ESO RIIO-2 Stakeholder group

IT Strategy

Agenda item:	ERSG-4.8
Meeting date:	03/04/2019

Context and purpose of this paper

On the 28th March, we publish our *Towards 2030: Our RIIO Ambition* document. An advanced version of that document is part of the pre-read for the April meeting of the ERSG. In addition to that document we wanted to provide ERSG with further information on the topics covered, including additional material on activities and stakeholder engagement.

Stakeholder engagement

Our IT strategy is critical to being able to achieve our RIIO-2 ambition. The scale of the ambition requires IT investments which amount to approximately half of the total potential costs of an ambitious ESO. Given the scale of the ambition and the corresponding technology investment we would like to test our assumptions with ERSG and other stakeholder groups.

On 22nd January at our Forward Plan workshop, there was interest from stakeholders to understand our holistic approach for IT in RIIO-2. There was a request to see our entire IT 'strawman' for RIIO-2 and the associated cost which we will be able to provide in more detail within our draft RIIO-2 business plan. We recognise the need to build stakeholder confidence in this area for any RIIO-2 investment and transparency is key to this.

During this engagement, we will show the emerging technology themes, our solution approach, and how our ways of working will need to adapt to accommodate this increased volume and pace of change.

Stakeholder engagement – forward look

We want to share and seek views on our overarching IT strategy with stakeholders as it forms the basis for a number of activities that will deliver our ambition. We will engage stakeholders on specific IT proposals associated with potential RIIO-2 activities when we engage on those topics, as part of a package.

We will seek stakeholder views on how we should digitally enhance our IT capabilities, transform our data management approach and keeping our systems safe from cyber threat. We will use the following engagement channels to develop our strategy for our July draft business plan.

Channel	Date	Stakeholder groups	Format
Electricity Operational Forum	26th March	Large, medium and small suppliers and generators, Service providers and networks with a focus on understanding system operation and balancing outcomes and trends	We will talk about our proposals and approach for Reliable and Secure System Operation and the related IT investments
IS Change Forum	30th April	Large, medium and small suppliers and generators, Service providers and networks with a focus on IT system changes and impacts on their business	Round table discussions with stakeholders who work closely with and are impacted by ESO IT systems
RIIO stakeholder workshop	11th April	All stakeholder groups	Targeted round table discussion on all of our RIIO-2 proposals
Bilateral meetings (As required)	Various	Network companies / companies with interfacing systems	Discussions around consistent approaches to IT implementation and around ESO proposals that impact interfacing systems to optimise end user experience.

In addition to these groups, we are also engaging our delivery partners and industry benchmark organisations – Gartner, CapGemini, IBM, TBC, Wipro – to ensure that our approach to solutions and cost estimations are sound.

Input requested from ERSG

1) Do you agree with the themes and focus of our IT strategy as a response to ESO ambitions?

2) Do you agree that we have robust stakeholder engagement plans in place as we develop our draft Business Plan for July?