

What needs to happen in a changing data environment

How a central data service will help the DNOs deliver this change

Improve and standardise communications between DSOs and Energy System Operators (ESOs)

By making data readily available and enabling machine-to-machine data access, Flexr will enable standardisation and efficiencies in data sharing with the ESO and other stakeholders in a whole of system environment.

Facilitate increased sharing of Distributed Energy Resources (DER) and flexibility service providers' data

A DER register will uncover DER data by linking to DER providers directly, by linking with databases that include relevant data and by using our existing data set. In future, the DER register will also be able to infer DER data from metered consumption data (e.g. to identify LCT location).

Uncover DNO network asset, operation, planning, and real-time data

A DNO network asset register will connect to DNO systems of business estate to uncover data as required.

Facilitate flexibility trading platform development

A central data service will reduce barriers for DER customers and other stakeholders to participate in Flexibility markets. The DER register will help DNOs to deliver flexibility more effectively by giving them detailed access to the DER landscape. The DNO register will enable local energy markets and energy suppliers to work with DNOs to ensure that local demand fluctuations caused by retail price signals do not overload DNO assets.

Provide 'openness triage'

Openness triage will need to be a core feature of a central data service

Provide data governance

A central data service will need to be subject to code governance to ensure a level playing field for all stakeholders.

Set up a data catalogue

A central data service will need to link to the ONS central data catalogue, as well as other data catalogues being developed by other utilities.

Set up digital twins

The data in the DNO network asset and DER registers will enable the development of digital twins for electricity distribution.

Enable the development of flexibility and procurement platform(s)

A central data service, and its support for enabling Ofgem's Common Services, will reduce barriers for new market entrants and increase innovation in the flexibility platform space.

Implement standards for flexibility, ensuring cyber security and ensuring interoperability

A central data service will need to leverage best of class, existing data sharing technology to share data with UK electricity suppliers to ensure that cyber security and data sharing standards are enshrined at the core of the service.

Reduce barriers to market participants

A central data service will make it easier for new market platforms to access the data they need in a standardised, cost effective, efficiently governed and consistent manner.

