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Headline Report 28 July 2026

The Headline Report is produced after every Panel and aims to provide an overview of the key decisions made. Minutes for this meeting will be published separately.

Approval of Panel Minutes

The meeting minutes from the SQSS Panel held on 27 May 2026 were approved, subject to minor comments from the Panel being incorporated.

New Modifications

No new Modification Proposals were presented to the Panel.

New / Pending Authority Decisions

Decisions since the last Panel

There have been no new Authority decisions on SQSS Modifications since the last Panel.

In flight Modifications

GSR029 'Review of Demand Connection Criteria to Align with EREC P2/7'

The Panel noted that GSR029 continues through a subgroup arrangement and that there is currently no revised timeline. Concerns were raised regarding subgroup visibility, membership, and governance. A NESO representative confirmed that the subgroup is an informal mechanism to support discussions and that all formal governance remains within the Workgroup.

The Panel agreed that the existing timeline was no longer achievable and that the modification should remain paused until further progress had been made.

GSR035 'System Access Reform: Review of the operational requirements on the Onshore Systems'

A Panel member asked whether it was still possible to join the Workgroup. The Chair confirmed that participation remained possible, although voting eligibility would be subject to attendance requirements. The Panel approved a revised timeline extending the Workgroup Report, FMR, and Authority submission milestones into 2027.

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GSR037 'Formatting and Housekeeping'

The Panel noted that GSR037 had reached the final stages of the modification process and that the FMR would be progressed through the Panel and then submitted to the Authority, following the current timeline. No concerns were raised by the Panel.

The next Modification Tracker was published on 07 August 2026.

Workgroup Reports

No Workgroup reports were presented to the Panel.

Draft Final Modification Reports

The following Draft Final Modification Reports were presented to the Panel:

GSR036 'System Access Reform: Review of Voltage Limits'

This modification seeks to review the voltage limits applicable to operational timescales and the potential for provision of some flexibility around them.

The Panel has recommended unanimously that the Proposer's solution better facilitates the SQSS Applicable Objectives. The Final Modification Report was sent to Ofgem on 11 August 2026.

GSR037 'Formatting and Housekeeping'

This modification aims to make the System Quality of Supply Standard (SQSS) a more readable, user-friendly document.

The Panel has recommended unanimously that the Proposer's solution better facilitates the SQSS Applicable Objectives. The Final Modification Report was sent to Ofgem on 05 August 2026.

Any Other Business

Modification Prioritisation Framework

The Chair introduced the new modification prioritisation framework that has been incorporated into the SQSS modification process. Modifications are now assessed

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against Strategic Direction Statement (SDS) alignment, importance and complexity, with the resulting assessments published and reviewed periodically.

GSR029 Prioritisation Assessment

- SDS Alignment: Low / No Impact
- Importance: Medium
- Complexity: Medium
- Priority Category: Standard

GSR030 Prioritisation Assessment

- SDS Alignment: Low
- Importance: Medium
- Complexity: High
- Priority Category: Standard

GSR035 Prioritisation Assessment

- SDS Alignment: Low*
- Importance: High
- Complexity: High
- Priority Category: High

*The Authority Representative advised that future SDS publications are expected to include more explicit references to System Access Reform.

Feedback on SDS Structure and Application

The Panel discussed practical challenges in applying the SDS to modification prioritisation and suggested that SDS objectives could be broken down into sub-sections or numbered categories to improve traceability between SDS objectives and modification proposals. Further feedback will be considered as the framework develops.

OFTO Alternate Representative Appointment

The Panel noted that Roger Carter had been approved as an alternate OFTO representative.

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2027 Frequency Risk and Control Report (FRCR)

A NESO representative provided an update on preparation for the 2027 FRCR. Scope development is underway, with topics under consideration including pre-fault thresholds, high-frequency risks, increasing demand swings, and recommendations from previous reviews.

June 2026 System Events Review

A NESO representative provided an update on the Authority-commissioned review of the June 2026 system events. The Panel discussed potential implications for SQSS and FRCR governance and sought clarity on any future Panel involvement. NESO and the Authority agreed to consider the matter further.

Key Activities ahead of next panel

Modification Proposal Deadline for September SQSS Panel: **02 September 2026**

Papers Day for September SQSS Panel: **09 September 2026**

Questions or feedback?

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