

March 2026

# 2025/2026 Procurement And Engagement Timetable

V1

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# 1.0 Document Purpose

## 1.1 Preamble

This document details National Grid Distribution System Operator planned procurement dates for the provision of electricity distribution flexibility services and the formal engagement National Grid DSO will conduct to support its procurement activities.

## 1.2 About Our Procurement Activities

National Grid DSO facilitates its procurement activity through its online portal, [Market Gateway](#). Flexibility Service Providers (FSPs) seeking to deliver flexibility services should register on the Market Gateway and complete the pre-qualification requirements to enable their eligibility to enter into flexibility Trades. Pre-qualification is always open and can be completed at any time. Further Guidance can be found on the National Grid DSO [website](#).

## 1.3 About Our Engagement Activities

In addition to our formal engagement activities, we are happy to engage with interested parties at any time, please email [nged.flexiblepower@nationalgrid.co.uk](mailto:nged.flexiblepower@nationalgrid.co.uk). Where registration for engagement activities are TBC, we will update this document and the National Grid DSO [website](#) as early as possible after these are known.

## 1.4 Modifications

We reserve the right to amend, add or remove procurement and engagement activities at any time and will update this document accordingly and periodically when required.

## 1.5 Further Guidance and Contact

Document	Description
<a href="#">Flex in Five</a>	A brief overview of flexibility
<a href="#">End to End Market Gateway Guide</a>	A guide through the process of using Market Gateway for trades
<a href="#">Participation Diagrams</a>	An overview of the steps to participation
<a href="#">Procurement and Engagement Timetable</a>	Timetable and dates of our activities
<a href="#">Guidance for Electricity Distribution FSPs</a>	A complete in-depth guide to flexibility

The Flexibility team can be contacted with the details below.

**Contact us:**

[nged.flexiblepower@nationalgrid.co.uk](mailto:nged.flexiblepower@nationalgrid.co.uk)

## 2.0 Timetables for 2025/2026

Procurement Activities	Engagement Activities
31 <sup>st</sup> March 2026 - Launch of Day Ahead procurement and close of Week Ahead Procurement	Join our quarterly <a href="#">Focus Group</a> to provide input on how we can improve our flexibility services  12 <sup>th</sup> March 2026 - Day Ahead Webinar Register <a href="#">HERE</a>

### 2.1 Short Term

Short term trades occur on an ongoing weekly basis. Procurement ceases on March 31<sup>st</sup> 2026 and transfers to day ahead procurement. See 2.2 for details.

<p>Flexibility locations and requirements for Short Term flexibility services are published on our <a href="#">Connected Data Portal</a></p>	<p>Procurement ceases on March 31<sup>st</sup> 2026 and transfers to day ahead procurement. See 2.2 for details.</p>
<p><b>Every Thursday</b> From midday</p> <p>Short Term Trade Opportunities for FSPs open for bids</p>	
<p><b>Every Tuesday</b> By midnight</p> <p>Deadline for Trade Responses</p>	
<p><b>Every Thursday</b> By midday</p> <p>Trade Awards announced for delivery from the next Monday</p>	

## 2.2 Day Ahead

From March 31<sup>st</sup> 2026, Short Term Trades will occur on an ongoing daily basis. Requirements are published a month in advance on our [Connected Data Portal](#)

Trades available on Market Gateway	Delivery Day	Final bid cut off	Bid deadline	Trades outcomes communicated on Market Gateway and Flexible Power Portal
<b>Thursday the week before (from 11:00)</b>	Tuesday – Friday	Day before (D-1)	Every day by 12:00	Same day from 15:00
<b>Thursday the week before (from 11:00)</b>	Saturday	Friday	Friday by 12:00	Friday from 15:00
<b>Thursday the week before (from 11:00)</b>	Sunday	Friday	Friday by 12:00	Friday from 15:00
<b>Thursday the week before (from 11:00)</b>	Monday	Friday	Friday by 12:00	Friday from 15:00

## 2.3 Long Term Summer 2026 and Winter 2026/2027 & LV Winter needs 2026/2027

Long Term Trade procurement occurs once a year between Aug – Dec

<p>8<sup>th</sup> Sept 15<sup>th</sup> Sept</p>	<p>Publish flexibility locations and requirements for;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Long Term HV needs</li> <li>- LV Winter needs</li> <li>- Availability for Operational Utilisation only services to;</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Connected Data Portal</a> <a href="#">Market Gateway</a></p>	
<p>29<sup>th</sup> Sept</p>	<p>Trade Opportunities for FSPs open on the <a href="#">Market Gateway</a>.</p>	<p>23<sup>rd</sup> Sept On Track to Trade Long Term Webinar <a href="#">Request Registration</a></p>
<p>1<sup>st</sup> Dec</p>	<p>Deadline for Trade Responses. Launch date + 9 weeks.</p>	<p>From 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept – 14<sup>th</sup> Nov On Track to Trade – Surgeries. <a href="#">Request an appointment</a></p>
<p>26<sup>th</sup> Jan '26</p>	<p>Trade Awards announced. Deadline date +8 weeks.</p>	<p>Feb 2026 Service Provider feedback questionnaire.</p>

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