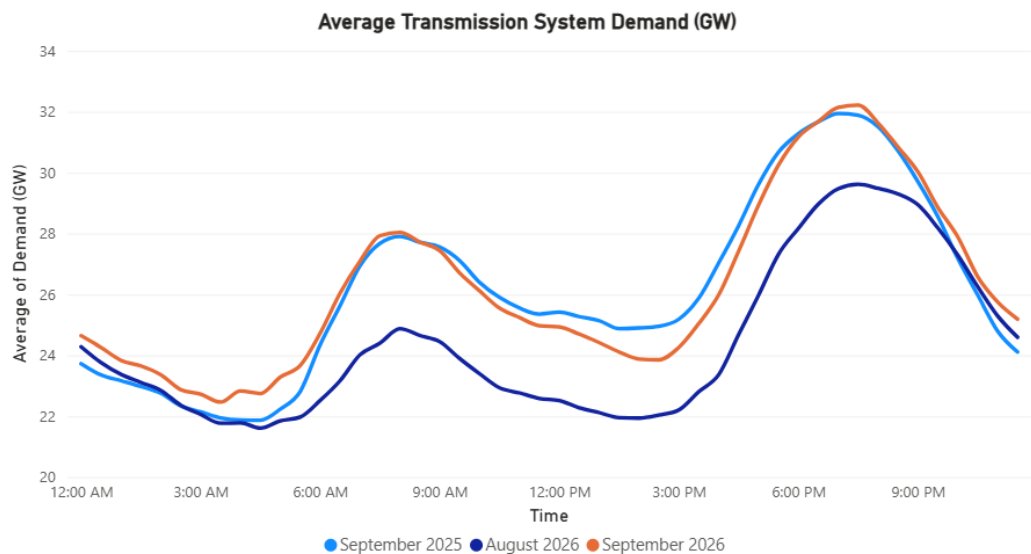
Thermal: £333m ↑

Inertia: £3.2m ↓

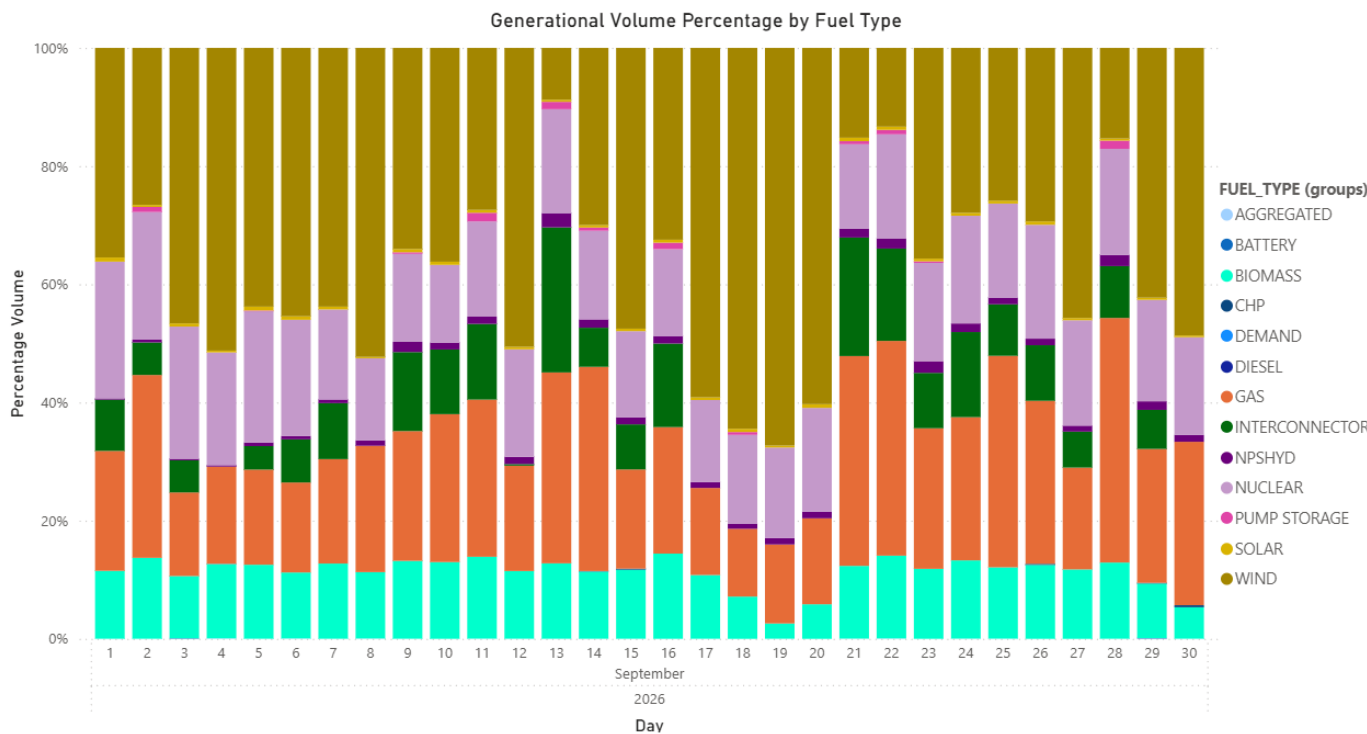
Seasonally low demand increased the volume of surplus wind that needed to be managed

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Demand



Fuel Mix



Lower demand weakened day-ahead power prices relative to gas, while balancing bid and offer prices remained high

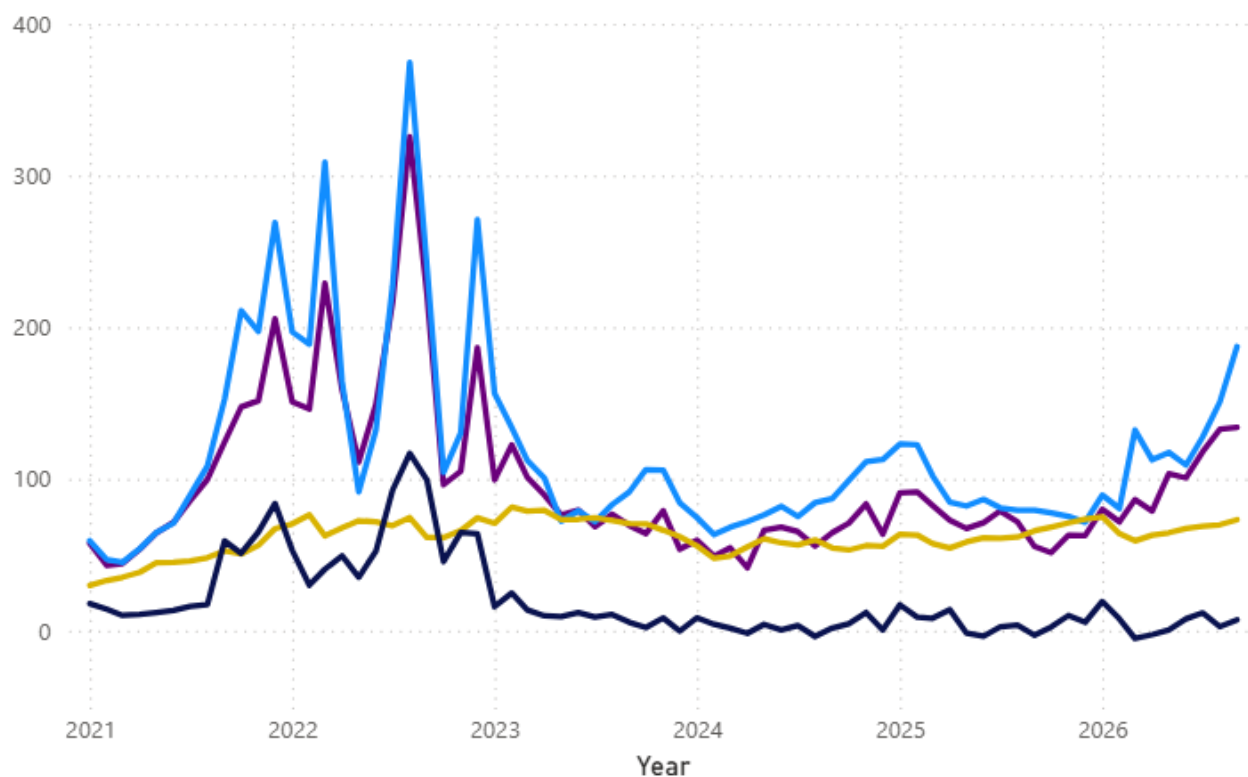
	DA Power Price	VWA offer price	VWA bid price
M-o-m change	 £1.22/MWh	 18.20/MWh	 45.57/MWh
Y-o-y	 £78.55/MWh	 91.21/MWh	 21.92/MWh

Negative bid prices increases costs to NESO

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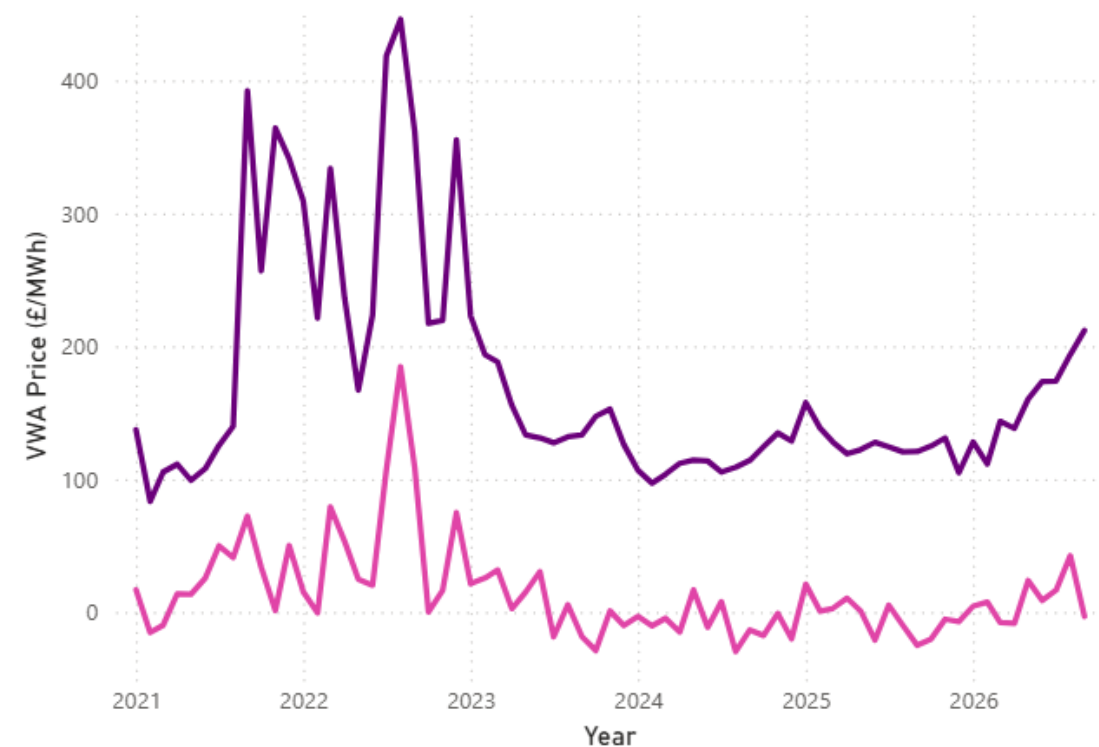
Day Ahead Market Trends (2020-2026)

● Power - DA (£/MWh) ● NBP Gas (p/Therm) ● CO2 UK (£/Ton) ● Clean Spark Spread (£/MWh)



VWA Price for Bids and Offers

● BID ● OFFER

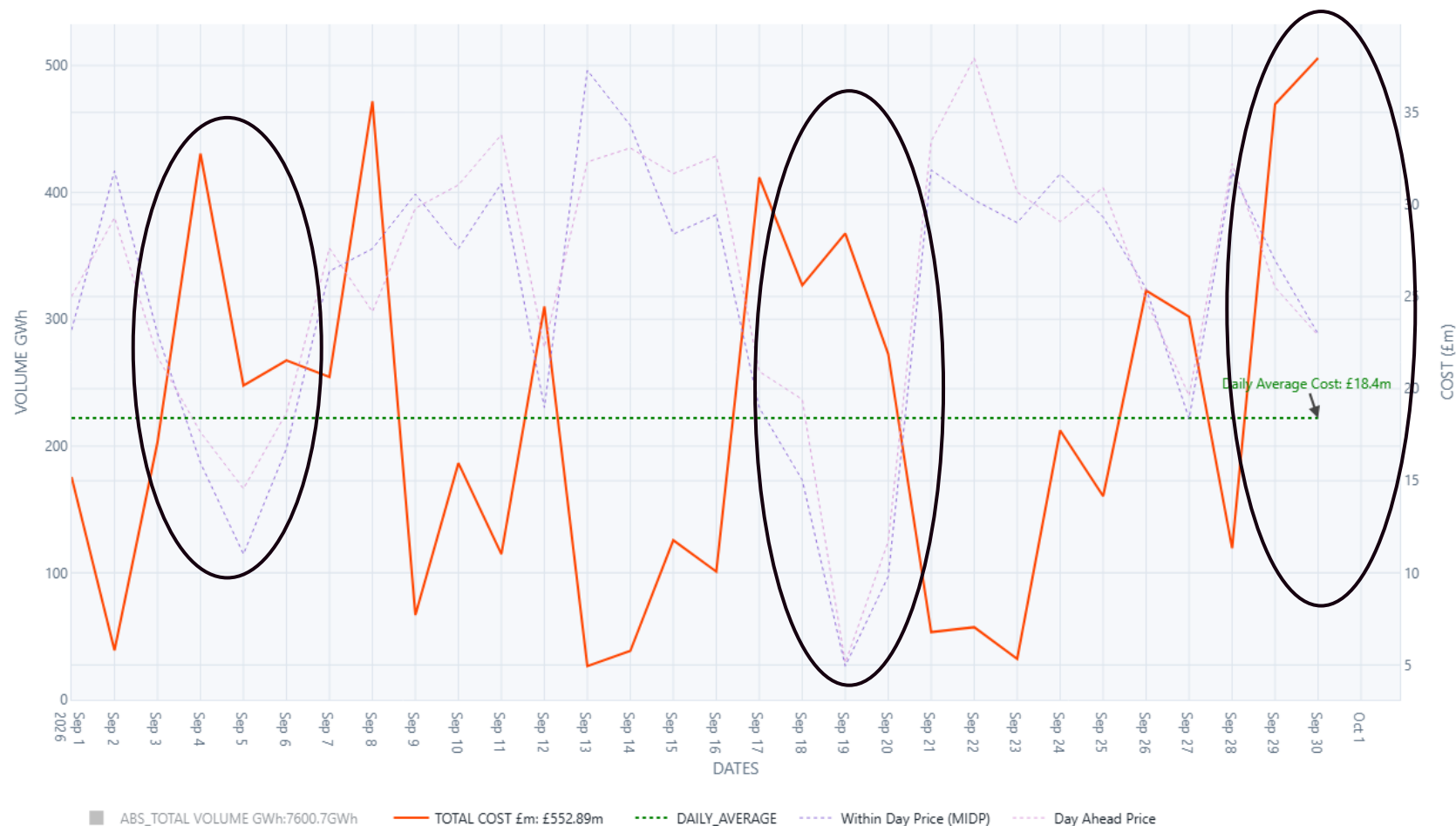


On several high-cost days, low wholesale prices reduced incentives for gas generation to run, requiring dispatch in the BM often at significantly higher offer prices

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Day ahead prices vs Balancing costs

- **Total cost** - £552.89m
- **Total Volume** - 2865.8GWh
- **Total absolute** volume - 7600.7GWh



Public Daily Costs and Volumes

The highest cost day 30th September at £38m.

Drivers:

- A high wind outturn and active constraints in Scotland resulted in a substantial volume of wind to be curtailed. £36m of the cost was attributed to constraints, where £31m were for constraints in Scotland.
- High power prices resulting in high costing replacement energy
- About £4m was attributed to constraint sterilised headroom.

Daily average cost was £18.0m, a £10.2, change on previous month.

Key trends from previous month:

	Constraint	Non-constraint
Cost	↑ 202%	↓ 9%
Volume	↑ 90%	↑ 28%

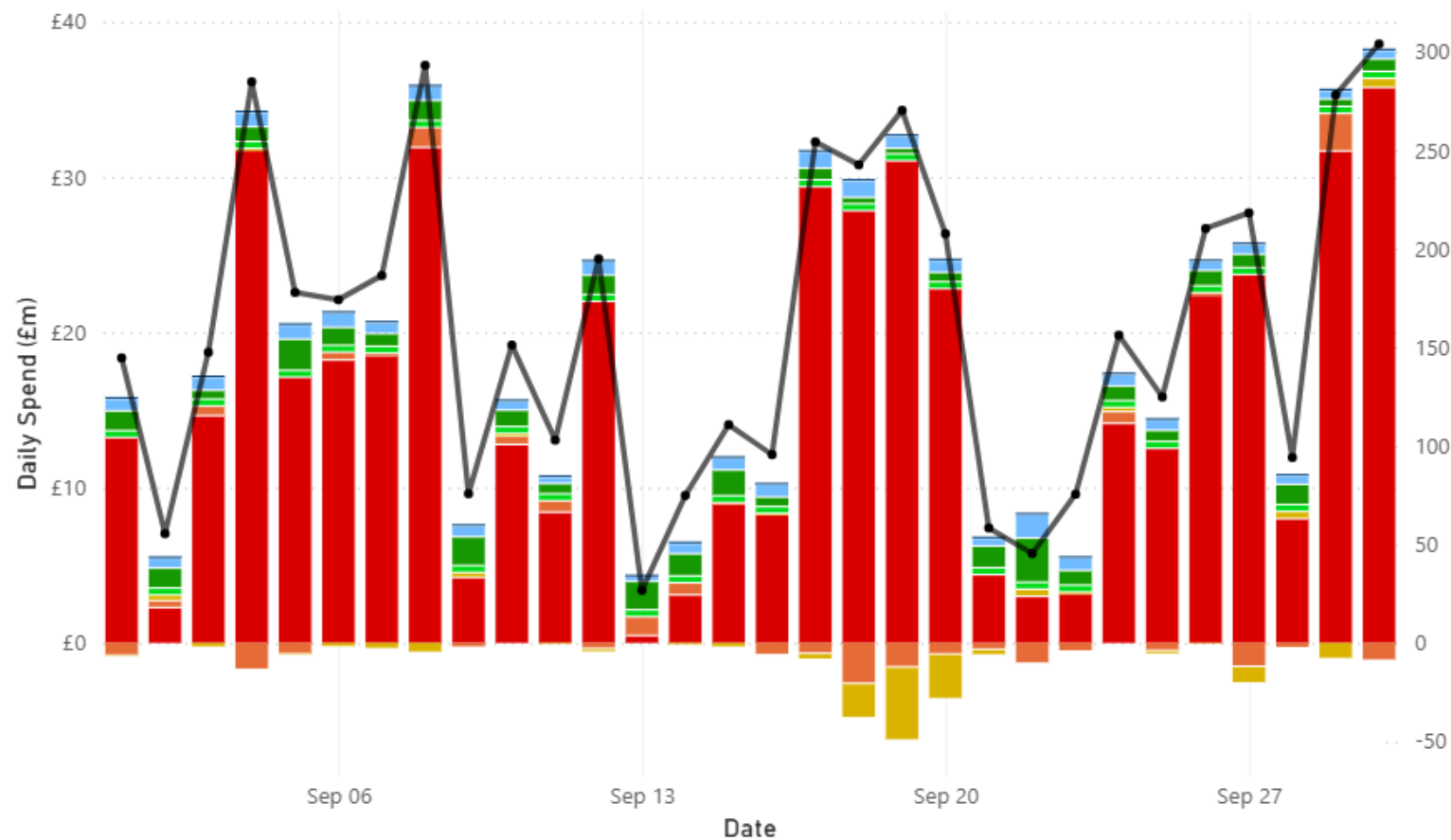


Daily average cost:

£18.4m

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Daily Cost and Volume by Action Type



Public Wind Outturn

Hit a record in wind curtailment of 1.8TWh an increase of 1.4TWh from August. Due to a restricted network and tight system conditions with several constraints active.

There were eight days with more than 100GWh of wind curtailment:

- 8th September (119GWh) – Second highest cost day
- 30th September (126GWh) – Highest cost day
- 29th September (102GWh) – Third highest cost day

	Total	England & Wales	Scotland
Wind Outturn (GWh)	6050	3800	2250
Wind Curtailment (GWh)	1836	35	1787

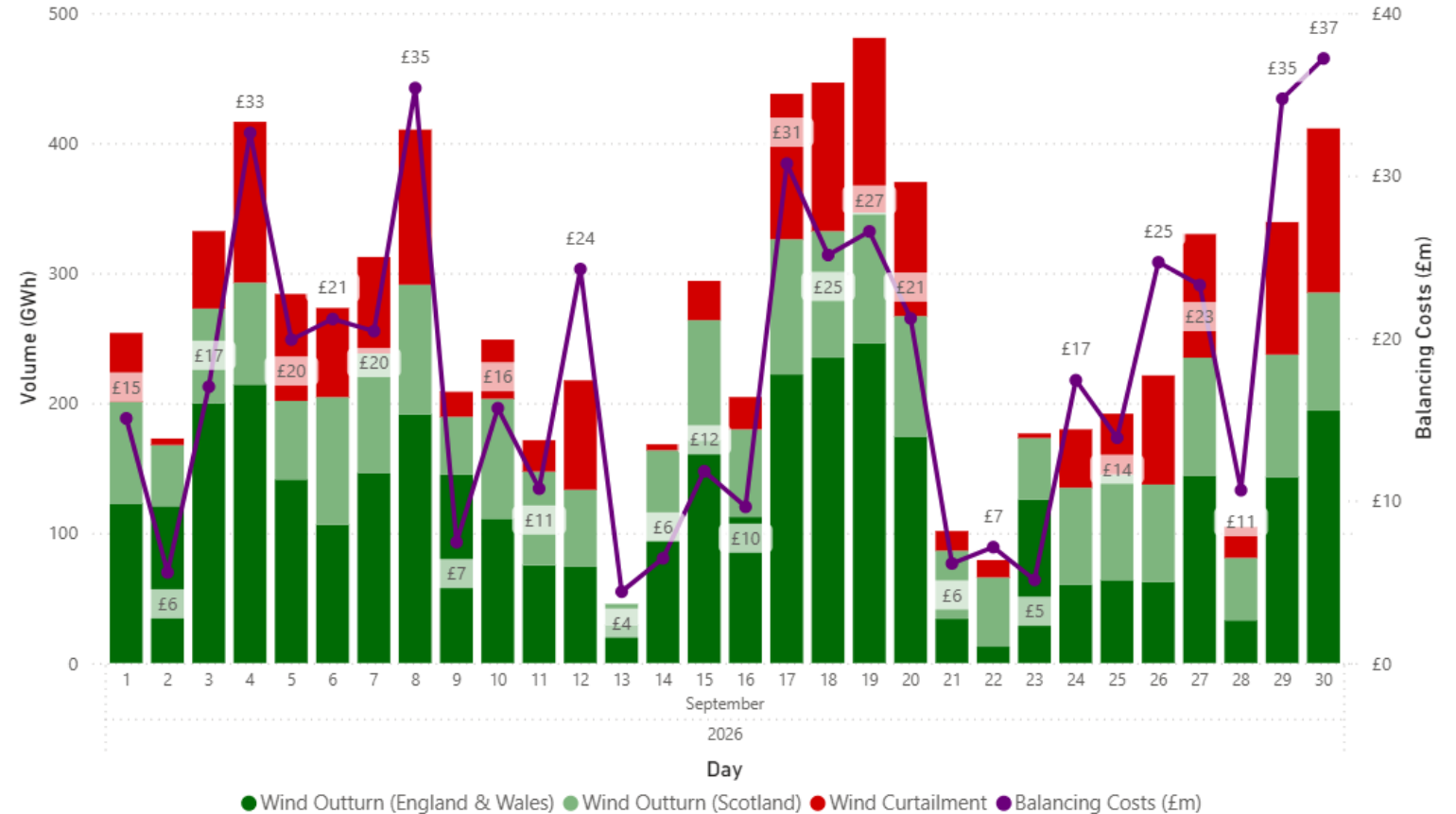


Monthly wind curtailment %:

23%

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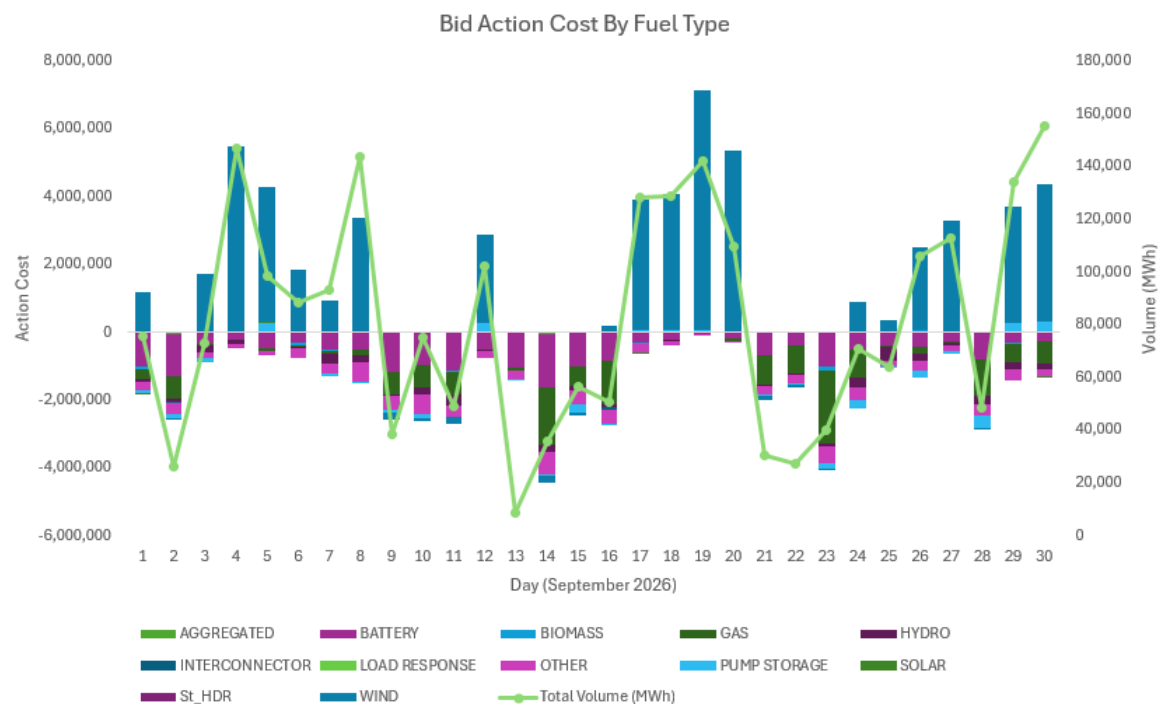
Wind outturn, Curtailment and Balancing Costs



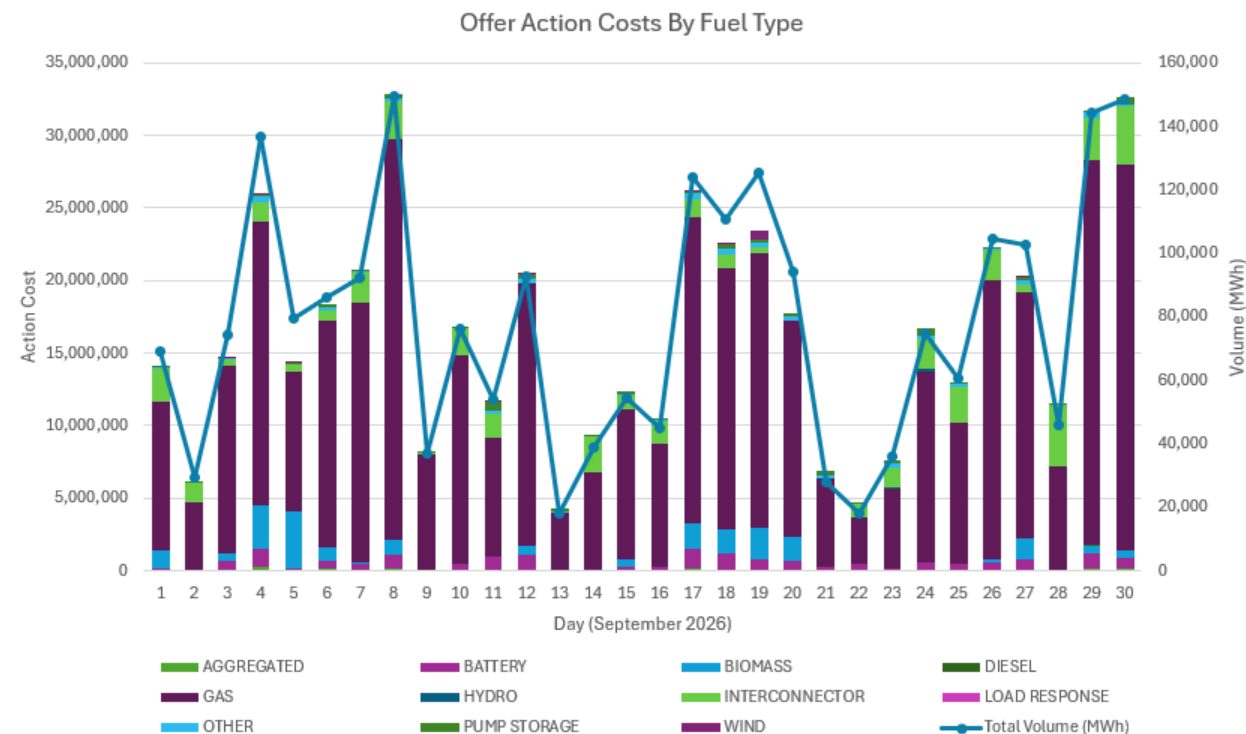
Action Cost for Bids/Offers

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Turn Down costs

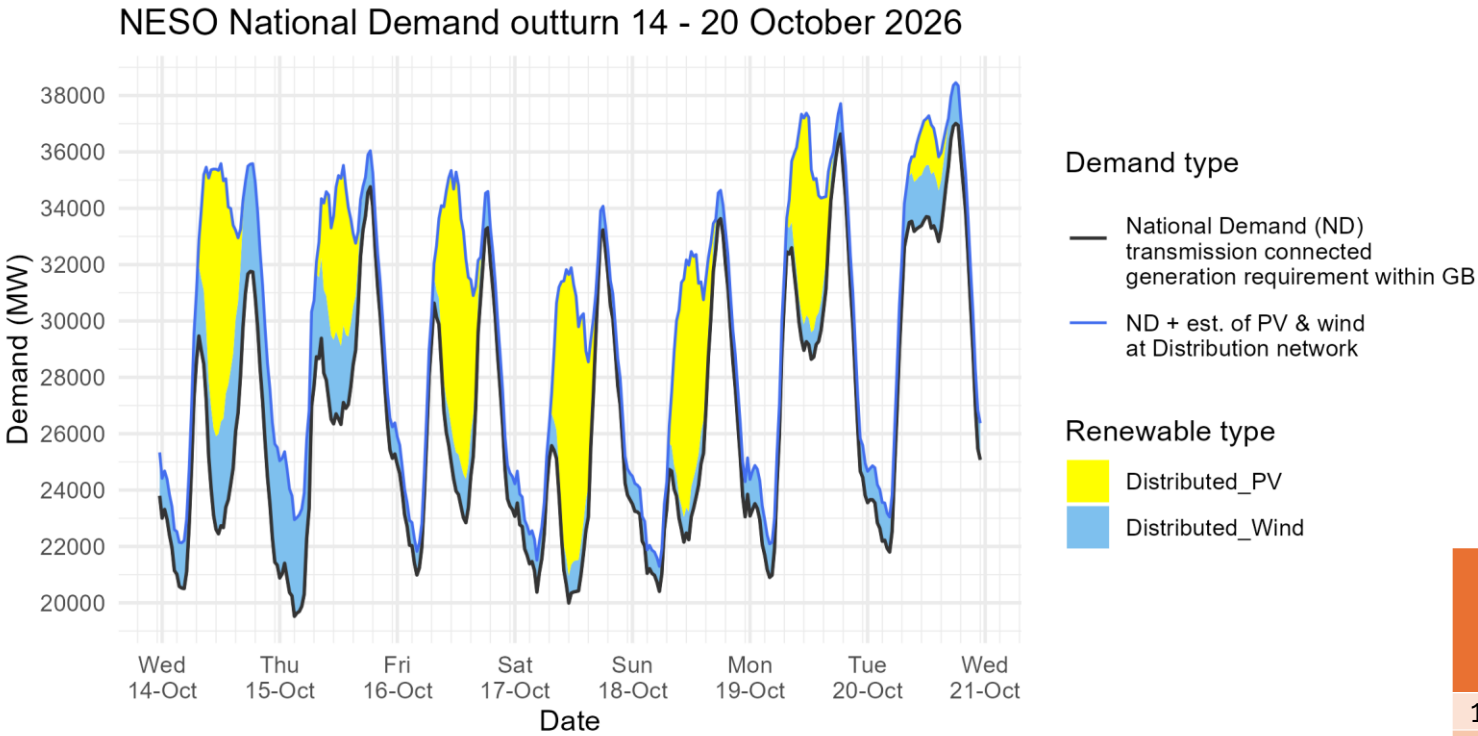


Turn Up Costs



Demand | Last week demand out-turn

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The black line (National Demand ND) is the measure of portion of total GB customer demand that is supplied by the transmission network.
ND values do not include export on interconnectors or pumping or station load

Blue line serves as a proxy for total GB customer demand. It includes demand supplied by the distributed wind and solar sources, but it does not include demand supplied by non-weather driven sources at the distributed network for which NESO has no real time data.

Historic out-turn data can be found on the [NESO Data Portal](#) in the following data sets:
[Historic Demand Data & Demand Data Update](#)

From March to October, the table will display overnight minimum (between 00:00 and 07:30) and daytime minimum (between 07:30 and 16:30) as well as an additional column: distributed PV.

Distributed generation
Peak values by day

Date	OUTTURN	
	Daily Max Dist. PV (GW)	Daily Max Dist. Wind (GW)
14 Oct 2026	9.5	4.2
15 Oct 2026	5.9	4.2
16 Oct 2026	9.9	1.6
17 Oct 2026	10.7	1.2
18 Oct 2026	8.8	1.2
19 Oct 2026	7.3	1.4
20 Oct 2026	1.8	1.9

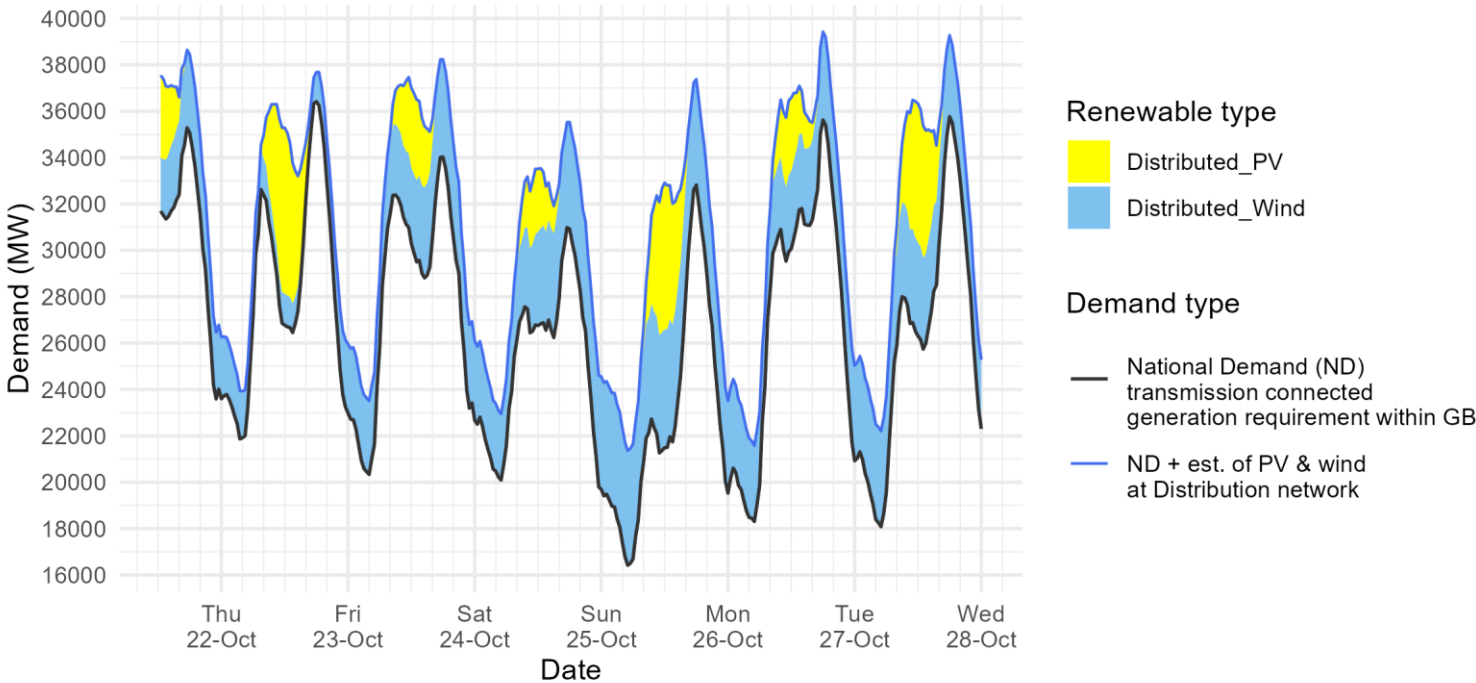
National Demand
Minimum Demands

Date	Forecasting Point	FORECAST (Wed 07 Oct)			OUTTURN		
		National Demand (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)	Dist. PV (GW)	National Demand (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)	Dist. PV (GW)
14 Oct 2026	Daytime Min	23.9	4.0	5.2	22.4	3.5	9.3
15 Oct 2026	Overnight Min	18.8	3.7	0.0	19.5	3.4	0.0
15 Oct 2026	Daytime Min	26.2	2.5	3.9	26.3	2.8	5.9
16 Oct 2026	Overnight Min	20.4	1.6	0.0	21.0	0.8	0.0
16 Oct 2026	Daytime Min	25.2	1.9	4.5	22.8	1.6	7.8
17 Oct 2026	Overnight Min	19.7	1.6	0.0	20.4	1.1	0.0
17 Oct 2026	Daytime Min	22.4	2.0	7.1	20.0	1.0	10.7
18 Oct 2026	Overnight Min	19.4	1.6	0.0	20.4	0.9	0.0
18 Oct 2026	Daytime Min	22.2	1.6	0.3	22.2	0.9	8.4
19 Oct 2026	Overnight Min	20.6	1.6	0.0	20.9	1.2	0.0
19 Oct 2026	Daytime Min	29.0	2.0	3.8	28.6	1.0	5.8
20 Oct 2026	Overnight Min	21.4	1.6	0.0	21.8	1.2	0.0
20 Oct 2026	Daytime Min	27.1	2.0	5.7	30.8	1.5	0.0



Demand | Week Ahead

NESO Demand forecast for 21 - 27 October 2026



The black line (National Demand ND) is the measure of portion of total GB customer demand that is supplied by the transmission network. ND values do not include export on interconnectors or pumping or station load

Blue line serves as a proxy for total GB customer demand. It includes demand supplied by the distributed wind and solar sources, but it does not include demand supplied by non-weather driven sources at the distributed network for which NESO has no real-time data.

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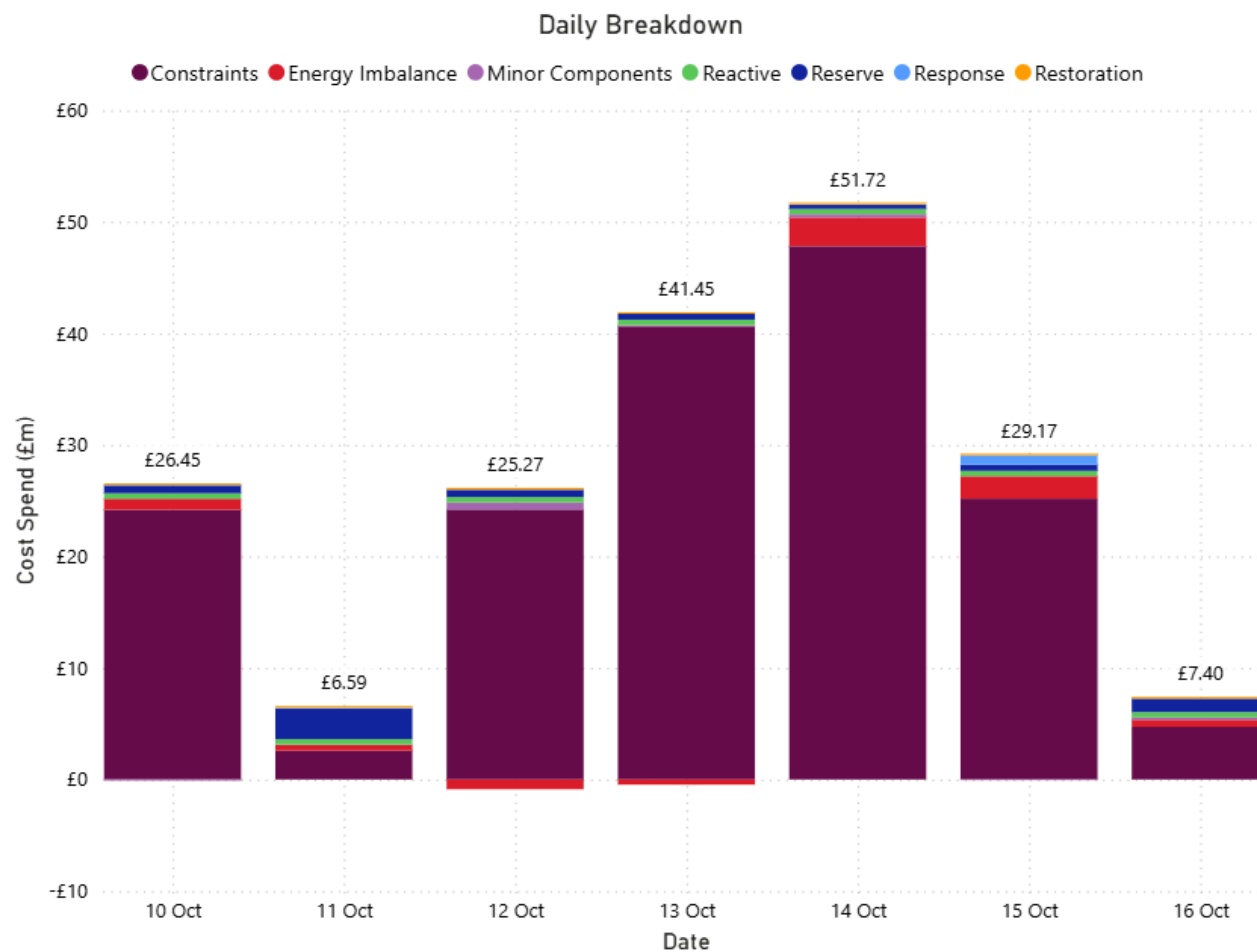
National Demand

Minimum Demands

		FORECAST (Wed 21 Oct)	
Date	Forecasting Point	National Demand (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)
21 Oct 2026	Evening Peak	35.3	3.3
22 Oct 2026	Overnight Min	21.9	2.1
22 Oct 2026	Evening Peak	36.4	1.3
23 Oct 2026	Overnight Min	20.3	3.2
23 Oct 2026	Evening Peak	34.0	4.2
24 Oct 2026	Overnight Min	20.1	2.9
24 Oct 2026	Evening Peak	31.0	4.5
25 Oct 2026	Overnight Min	16.4	4.9
25 Oct 2026	Evening Peak	32.8	4.6
26 Oct 2026	Overnight Min	18.3	3.3
26 Oct 2026	Evening Peak	35.6	3.8
27 Oct 2026	Overnight Min	18.1	4.1
27 Oct 2026	Evening Peak	35.8	3.4

NESO Actions | Category Cost Breakdown

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Current Week Total (£m)

£188.05

Average Daily Cost (£m)

£26.86

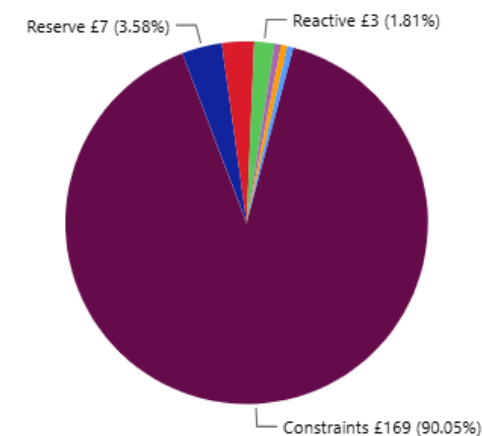
Previous Week Total (£m)

£121.30

Previous 30 Day Average (£m)

£18.68

Share of Cost Spend (£m)

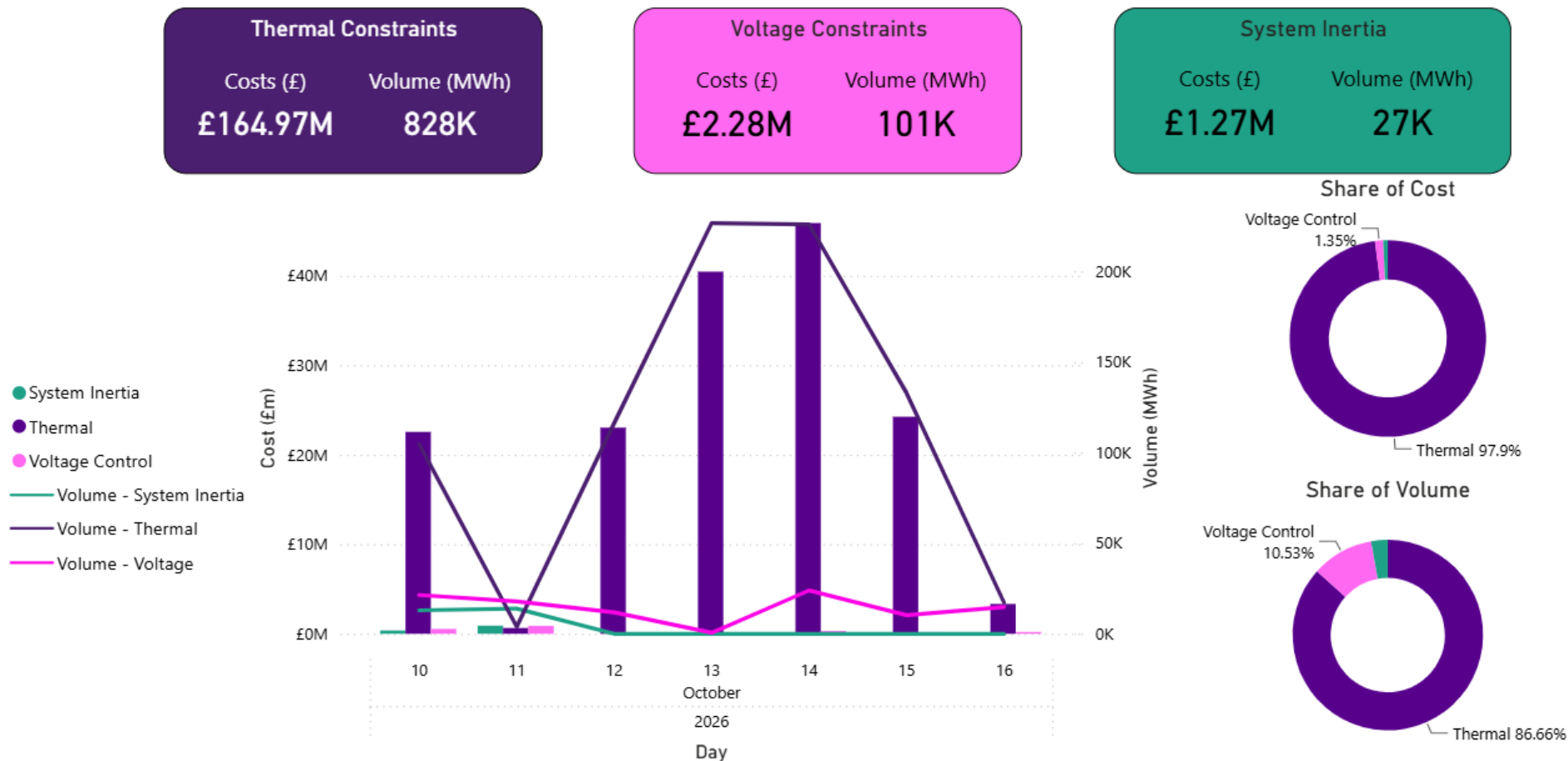


For more info on constraint costs, and the steps NESO is taking with industry partners to address them, please see our Balancing Costs [website](#).

Contact us on box.nc.customer@neso.energy

NESO Actions | Constraint Cost Breakdown

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Note: Volume is reported as an absolute figure.

Contact us on box.nc.customer@neso.energy

NESO Actions | Settlement Periods of Interest

Slido code #OTF

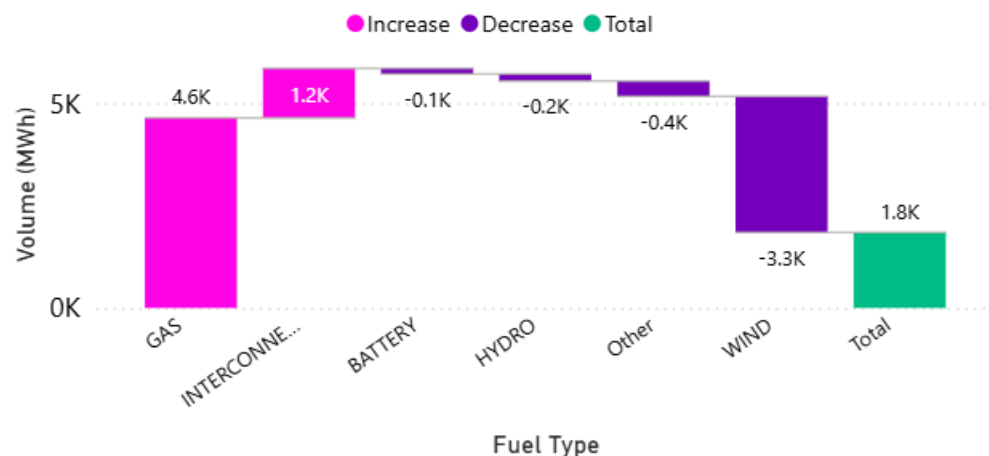
Highest Costing Settlement Period

Settlement Date	Settlement Period	Approximate Cost
14/10/2026	16	£2M

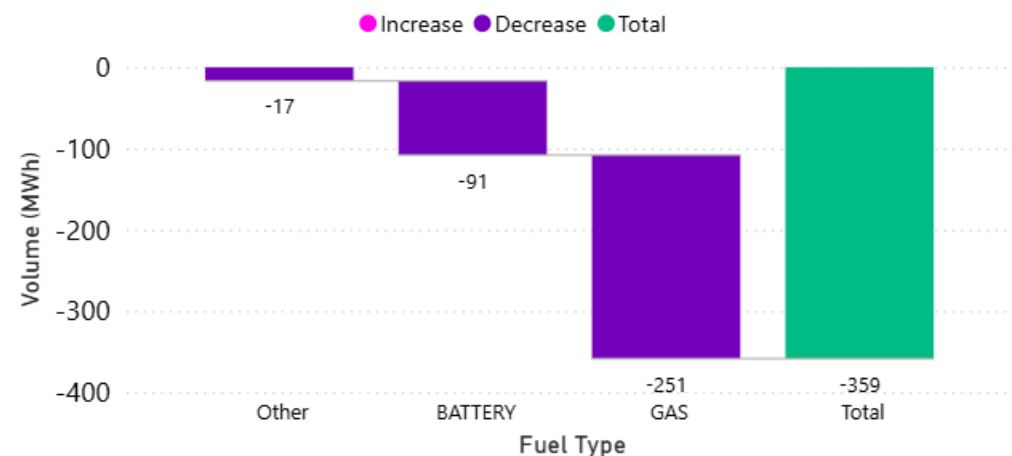
Lowest Costing Settlement Period

Settlement Date	Settlement Period	Approximate Cost
11/10/2026	29	£3K

Volume of Actions by Fuel Type



Volume of Actions by Fuel Type



Volume shown here is the net volume of actions taken, showing overall increase or decrease in generation from BM units of these fuel types.

NESO Actions | Settlement Periods of Interest

Slido code #OTF

Highest Demand Period

Settlement Date

12/10/2026

Settlement Period

37

Demand (MW)

39K

Approximate Cost

£620K

Minimum Demand Period

Settlement Date

14/10/2026

Settlement Period

10

Demand (MW)

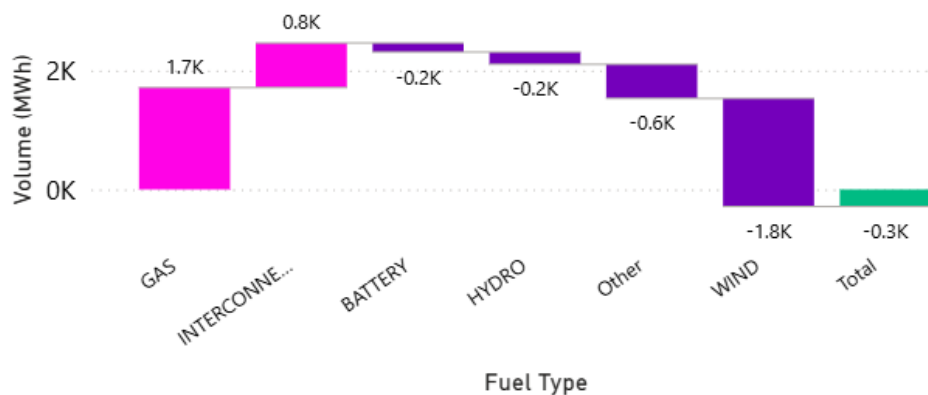
21K

Approximate Cost

£580K

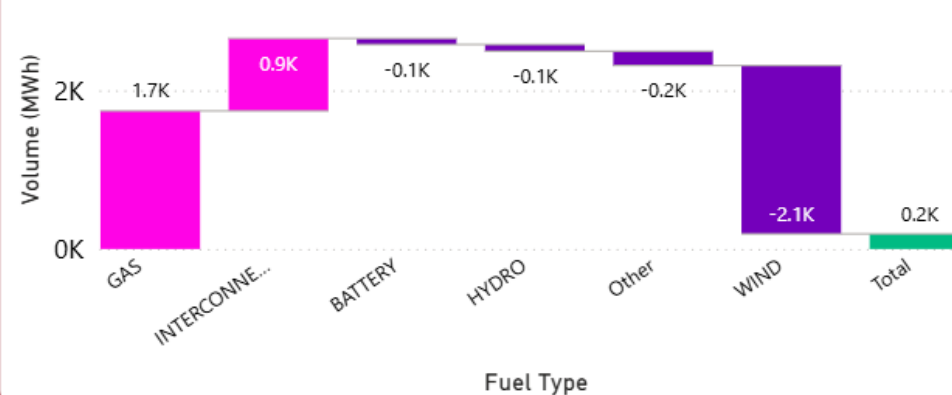
Volume of Actions by Fuel Type

● Increase ● Decrease ● Total



Volume of Actions by Fuel Type

● Increase ● Decrease ● Total



Volume shown here is the net volume of actions taken, showing overall increase or decrease in generation from BM units of these fuel types.

NESO Actions | Highest Costing Day

Share of Action Cost Spend

● BID ● OFFER

7.37%

92.63%

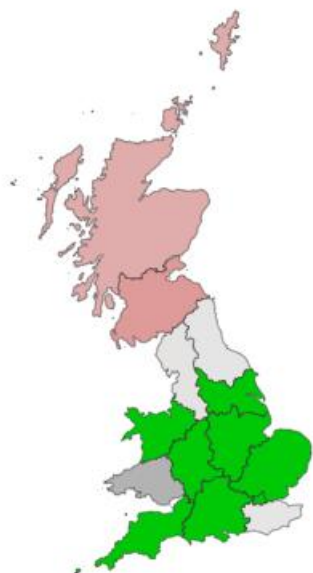
Settlement Date

14/10/2026

Cost (£m)

£51.72

Bid Spend (£) by GSP



Offer Spend (£) by GSP



Approximate Cost

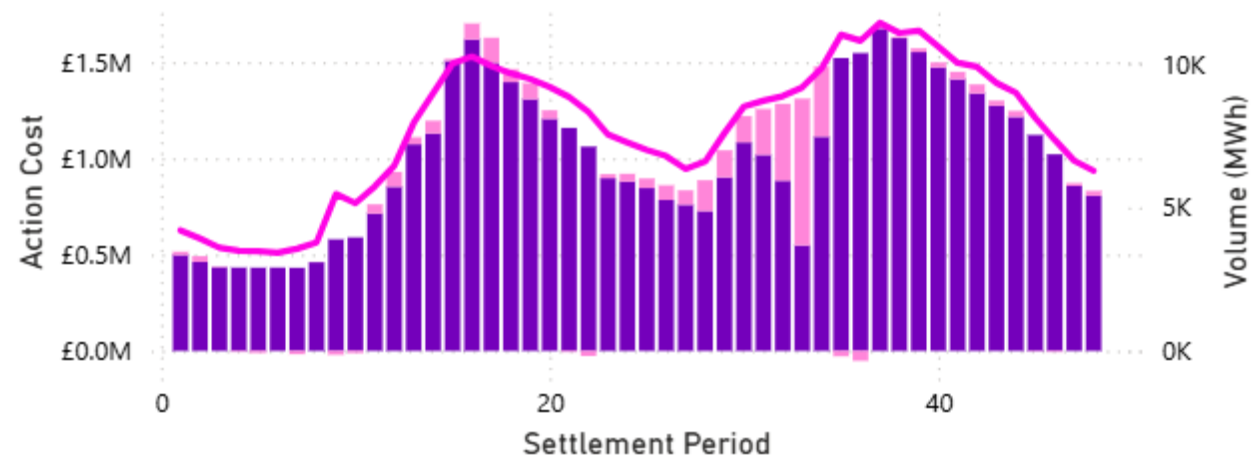
-£728.00K

£0

£9.40M

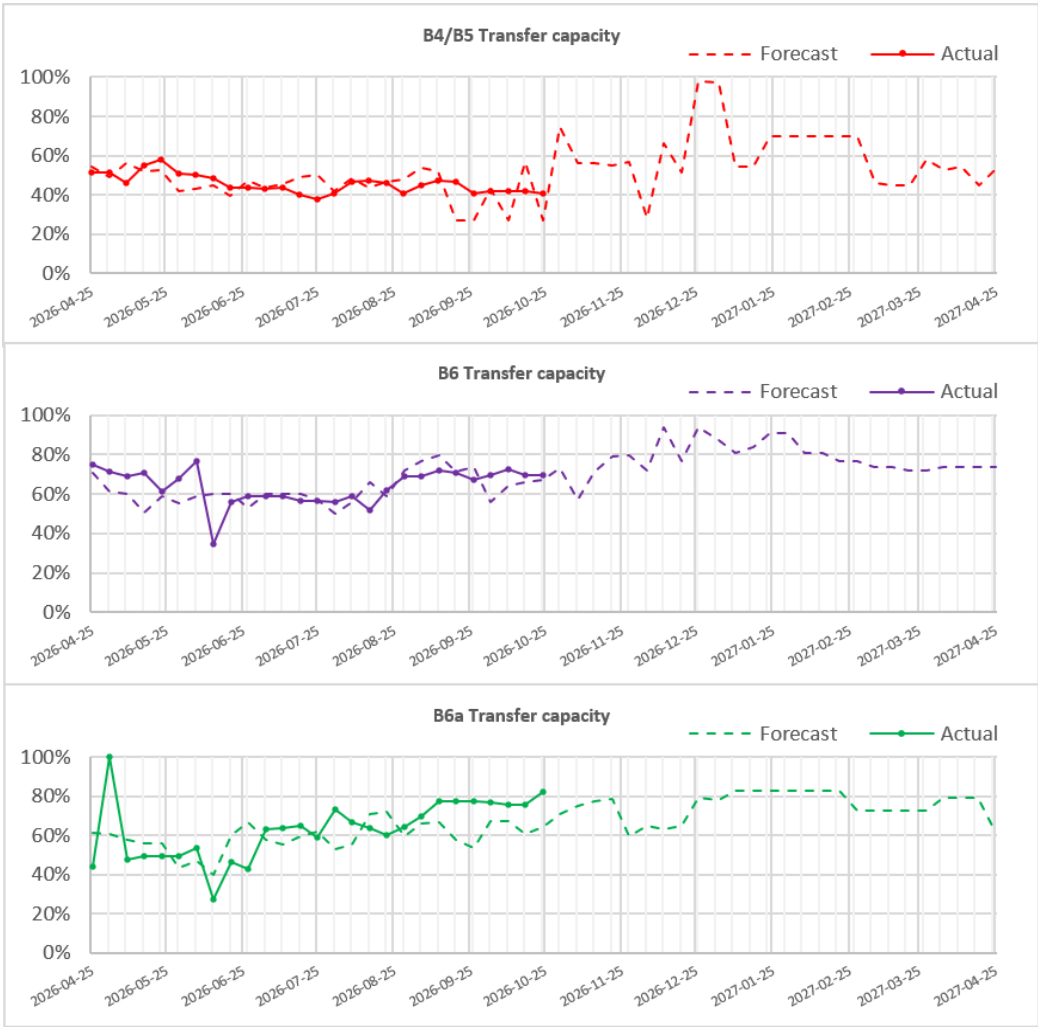
Action Cost and Volume

● Constraint ● Non-Constraint — Volume (MWh)

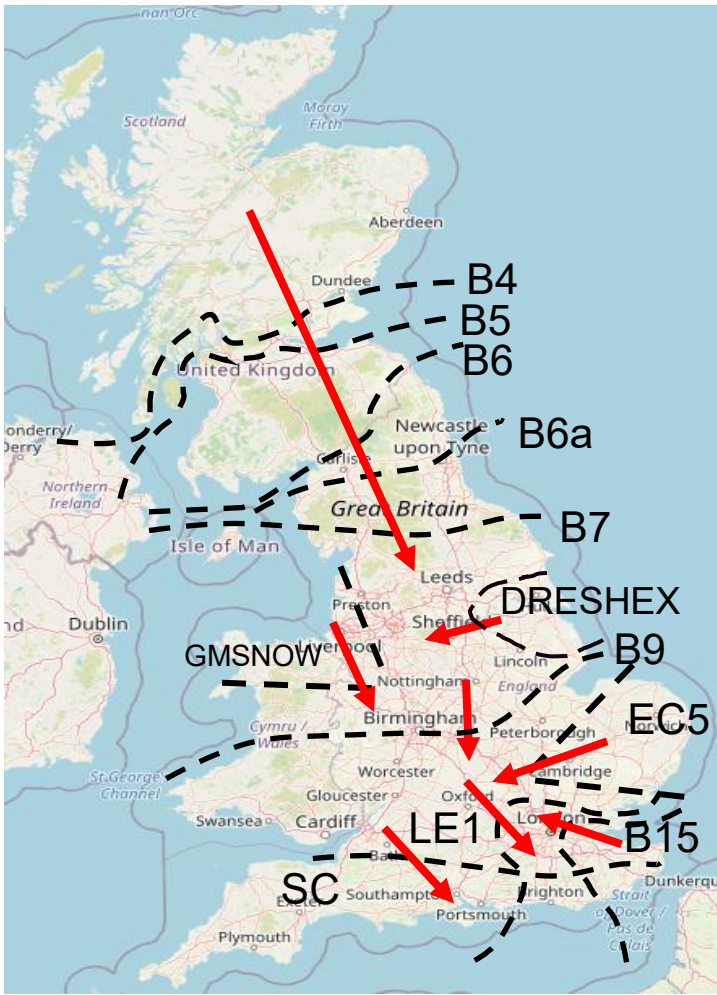


Transparency | Network Congestion

Slido code #OTF



Boundary	Max. Capacity (MW)	Current Capacity (%)
B4/B5	3400	41
B6 (SCOTEX)	6800	70
B6a	8000	83
B7 (SSHARN)	9850	62
GMSNOW	5800	58
FLOWSTH (B9)	12700	63
DRESHEX	9675	67
EC5	5000	80
LE1 (SEIMP)	8750	55
B15 (ESTEX)	7500	100
SC1	7300	100

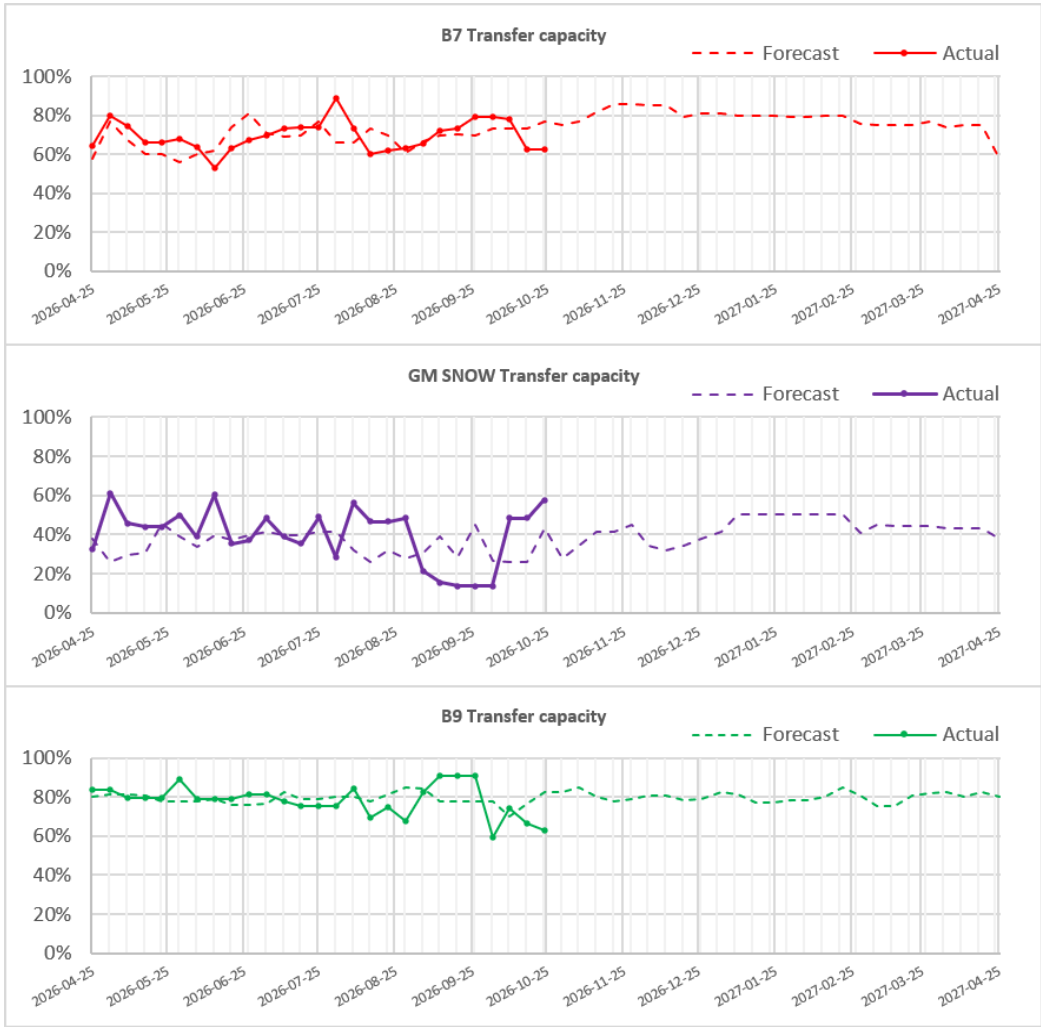


The forecast line is updated with the 12-week ahead view, and this happens each week. So, everything up to 12 weeks ahead is the forecast from 12-week ahead view, and everything after that is the fixed long-term forecast view.

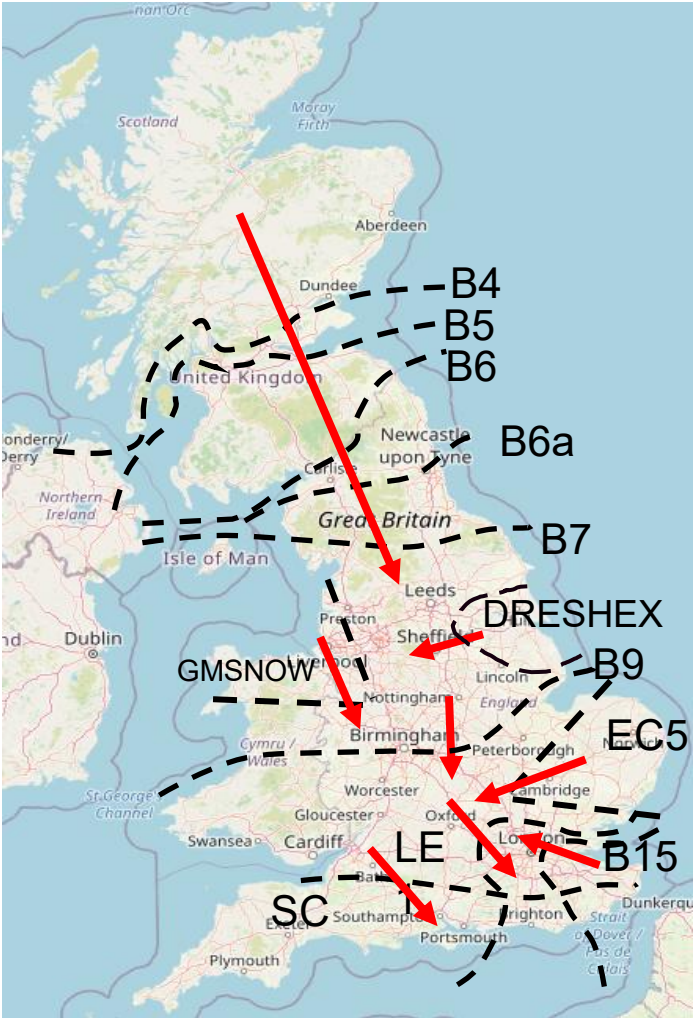


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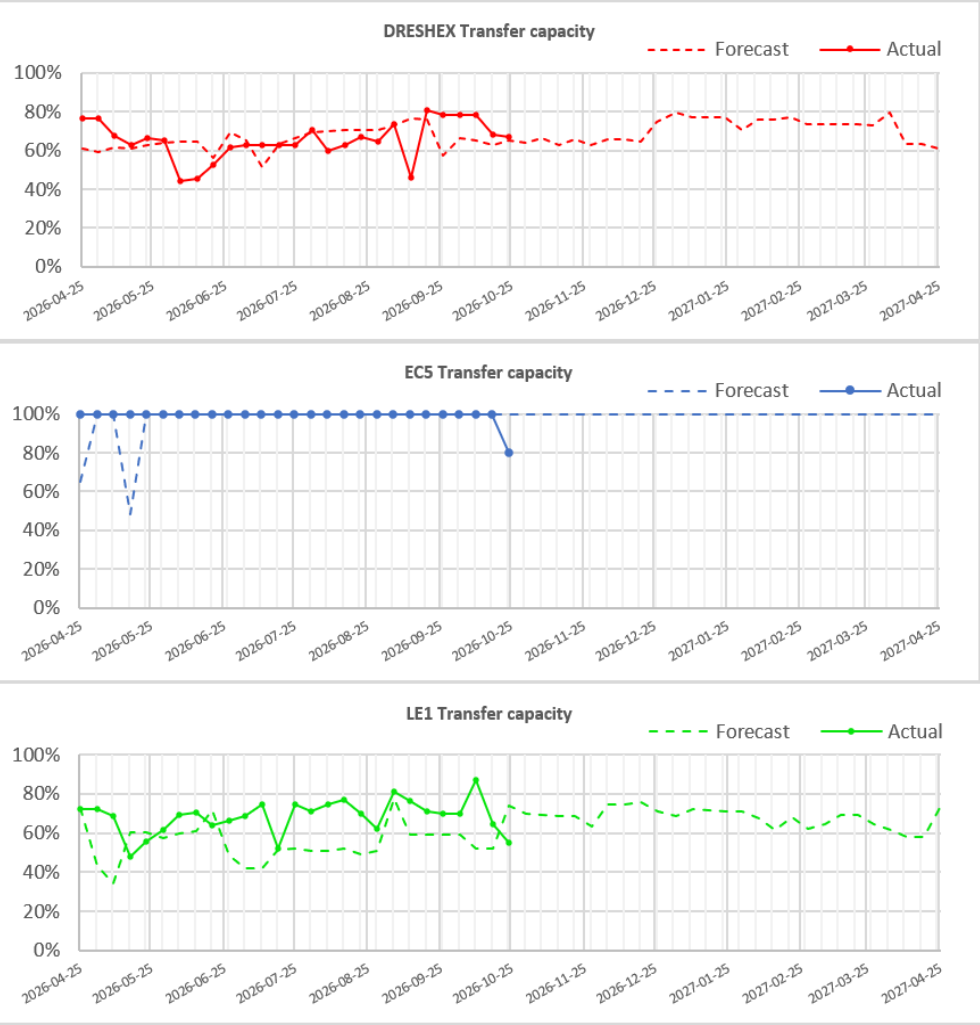


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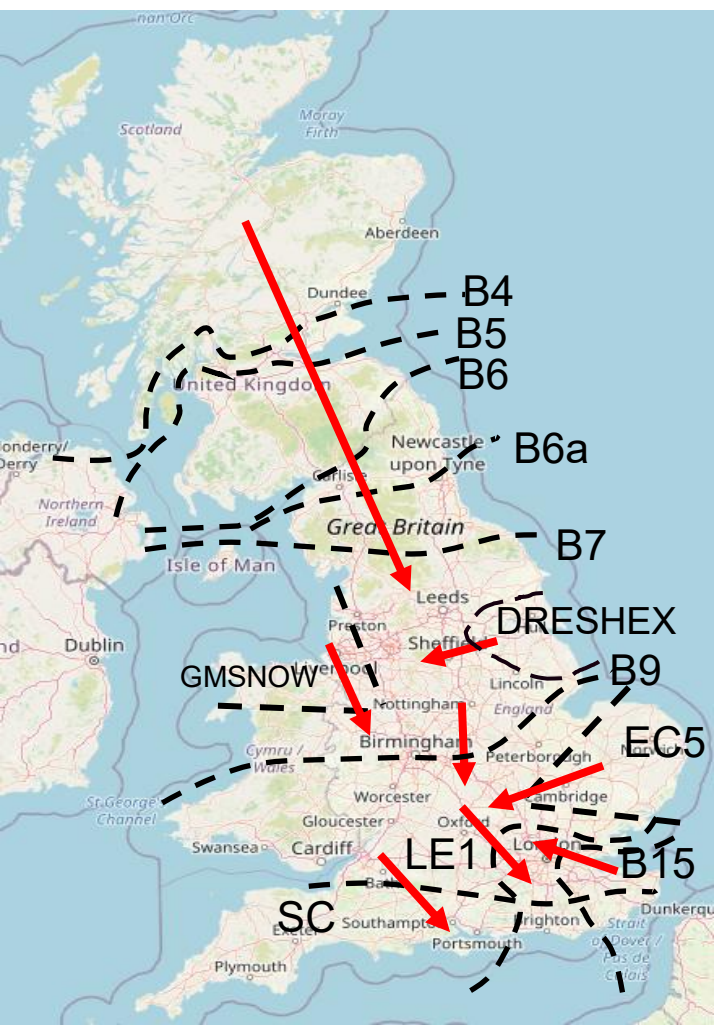


Transparency | Network Congestion

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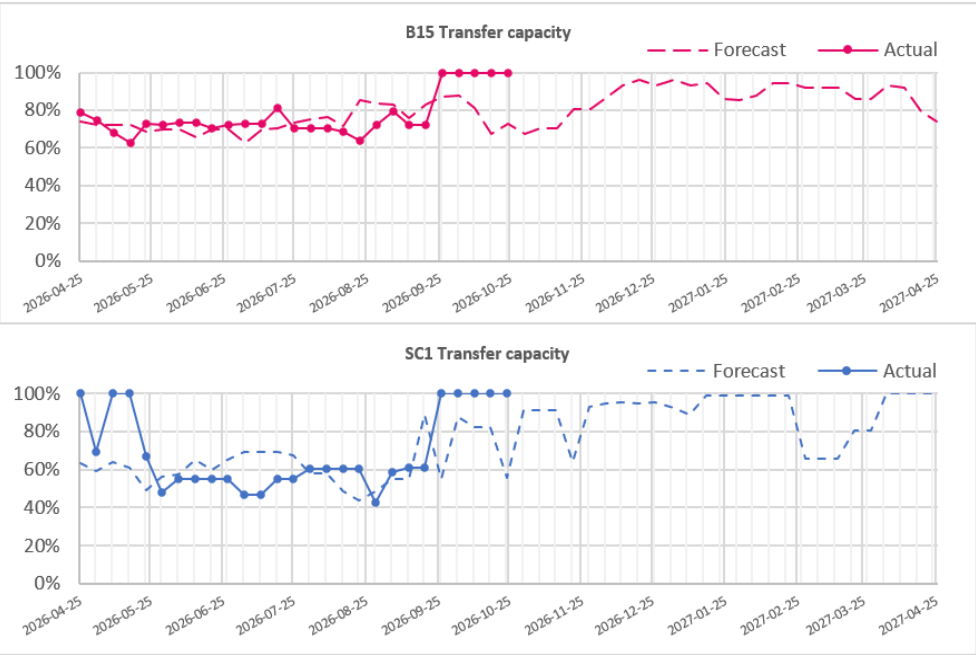


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Transparency | Network Congestion

Slido code #OTF

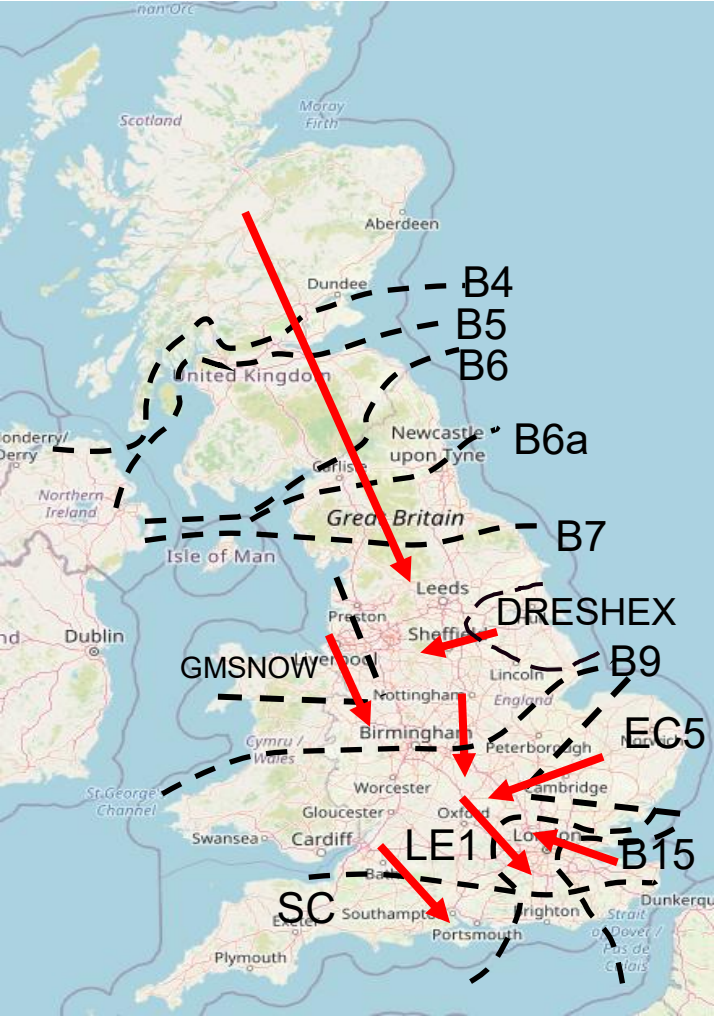


The forecast line is updated with the 12-week ahead view, and this happens each week. So, everything up to 12 weeks ahead is the forecast from 12-week ahead view, and everything after that is the fixed long-term forecast view.

Day ahead flows and limits, and the 24-month constraint limit forecast are published on the NESO Data Portal: [Constraints Management](#)

The dataset presented in the Network congestion is published on the NESO data portal . [Operational Transparency Forum – Network congestion data | National Energy System Operator](#)

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EC5	5000	80
LE1 (SEIMP)	8750	55
B15 (ESTEX)	7500	100
SC1	7300	100



(The forecast and day ahead limits may vary due to changes in the outage plan. The plan is reviewed periodically throughout the year to ensure we are optimising system conditions, whilst managing any necessary outage plan changes.

Energy Skip Rates – Bids & Offers Combined

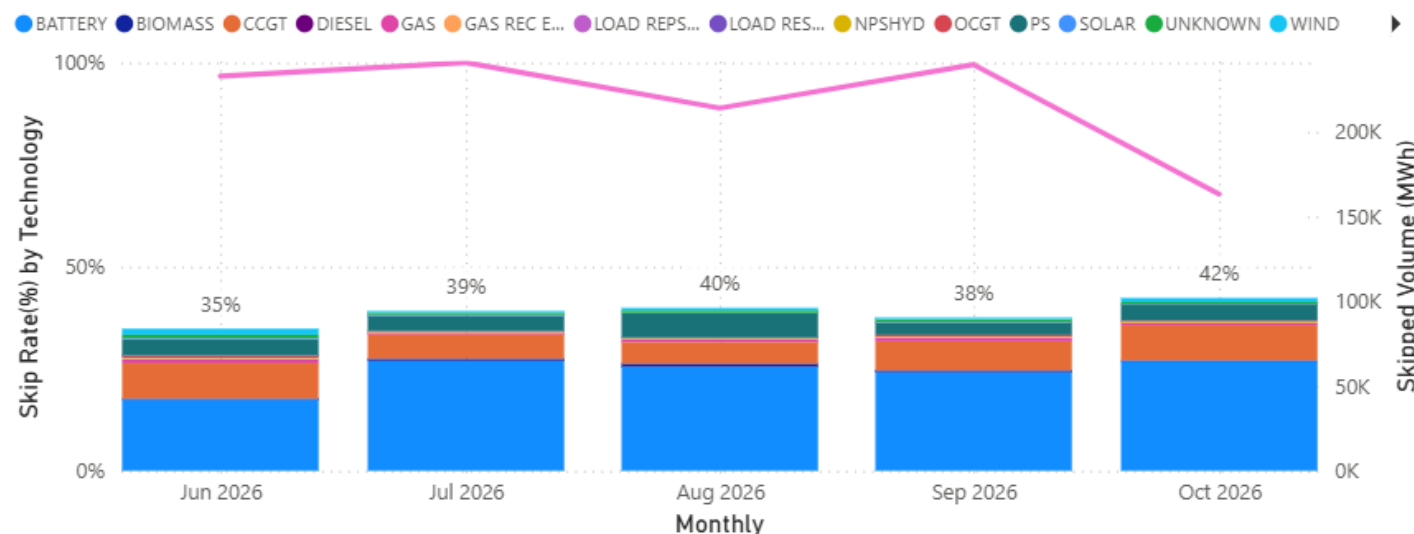
Slido code #OTF

We welcome your comments and feedback on these figures and how we present this data.

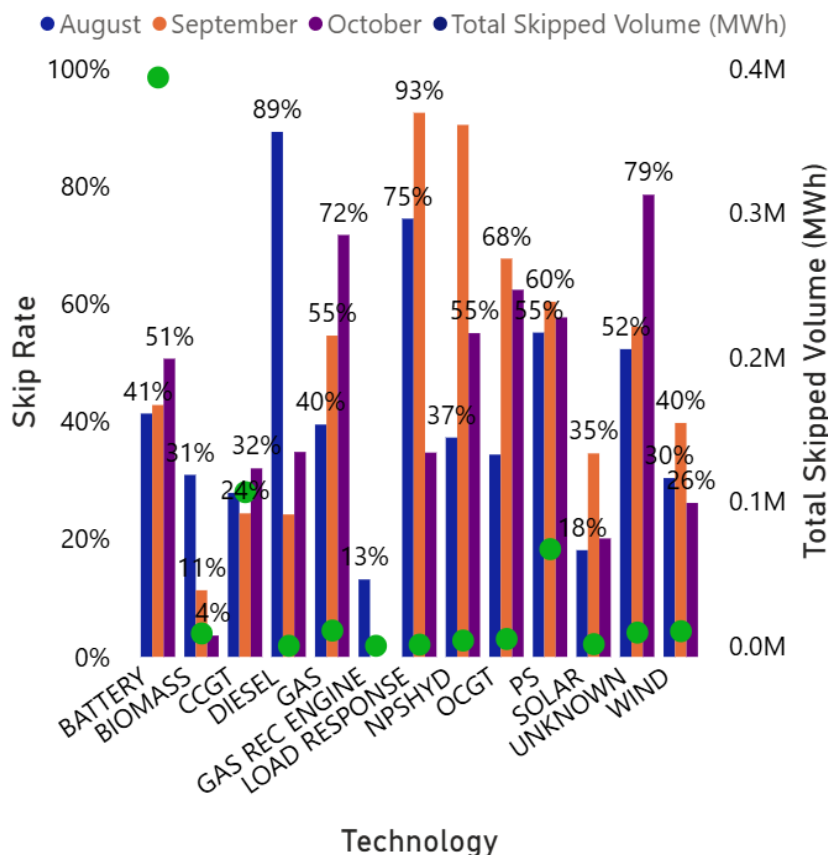
These graphs are based on stage 5 of the Post System Action definition.

Weekly Average w/e	PSA Skip Rate (%)
27/09	38%
04/10	41%
11/10	43%
18/10	43%

Relative Technology Skip Rate



Technology Specific Skip Rate – last 3 months



Skips behind constraints [webinar recording](#) and [powerpoint slides](#)

Contact us on box.SkipRates@neso.energy

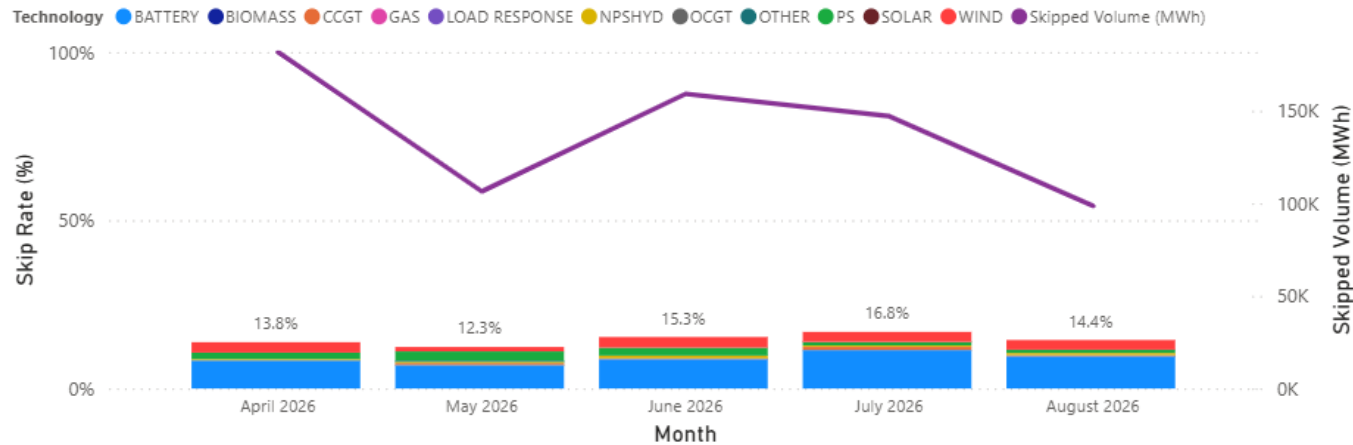
[Skip rate data](#) and more info on [skip rates](#) including methodology can be found on our website

Gas: Gas reciprocating units
NPSHYD: Non-Pumped Storage Hydro
PS: Pumped Storage

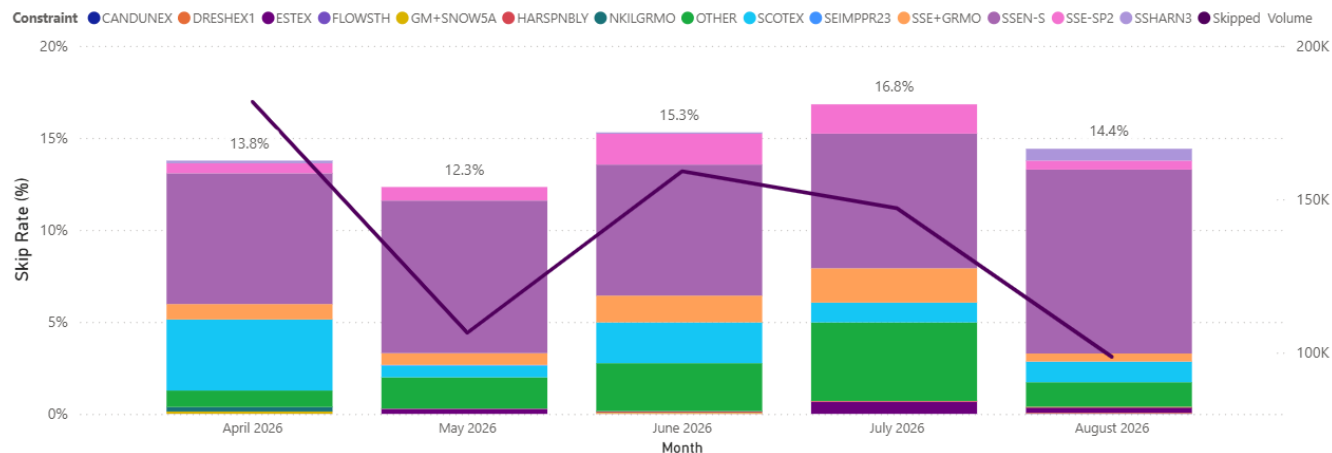
Constraints Skip Rate- Bids & Offers Combined

Slido code #OTF

Relative Technology Skip Rate



Relative Constraint Skip Rate

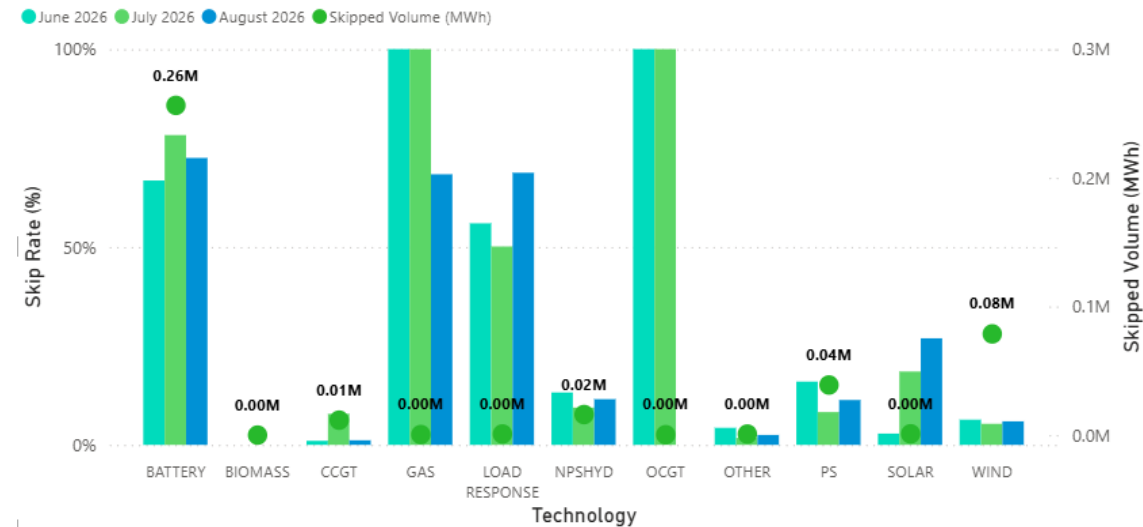


Monthly Average	Skip Rate (%)
May	12%
June	15%
July	17%
August	14%

Last updated-
September 2026

Datasets are published monthly, once the relevant month is complete

Technology Specific Skip Rate – last 3 months



Gas: Gas reciprocating units
NPSHYD: Non-Pumped Storage Hydro
PS: Pumped Storage

Skips behind constraints [webinar recording](#) and [powerpoint slides](#)
Contact us on box.SkipRates@neso.energy

30 [Skip rate data](#) and more info on [skip rates](#) including methodology can be found on our website

Previously Asked Questions

Slido code #OTF

Advance Q (01.10.26): Does NESO agree that the Network Diagram for Scotland (PDF) available here <https://www.neso.energy/data-portal/day-ahead-constraint-flows-and-limits> is missing the following substations and associated circuits shown in Appendix A of the ETYS (<https://www.neso.energy/document/383931/download>)?:

KILGALLIOCH, MARK HILL, ARECLEOCH, DUNHILL, BLACKHILL, GLENGLASS, BENBROCK and BLACKCRAIG.

Can NESO please explain how the Network Diagram is missing these circuits and substations?

Can NESO please state if any other circuits and substations are missing from the Network Diagrams for Scotland and/or England and Wales?

A: The diagram shown is taken from our Picasso diagram which is used by our planning engineers to handover the day ahead constraints to the control room. The reason the assets are not shown on our Picasso diagrams is that they are predominantly radial connections associated with individual wind farm connections. While their generation output is represented within our operational and planning assessments, they are not considered part of the Main Interconnected System. As a result, including them on the diagrams would add limited operational value and could detract from the primary purpose of the network representation. Excluding them helps keep the diagrams clear and focused on the key elements of the transmission system that are most relevant for operational planning and decision-making.

Advance Q (30.09.26): Today (30.09.26) the presenter doing the demand slides was talking about c30GW of demand, but the tables do not show that. What is the difference – are they adding on the wind and solar output to give what the underlying demand is? If so can that we added a column with that?

A: The two figures quoted (~33GW, 32.7GW) are both national demand ie. the black line on the chart. As these are peak demand figures, these will not currently show in the table, which shows minimum demand figures. From November, the table will switch to showing peak values.

Previously Asked Questions

Slido code #OTF

Q (07.10.26) Hamidreza Jahangir: Yesterday, during the evening peak, in BM, NESO activated three expensive CCGTs at prices above £980/MWh and covered the remaining part of the BM Offer stack with BSADs. Was there a specific reason for selecting these high-priced assets while skipping other available units?

A: These units were instructed to provide positive margin to the system in addition to that provided by other available units. Closer to real time, the net interconnector position increased towards GB significantly, which meant that other Offers were not required.

Q (14.10.26) Edwin Chen: One of the past questions asked when NESO will publish inertia data again. NESO's answer didn't actually answer the question, it just said that NESO has unilaterally decided the data is confusing and will review on an unspecified timescale. Please actually answer: when will it be published again?

A: We believe we have identified a more appropriate dataset to use, and this is going through our governance process shortly for approval. At this stage we do not have an exact date for publication, but will share as soon as we do.

Q (14.10.26) Hamidreza Jahangir: This morning at 8 am, we saw unusually high BM volumes: 12 GW of accepted offers and 8 GW of accepted bids, totalling nearly 69% of system demand (29 GW). Any reason for this, given that wind generation was very close to forecast?

A: Whilst generation can be in line with forecasts, the location of that generation relative to the demand and the status of the network between them remains a significant factor behind NESO's need to redispatch. There was a large amount of Scottish wind bid off during this period with the resulting lost energy needing to be replaced by sources connected elsewhere on the network accounts for the large amount of redispatch.

Q (14.10.26) Phillip Duckett: Following from Hamidreza's question – offers seem to be accepted out of merit order significantly. Surely that can't all be explained away by "constraints". Was there something particularly unusual happening on the grid which justifies this activity?

A: Answer is the same as for Hamidreza's question above.

Previously Asked Questions

Slido code #OTF

Q (14.10.26) Natasha Ranatunga: Are the EMN deep dive and Margins deep dive going to be the same event or two separate events?

A: Given the significant interest in both topics, we are currently planning two separate deep dives to allow enough time and detail to explore each properly. The topics are closely related, so we do expect some overlap between the sessions. The review is now complete, and we will share the dates for the sessions soon.

Q (14.10.26) Lisa Waters: Skips are stable at a very high level – which implies NESO is not meeting its obligations to operate efficiently. What is being done to address this? You cannot ask everyone to join the BM under RNP and then not call them in merit.

A: Skip rates increased over the summer, reflecting periods of heightened operational risk and uncertainty. While economic and efficient operation is important, maintaining a secure system is also fundamental. In some circumstances, this means taking actions that preserve greater operational flexibility rather than simply selecting the lowest-priced action, and these security considerations are not fully captured by the current skip rate metric. We continue to investigate the drivers of skips and take action to reduce those that can be avoided. We are also working to improve how we identify and explain the operational risks influencing dispatch decisions. Given the limitations of the methodology, we would not expect the skip rate to reach zero.

Advance Q (06.10.26): As a result of questions submitted to NESO on the ETYS on 20 August, NESO is still making corrections to errors identified in the ETYS, including information on boundary capabilities and flows; and diagrams in Appendices A & C. Can NESO please agree to publish immediately a holding statement on the ETYS web page noting the work in progress and explaining the corrections being made?

A: NESO has published a notice on the ETYS webpage informing stakeholders that ETYS 2025 Appendices A, B and C are currently being reviewed and updated. The notice explains that NESO is undertaking a programme of updates to improve consistency across the appendices and ensure they reflect the latest available network information. It also advises stakeholders that revised versions of the appendices are expected to be published later in October 2026. The review includes updates to network representations and associated information within the appendices. Once the review and assurance activities have been completed, NESO will publish the updated appendices and will continue to provide any further updates through the ETYS webpage as appropriate. We appreciate the engagement and feedback received from stakeholders, which has helped inform the review and update process.

Previously Asked Questions

Slido code #OTF

Advance Q (14.10.26): Hi, with the Interconnector Trading Restriction (published in May) due to end at the end of 2026 can you provide details on the restrictions from Jan-27 onwards (are the current restrictions going to remain in place from Jan-27 or will these restrictions be lifted)? And secondly, how has the winter outlook accounted for these restrictions in Q1 (has the outlook assumed the restrictions will be in place or not)? Thanks

A: Yes the same trading restrictions will be in place from Jan 27 while a medium term solution is being worked on between NESO and the connected TSOs. Some work has started in this area and a coordinated capacity mechanism is the suggested solution, we don't know the delivery date of this but will share details as they become available.

Advance Q (15.10.26): Still requiring clarification on the interconnector trading restrictions when the day ahead nomination is exactly 0MW – does the 300MW restriction apply or not? It is understood that the 300MW limit can be broken after discussions with the relevant TSO, but what needs clarifying is whether a 0MW nomination means NESO trades would count as trading in the same direction as the day-ahead nomination (and therefore no restriction) or in the opposite direction to the day-ahead nomination (and therefore discussions required with the relevant TSO in order to break the restriction). For example, on 14/09/2026 1800–2000 BST, IFA1 had a day ahead nomination of 0 MW, but the Faradyn accepted volume was restricted to 300MW. This contradicts the market notice, which stated the 300MW limit only applies when the NESO trades are “in the opposite direction to the Day-Ahead schedule”. Last week’s answer to the same question suggested “this situation is unlikely” but the reality is we have seen 0MW day ahead nominations many times.

A: Unfortunately, we cannot provide a definitive answer. A day-ahead nomination of 0 MW indicates neither an import nor an export, so our previous response remains unchanged: if we wished to trade more than 300 MW in this situation, we would need to discuss it with the relevant TSO.

Advance Q (14.10.26): I have asked several advance questions about NESO’s data. Does NESO have any data checking and approval processes? If you do, why are they failing?

A: We do have checks in place. If you could please confirm which data set you are referring to, it would be helpful.

Previously Asked Questions

Slido code #OTF

Advance Q (13.10.26): NESO publishes Monthly Electricity Summary Statistics titled “Great Britain’s Monthly Energy Stats” – <https://www.neso.energy/energy-101/great-britains-monthly-energy-stats>. Most of GB’s energy is currently not supplied by electricity, e.g. fossil fuels for transport and heating. Will NESO retitle its current publication to “Great Britain’s Monthly Electricity Stats”? And when will NESO publish GB Energy Stats?

A: NESO publishes monthly data reflecting activity on the national electricity and gas transmission networks. This data is limited to activity on these networks and is not a reflection of all energy usage, as this is beyond NESO’s remit as the Electricity System Operator and the network planner for the long-term future of both the electricity and gas transmission networks. We will review if a different name would better reflect that this data is limited to national energy transmission networks.

Q (14.10.26) Phillip Duckett: Is there any further update on the EAC incident last week where Linked Windows were briefly removed? The (vague) email circular suggested there was no impact on the auction but some participants have reported failing to get bids submitted. The clearing prices for SR also displayed irregular shape compared to prior auctions suggesting significant divergence from normality.

A: On the 22nd of September we introduced some new features to the EAC platform to improve the resilience of the market. In updating the platform, the linked windows for PSR were mistakenly removed from the auction configuration for 7th of October onwards. This mistake was discovered after the auction for delivery on the 9th October. The configuration was updated for future auctions and participants were notified to check any bids submitted for future auctions in case the change has invalidated them. The auctions on the 7th and 8th ran without linked windows and the clearing price for those days displays a larger amount of variation across the periods than seen when the linked windows are implemented. The volume procured over this period was broadly normal with a minimum of 99.7% of requirement met (a maximum 5MW shortfall) over these two auctions. We are not aware of any participants who were unable to submit bids for these auctions.

Previously Asked Questions

Slido code #OTF

Advance Q (14.10.26): Recent constraint in Yorkshire area seems to occur during periods of high Scottish wind and is leading to skipped offer prices and sporadic periods of system tagged bids for our asset.

1. NESO operation control room informed us that asset was skipped due to local system issues, why is it that other assets in Yorkshire area had energy tagged offers accepted while we were skipped?
2. if we are not taken for offers due to the above reason, then why is it that our asset is able to export fully without receiving bids? This would suggest there is no constraint and we are being skipped unduly.

A: Network constraints can be highly locational and time-dependent, meaning assets within the same area may have different impacts on the constrained part of the network. Could you please confirm which unit you are referring to, along with the relevant time period? This will allow us to look into the specific circumstances and provide a more detailed response.

Q (14.10.26) Michael Langdon Davies: The volume on DISBSAD for the EA on IFA1 looks to have been published incorrectly (365MWh in SP36) - shouldn't this be ~600MWh? Also the published price is 0 - could you give an indication of the likely price of the EA?

A: We will take this away and look at the published MWh value for this. We are reviewing the published volume for the IFA1 Energy Action in SP36. Regarding the £0/MWh price, this was submitted where the Supporting System Operator was unable to provide an actual or indicative price at the time of instruction. The published data will be updated once the price becomes available.

Q (07.10.26) Eleanor Haynes : I note NESO has started to refer to EMNs as 'routine' tools now, whereas previous comms from NESO on EMNs (even earlier in the summer) did not say 'routine' - has NESO changed its approach this year?

No, by 'routine' we mean an established operational tool. These notices are a routine way that we operate the system. It is in accordance with this: [how-do-we-balance-grid/what-are-system-notice](#)s

Outstanding Questions

Slido code #OTF

Q (14.10.26) Lisa Waters: Please provide the MWs, technology and time shift for new builds plants that have moved back (or forward?) as a result of the connections reform.

Public

Previously Asked Questions (To be covered via EMN deep dive)

Slido code #OTF

Q (30.09.26) Matthew James: Noting the Monday EMN, there have now been 5 EMNs in the last 4 months. The last EMN before that was January 2025. Is the system becoming less secure?

Q (30.09.26) Lisa Waters: What caused the EMN?

Q (30.09.26) Milo Karter: Do NESO think it is problematic that there have been 5 EMNs in the last 5 months, when the previous 5 took over 5 years to occur. Given that there has been unused GB plant in 3/5 of these EMN's. Has the threshold for a EMN being enacted been reduced, potentially to unlock additional IC headroom?

Q (30.09.26) Matthew James: On 3 of the last 4 EMNs 2.5GW of IC trades occurred, more than the 1.5GW of IC trades in the new IC trading limits. These days had spare GB CCGT, small & large (250MW+) OCGT's. Shouldn't these be used ahead of IC trades? The limits were created to stop NESO using EU MW when spare GB capacity exists?

Q (30.09.26) Natasha Ranatunga: When is the EMN deep dive scheduled for?

Q (14.10.26) Edwin Chen: With EMNs becoming more frequent, it becomes essential that NESO can provide real-time guidance on expected price. When will NESO implement a process that enables this, rather than the current one where prices are worked out months later in settlement?

Previously Asked Questions (To be covered via EMN deep dive)

Slido code #OTF

Q (14.10.26) Lisa Waters: What has the Ofgem review got to do with the recent EMN?

Q (14.10.26) Jamie MacEwen: Is there any plans to give anymore advanced notice of EMNs, so that asset operators can prepare?

Q (12.10.26) : There have been two emergency assistance actions in the past few days, alongside several EMNs over recent weeks. These are unusual interventions given the seemingly normal system conditions. Have recent changes to NESO's operational processes or forecasting capabilities affected its ability to accurately forecast and manage the system?

In addition, as raised at previous Ops Forums, the use of emergency assistance can have a significant impact on cashout prices and, consequently, market participants' cashflows.

You have previously stated that the price of these trades cannot be known until after the event. However, if the assisting system operator — RTE in this instance — indicates that prices are likely to be exceptionally high, surely alternative options would be explored? So there must be a process of price exploration?

There must be a way to provide indicative pricing in real time, even if only as an estimate or range. Without this transparency, market participants are left trading with significant uncertainty around the potential impact on cashout prices, undermining the market's ability to function efficiently

Previously Asked Questions (To be covered via Margins deep dive)

Slido code #OTF

Q (01.07.26) Chris Bocock: Please could you give us an idea of the capacity numbers involved in the response to the EMN? If possible, I'd like to know the absolute and relative contribution of the demand side response he mentioned. Thank you

Q (01.07.2026) Advance: The extreme weather across Europe in the week beginning 22 June was well forecast. From that the challenges of reduced wind, gas, and nuclear power output should have been forecast. So, I'm very surprised that "[when] we approached real time, models moved from using forecasts for interconnector flow to using nominated flows from day ahead auctions" and that led to amber then red margin status, a frequency deviation, and an interconnector emergency instruction. What work is NESO going to undertake to ensure your margin forecast model does not fail to predict reduced margin in these conditions, well ahead of real time, when they next occur?

Q (01.07.26) Milo Karter: On 26/06 NESO issued an EMN until 21:00 despite soft margins and spare CCGT in the stack. It had already procured 1,500MW on ICs, then cut EMN shortfall to 100MW while requesting another 100MW IC. Was the EMN ready to enable more IC MW procurement cheaper than GB, not because NESO lacked margin?

Q (01.07.26) Milo Karter: Would providing a DRM with the inclusion of constraints provide a better reflection of how tight the system is from a control room perspective. The questions today suggest that the last 3 EMNs have not made any sense to the market given a near 10GW DRM on each EMN.

Q (15.07.26) Lisa Waters: Under the recent EMNs NESO was taking over 500MW out of the margin as it was constrained off. 500MW is the fixed CMN margin trigger. Does NESO think we need to review the CMN trigger to account for constrained off margin?

Previously Asked Questions (To be covered via Margins deep dive)

Slido code #OTF

Q (15.07.26) Alistair Abbott: Are you able to share the causes behind the latest EMNs? The LoLP on Elexon shows that for EMN notice period last Thursday (09/07), the lowest margin forecast was 5.9GW, slightly greater than the margin forecast on Wednesday (08/07), yet this period had no EMN. Thank you.

NESO OTF Q&A Guidelines

- **Anonymous Questions:** We won't answer questions from unidentified parties live. If you need to stay anonymous, use the advance question or email options.
- **Challenge Concerns:** The OTF isn't the place to challenge actions of individual parties (except NESO). Report such concerns to the Market Monitoring team at: <mailto:box.nc.customer@neso.energy>.
- **Question Order:** We'll answer questions in the order they are upvoted. If we can't answer a question right away, we'll take it away or address it later.
- **Slido Availability:** Slido will stay open until 12:00, even if the call ends earlier, to give you more time to ask questions.
- **Q&A:** All questions asked through Slido will be recorded and published with answers in the Operational Transparency Forum Q&A on our webpage: <https://www.neso.energy/what-we-do/systems-operations/operational-transparency-forum>
- **Takeaway Questions:** These will be included in the next OTF pack. We might ask you to email us to clarify details
- **Out of Scope Questions:** These will be forwarded to the right NESO expert or team for a direct response. We might ask you to email us to ensure we have the correct contact details. For more information about the OTF's purpose and scope, check the appendix of this slide pack.

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Audience Q&As

① Start presenting to display the audience questions on this slide.

Send us your feedback..

Using the poll in Sli.do after the event.

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If you have any questions after the event,
please contact the following email address:
box.nc.customer@neso.energy.

Appendix

Purpose and scope of the NESO Operational Transparency Forum

Purpose: The Operational Transparency Forum runs once a week to provide updated information on and insight into the operational challenges faced by the control room in the recent past (1-2 weeks) and short-term future (1-2 weeks). The OTF will also signpost other NESO events, provide deep dives into focus topics, and allow industry to ask questions.

Scope

The OTF covers:

- Regular updates, deep dives, and focus topics
- NESO's operational strategies and challenges
- Data published by NESO
- Data and processes from other parties (e.g., BMRS by Elexon, consultations by Elexon, Ofgem, DESNZ)
- Industry questions (answers live or taken away for answering later)

Out of Scope

The OTF does not cover:

- Data owned by other parties
- Specific actions and decisions of the NESO Control Room
- Activities and operations of individual market participants
- NESO's policy and strategic decisions
- Formal consultations (e.g., Code Changes, Business Planning, Market Development)

Skip Rates – ‘In Merit’ datasets

Slido code #OTF

We recognise that these datasets aren't as intuitive as they could be – specifically the column headings. Please be reassured that we are looking at ways to improve this – we will update the documentation to include this information and will also discuss the datasets in more detail at the webinar on 27th February.

We will use ‘accepted’ and ‘instructed’ differently in this context, even though they are normally the same.

These datasets show the units that should have been instructed if decisions were solely based on price, rather than all units that were instructed. Therefore, this dataset does not match the total accepted volume datasets in Elexon.

$\text{In Merit Volume} = \text{Accepted Volume} + \text{Skipped Volume}$

In Merit Volume

- This is the recreated in merit stack showing the lowest cost units that were available to meet the requirement, where the requirement is based on the volume of units that were actually instructed
- Therefore, this is the volume that should have been accepted if decisions were solely based on price
- The sum of this column is the total instructed volume in the 5-minute period (subject to the relevant exclusions)

Accepted Volume

- This is the volume that was accepted in merit, as a subset of the ‘In Merit Volume’ column – i.e. how much volume was accepted in merit
- The sum of this column will be less than the sum of the ‘In Merit Volume’ column, unless there is no skipped volume
- Note: this column does not list all instructed units

Skipped Volume

- This is the volume that was skipped, as a subset of the ‘In Merit Volume’ column – i.e. of the volume that we should have instructed, how much was skipped

It's possible that the list of units increases, decreases, or stays the same between stages, but the total ‘In Merit Volume’ will always remain the same (or no volume is excluded) or decrease (due to exclusions).