

Flexibility services products

Each Invitation to Tender that we publish on our website details the type of response (product) that is required within its specified location. Our three types of responses are: Peak Reduction, Operational Utilisation and Operational Utilisation and Variable Availability. These are industry standardised products developed through the ENA Open Networks Project in collaboration with all UK DNOs and ESO.

Peak Reduction

Provides a reduction in peak power utilised over time

Scheduled Utilisation

Flexibility providers alter their supply up or down in accordance with a schedule

Operational Utilisation

Provides a service where the amount of flexibility delivered is agreed nearer to real time, based upon actual network measurement data

Operational Utilisation & Scheduled Availability

This product is procured ahead of time with fixed availability parameters; the amount of flexibility delivered is agreed nearer to real time, based upon actual network measurement data

Operational Utilisation & Variable Availability

Procured ahead of time but the availability parameters are refined closer to the event; the amount of flexibility delivered is agreed nearer to real time, based upon actual network measurement data

Product	Response details	Use case
Peak reduction	This product seeks a reduction in peak power utilised over time. This response can manage peaks in demand and could be provided by long-term energy efficiency activities.	This product could be used where energy efficiency measures are planned that would reduce a sites overall electricity consumption across the year but specifically during high peak periods.
Scheduled Utilisation	In this product, the time that flexibility is delivered has been pre-agreed in advance with the provider. This product will primarily benefit FSPs that cannot respond in real-time or near to real-time.	This service can be used by the DNOs to manage seasonal peak demands and defer network reinforcement, for example.
Operational Utilisation	This product allows for the use case where the amount of flexibility delivered is agreed nearer to real time. This can be utilised to facilitate a change in demand profile from FSPs based on network conditions close to real-time. The assets will be dispatched for the required level of service that is required based upon actual network measurement data thus managing the cost	A DNO may utilise this product in order to restore network supplies following an unplanned outage/fault where the regulatory funding does not allow for availability payments e.g. customer interruptions (CI).
Operational Utilisation and Scheduled Availability	This product procures, ahead of time, the ability of an FSP to deliver an agreed change following a network abnormality. The availability will be defined at the point of procurement and cannot be modified once the contract has been agreed. The assets will be dispatched for the required level of service that is required based upon actual network measurement data, meaning that the DNO/ESO is only paying utilisation payments based upon the actual needs of the network.	A DNO is planning for sufficiency of flexible services contracts based upon short-medium range forecasting of network constraints.
Operational Utilisation and Variable Availability	This product allows for DNOs and the ESO to procure a level of contracted capacity, but then refine the requirements in terms of availability closer to the event. The assets will be dispatched for the required level of service that is required based upon actual network measurement data, meaning that the DNO/ESO is only paying utilisation payments based upon the actual needs of the network.	A DNO is planning for sufficiency of flexible services contracts based upon long range forecasting of network constraints.

Product parameters

	Parameter Name	Operational Utilisation	Operational Utilisation & Variable Availability	Peak Reduction
Structure	Payment Structure	Utilisation Only	Availability and Utilisation	Utilisation Only
	When prices are set (procurement timescales)	At trade	At trade	At trade
Availability	Availability Request Mechanism	N/A	Request initiated by DNO,	N/A
	Availability Acceptance timing	N/A	At trade	N/A
	Availability Refinement timing	N/A	Week Ahead	N/A
	Availability Changes Allowed	N/A	No	N/A
	Minimum Aggregate Unit Size	10kW	10kW	10kW
	Partial Availability Acceptance Possible	N/A	Yes	N/A
	Time Variable Availability Volumes Allowed	N/A	Yes	N/A
	Availability Payment Unit	N/A	£/MW/h	N/A
	Availability Period	N/A	Settlement Periods	N/A

Product parameters

	Parameter Name	Operational Utilisation	Operational Utilisation & Variable Availability	Peak Reduction
Utilisation	Utilisation Payment Unit	£/MWh	£/MWh	£/MWh
	Utilisation Period	Minutes	Minutes	Settlement Periods
	Delivery Expectation	Continuous	Continuous	Peak Delivery
	Maximum Response Time	15 mins*	15 mins*	N/A
	Payments during response time?	No	No	No
	Minimum Utilisation Time	30 mins	30 mins	30 mins
	Minimum Utilisation Volume	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Utilisation Instruction Timings	Real Time	Real Time	At trade
	Partial Utilisation Instruction possible	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Time Variable Utilisation Volumes Allowed	Yes	Yes	Yes