

National Network, Local Connections Advisory Council 10 – Meeting Minutes	
Meeting	Advisory Council 10
Time	10.00am – 1.00pm
Date	03.07.2025
Location	Hybrid – The Clayton Hotel, Burlington Road
Attendees	<p>ESBN: Alan Keegan (AK) – Chair (standing in for Teresa Fallon), Paddy Mulvey (PM), Lindsay Sharpe (LS), Vicky Ainsworth (VA), Ciara Tighe (CT), Scott Smith (SS).</p> <p>External Stakeholders in Attendance: CRU; Robert O’Rourke (ROR), Katarina Holohan (KH), EirGrid; Eoin Kennedy (EK), SEAI; Ruth Buggie (RB), ESI; Bobby Smith (BS), IESA; Frank Burke (FB), WEI; Marcos Byrne (MB), Viotas; Paddy Finn (PF), DRAI; Patrick Liddy (PL), Supplier Reps; Caoimhe McWeeney (CMcW), Philip Connor (PC).</p> <p>Online: Kevin Doyle (KD), Aidan Mahony (AM).</p> <p>Apologies: Amanda Jane Gainford (AJG), Cormac Nevin (CN), Enda Dunleavy (ED), Garry Purcell (GP), Trevor Harron (TH), Isabella Donnelly (ID), John O’Shea (JOS), Killian O’Connor (KOC), Stevie Donnelly (SD), Shane Prendergast (SP).</p>
Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome, Housekeeping & Actions • Membership Update • Actions Update • Progress Update on In-Flight Initiatives • Demand Flexibility Product Update • DMSO Blueprint and Roadmaps Update • ITAGT / Beat The Peak Update • SME Flex Update • Roundtable Discussion • AOB • Close
Compiled By	Ciara Tighe

Welcome and Housekeeping

- AK welcomed members to the 10th Advisory Council and addressed housekeeping matters.

Membership Update

- AK provided an update on the recent membership review, welcoming new members and acknowledging those who have moved on.

Actions Update

- One action remains open regarding ESNB's behind the meter flex readiness work. Unfortunately, an update couldn't be accommodated on this occasion so action will remain open.

Progress on In-Flight Initiatives Update

- PM provided updates on several initiatives: Pilot 2 DIS, CVR, Pilot 4 Flex Gen Connections, BTP Business, FlexCharging, and Flex Demand Connections.
- PF and PL inquired about the benefits derived from Pilot 2. While PF acknowledged the progress made, he emphasised the need for more tangible outcomes. He also requested that the learnings be shared with the Advisory Council. AK noted that insights from Pilot 1 are currently accessible on the ESNB website. Consequently, ESNB will consider strategies for enhancing the availability of learnings from the pilots.
- PL questioned the decision to wind down the Beat the Peak Business. PM, AK, and LS clarified that this closure was planned, originally launched during the SOS crisis in 2022. PL noted the risk of losing benefits and emphasised that customer acquisition remains a significant challenge.
- The AC members welcomed progress on Flex Demand Connections. BS stressed the importance of storage. AK indicated that ESNB is advancing this work without a broader regulatory framework, anticipating that the CRU will become the competent authority for flex demand connections. ESNB is engaging with CRU to ensure alignment and hopes its efforts will inform future regulatory policies.

Demand Flexibility Product Update

- KD updated the AC on the Demand Flexibility Product (DFP), covering procurement timelines and applicant notifications. KB also provided a detailed update on the DFP, which received broad acknowledgment from AC members.
- BS inquired about procurement timelines beyond December 2025. AK noted that the current focus is on the first procurement round, with future timelines yet to be defined. However, ESNB is reviewing its DFP plans following the CRU's May decision.

Coffee Break**DMSO Blueprint and Roadmaps Update**

- AK updated the AC on the DMSO Blueprint and Roadmaps.
- Emphasis was placed on establishing robust, stable plans for effective delivery. Prioritisation will be necessary, as not everything can be done simultaneously.

- AC members and industry stakeholders are encouraged to review the DMSO Blueprint and Roadmaps publication and provide feedback to ESN.
- Key questions include: Are all activities and requirements captured? Are we missing anything? Should we focus on long-term solutions or interim pilot approaches?
- CMcW asked when ESN expects to conclude this work. AK noted that no deadline has been set on the paper, as this is a long-term effort. Ideally, ESN would like to get the views of external stakeholders, gather feedback over the coming months and incorporate it into updated roadmaps in late 2025.
- CMcW inquired about engaging with the DCEE SES Working Group. AK will check on the current status of this group.
- CMcW welcomed the progress on the DMSO Blueprint and Roadmaps, noting it has been a long-awaited initiative.

ITAGT / Beat the Peak Update

- LS provided a detailed update on the initiatives under the "Is This a Good Time" program.
- PL acknowledged the work completed by ESB Networks on ITAGT.
- PF requested ROR's perspective on progress. ROR confirmed good progress on ITAGT, with valuable learnings for future initiatives.

SME Flex Update

- VA updated the AC members on the progress of the SME Flex proposition.
- AC members welcomed the initiation of SME Flex as a positive development.
- AC members are invited to express their willingness to engage in the detailed design of the proposition in the coming months.

AOB

- AK provided a brief update on DMSO personnel.

The End.