

Electricity Networks Sector Growth Plan

Interim Report - Summary

For the first time, the sector – **network operators and the supply chain, with Government, Ofgem and wider partners** – has come together to respond to the UK Government's Modern Industrial Strategy and build a plan to maximise the contribution that the electricity networks sector makes to UK growth.

A national growth opportunity

1.

Electricity networks are essential to everyday life.

Networks are part of the fabric of society, providing the foundation for almost all sectors of the economy.

2.

Demand for electricity is set to double by 2050.

Increasing supply while delivering energy security, decarbonising power and meeting net zero targets will require investment in networks on a scale previously unseen.

3.

The UK has a huge opportunity to unlock national growth from network investment.

Across every region, down every street, network investment will enable cleaner, cheaper, secure homegrown energy - while creating jobs, strengthening the domestic supply chain and manufacturing sector, and attracting investment to the UK.

4.

The benefits have the potential to reach well beyond this sector, with networks acting as an engine for growth.

The sector will help ensure that businesses across Great Britain can access the clean, secure power they need to operate efficiently and expand. This investment will enable growth and competitiveness across multiple sectors.

So, what needs to happen?

Both network operators and the supply chain are already growing, but we will need to be more ambitious to respond to changing need.

Collaboration, confidence and consensus are essential to giving the certainty required throughout the value chain. For that we need all stakeholders to play their part:

- **Network operators** will need to use long-term planning to rise to the challenge and transform their organisations to meet the needs of a rapidly expanding energy sector.
- **The supply chain** will need to continue investing in new capacity and growing their skilled workforce to deliver a step change in production.
- **Ofgem** will need to ensure that their regulatory frameworks can attract the levels of investment required and give certainty to network operators, as well as going further to support the supply chain to grow.
- **Government** will need to set clear and consistent direction on energy policy and support Ofgem in delivering regulatory frameworks that meet the scale of the challenge.



Onshore network investment to meet net zero could directly support an additional

50,000-130,000

Full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs by 2050.

What we're doing

Over the next six months, we will be conducting the deep sector-wide analysis that will inform the full Electricity Networks Sector Growth Plan to be published in summer 2026.

- **A comprehensive economic and supply chain analysis** to quantify the economic opportunity stemming from network investment.
- **An action plan to support the growth of the UK supply chain** and to strengthen domestic manufacturing capability.
- **A collaborative work programme to deliver workforce and skills requirements for the whole sector**, covering transmission, distribution and the supply chain.

The work has already begun. We look forward to sharing the outcome of our work next year, ensuring that the ambition of our response meets the scale of this once in a century opportunity for growth.



Jobs from reinforcing the electricity network could contribute between

£4-11bn

of Gross Value Added (GVA in 2050, 2020 £).



£70bn+

The Transmission Operators will deliver the largest increase in capital spending in the history of the privatised electricity transmission sector between 2026-31, potentially exceeding £70bn over the period.



£37-50bn

To meet rising demand between now and 2050, the distribution network is expected to require around £37-£50 billion of additional investment. This represents at least a doubling of current annual levels, with the greatest increase likely to be needed over the next five to ten years.