



# ESO Operational Transparency Forum

23 February 2022

You have been joined in listen only mode with  
your camera turned off

## Introduction | Sli.do code #OTF

**Please visit [www.sli.do](https://www.sli.do) and enter the code #OTF to ask questions & provide us with post event feedback.**

We will answer as many questions as possible at the end of the session. We may have to take away some questions and provide feedback from our expert colleagues in these areas during a future forum. **Ask your questions early in the session to give more opportunity to pull together the right people for responses.**

**To tailor our forum and topics further we have asked for names (or organisations, or industry sector) against Sli.do questions. If you do not feel able to ask a question in this way please use the email: [box.NC.Customer@nationalgrideso.com](mailto:box.NC.Customer@nationalgrideso.com)**

These slides, event recordings and further information about the webinars can be found at the following location:  
<https://data.nationalgrideso.com/plans-reports-analysis/covid-19-preparedness-materials>

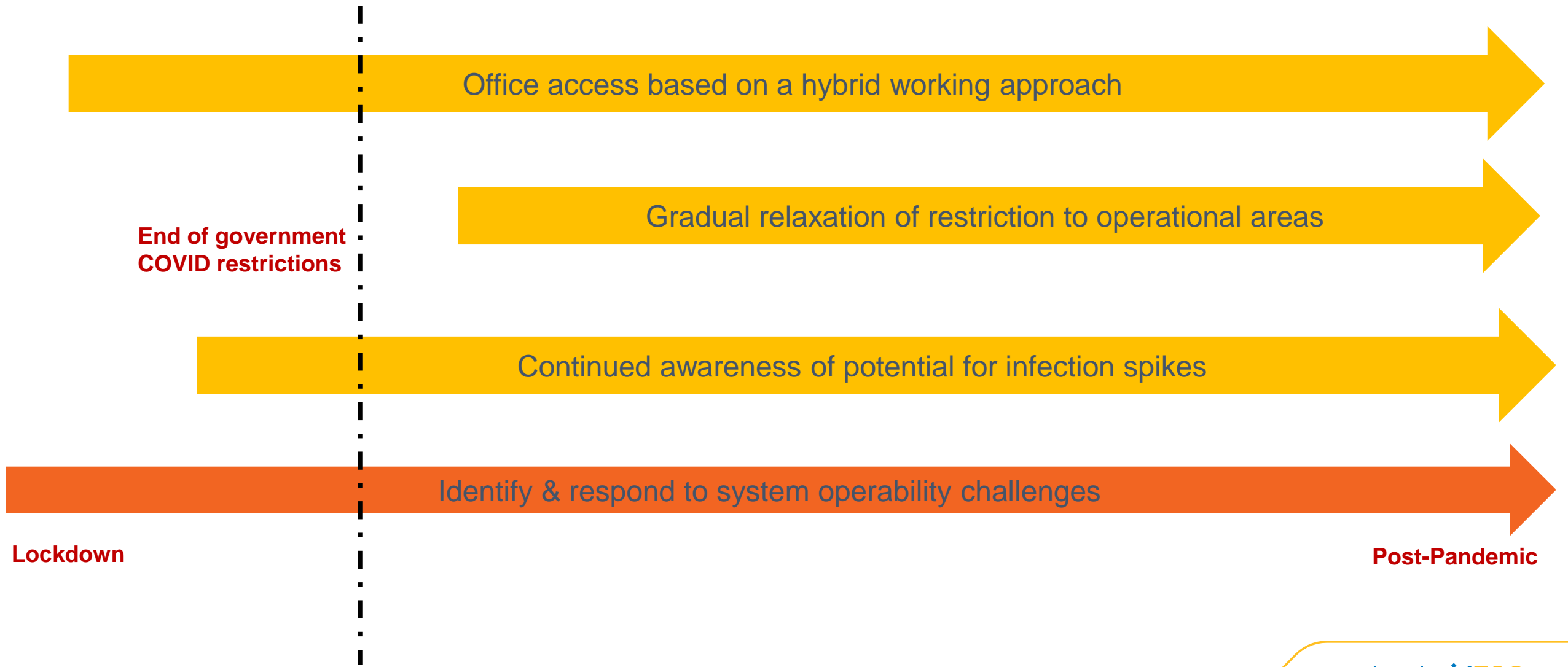
### Regular Topics

- Questions from last week
- Business continuity
- Demand review
- Costs for last week
- Outlook
- Constraints

### Focus Areas

- Constraint Sterilised Headroom
- Frequency Response Publications
- Markets Forum Day signpost
- Domestic Reserve Scarcity Trial Update

## Protecting critical staff to maintain critical operations



End of government  
COVID restrictions

Office access based on a hybrid working approach

Gradual relaxation of restriction to operational areas

Continued awareness of potential for infection spikes

Identify & respond to system operability challenges

Lockdown

Post-Pandemic

## Future forum topics

**While we want to remain flexible to provide insight on operational challenges when they happen, we appreciate you want to know when we will cover topics.**

**We have the following deep dives planned:**

Date TBC - Manifest Error Process Overview

DC Performance Monitoring Update

## Questions outstanding from previous weeks

Q: Why the backward step by the ESO in terms of transparency of removing restoration costs visibility - this is a terrible retrograde step - how does the ESO justify this in terms of all the ESO's talk of improving transparency - here the ESO is hiding this information under 'others'

A: We apologise for the inconvenience caused by us making this step. This was made to simplify rather than attempt to hide anything. We can split the cost back out again from next month.

Q: Are Irish interconnectors still considered reliable. they seem to declare themselves unavailable when Irish TO sees fit, regardless of price differentials ( also goes towards, should they continue to get cap mech payments)

A: We don't comment on provider reliability. As we would do with any market participant we would use compliance processes should concerns arise.

## Questions outstanding from previous weeks

Outstanding questions we are still working on

Q: How are the SO-SO balancing trades and emergency trades (volume and price) reported real time to the market? If they are not reported real time what steps is the ESO taking NOW to introduce this transparency immediately?

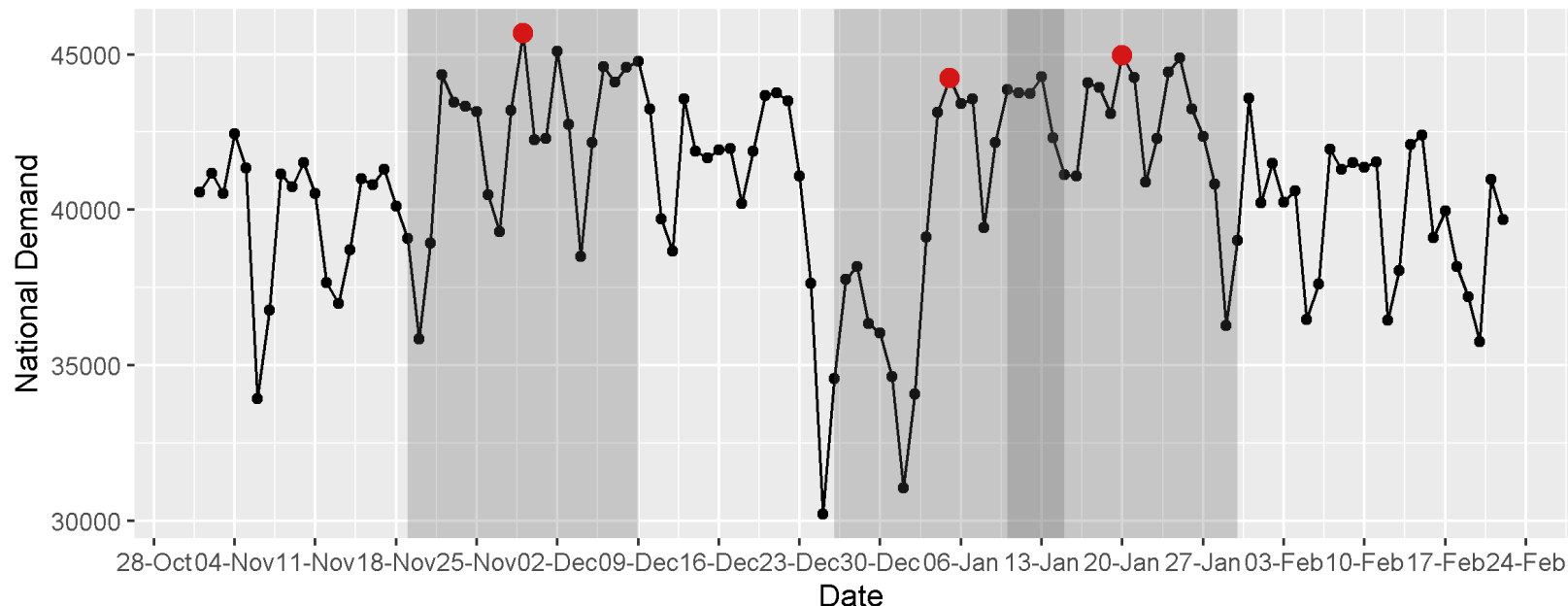
Q: Does REMIT data always take priority over PN/MEL data? E.g. with Keadby currently, we should ignore FPN/MEL's because REMIT says 0MW even though FPN/MEL may not. I.e. does this hierarchy always prevail?

Q: For assets participating in DC, if 10% of capacity is not held back when tendering (as per the rules), will this lead to punishment for those breaching this rule?

Q: Please can you provide a circular or some kind of update on the SP's/Dates that will be affected by the updated BSAD data.....otherwise we have to manually search through all of history to work out what has changed from a cashout perspective

Q: Thanks for the reply re So-SO trades. It was that area rather than NGESO Market Unilateral Interconnector Trading actions I was looking at. Just to see if the 'Neighbours' initiate more late notice activity. Referring to: Is there any indication of the dates and Volumes of SO-SO Trading initiated by Trading parties?. Noting that Ireland have a more volatile system with frequent large scale curtailment of Wind.

# Demand | Indicative Peak National Demand



ESO operational metering			
Date	Time (HH ending)	National Demand (MW)	Estimated triad avoidance (HH corresponding with the time of the peak) (MW)
29/11/2021	1730	45679	0
20/01/2022	1730	44977	400
05/01/2022	1800	44245	0

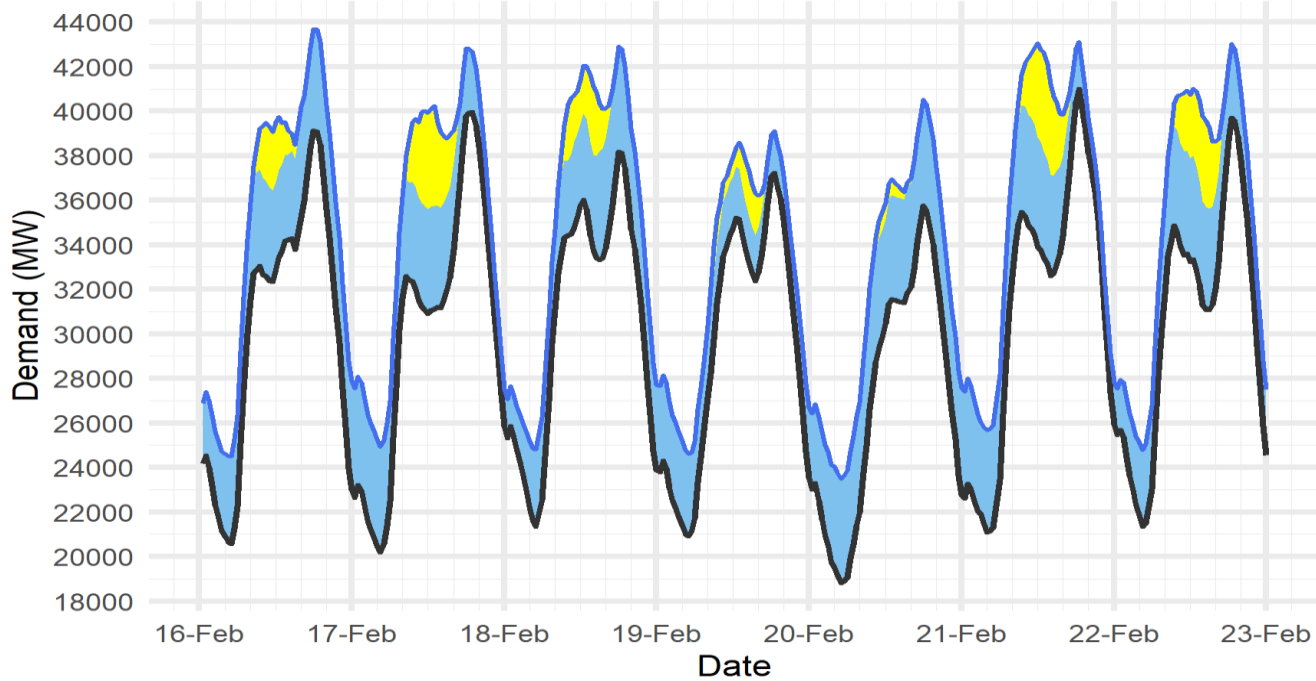
We present National Demand operational metering because triad demand is calculated on the basis of demand excluding interconnector exports. This definition of demand is neither National Demand nor Transmission Demand, but more closely tracked by National Demand.

National Demand does not include station load.

Indicative triad demand on Elexon's BMRS [website](#) quotes "GB Demand" which is based on the Transmission System Demand definition (it adds 500MW of station load onto the National Demand). It shows time as half hour beginning.

# Demand | Last week demand out-turn

ESO National Demand outturn 16-22 February 2022



### Demand type

- National
- Estimated\_Total\_Demand

### Renewable type

- Distributed\_Wind
- Distributed\_PV

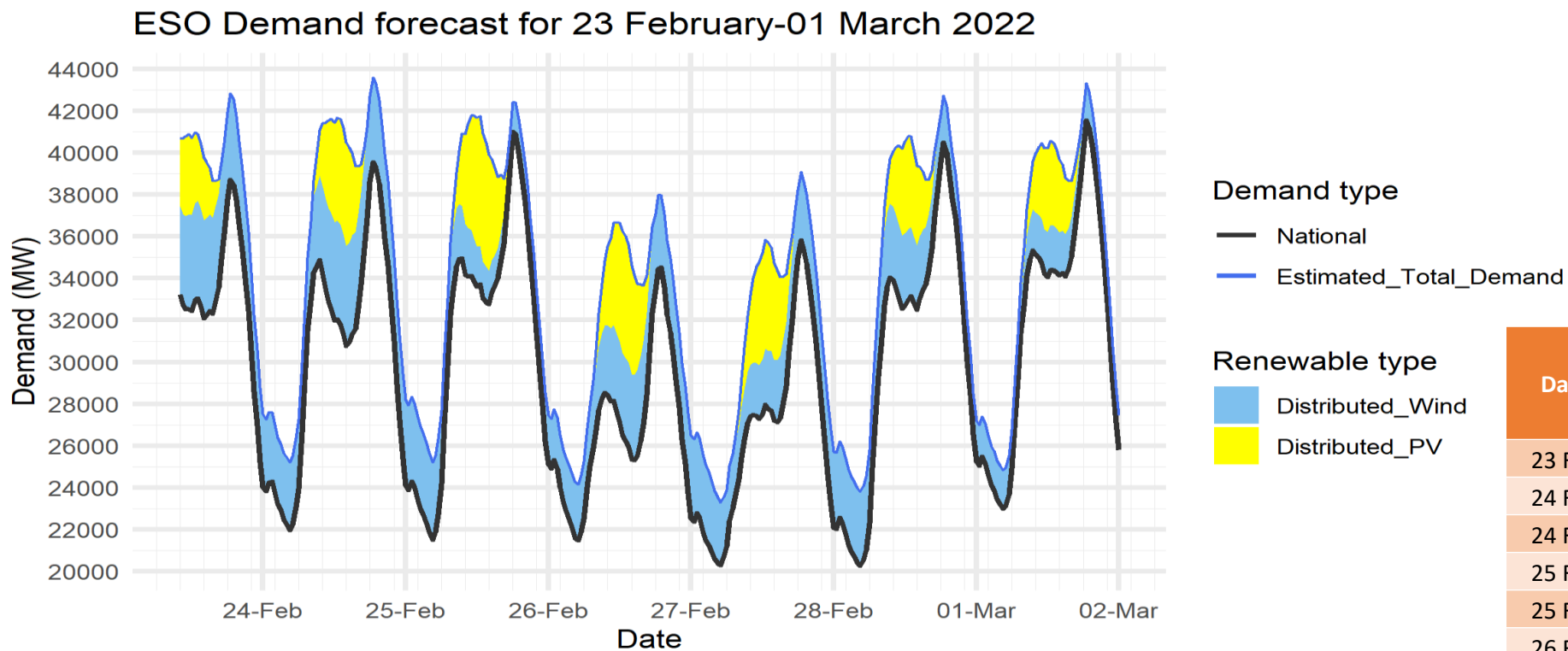
Date	Forecasting Point	FORECAST (Wed 16 Feb)		OUTTURN			
		National Demand (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)	National Demand (GW)	Triad Avoidance est. (GW)	N. Demand adjusted for TA (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)
16 Feb	Evening Peak	39.2	4.5	39.1	0.0	39.1	4.6
17 Feb	Overnight Min	19.7	4.7	20.2	n/a	n/a	4.7
17 Feb	Evening Peak	41.1	2.7	40.0	0.0	40.0	2.7
18 Feb	Overnight Min	22.1	3.2	21.4	n/a	n/a	3.5
18 Feb	Evening Peak	39.5	4.0	38.2	0.0	38.2	4.8
19 Feb	Overnight Min	20.8	3.2	20.9	n/a	n/a	3.7
19 Feb	Evening Peak	37.6	2.3	37.2	0.0	37.2	1.9
20 Feb	Overnight Min	20.2	3.1	18.8	n/a	n/a	4.7
20 Feb	Evening Peak	36.0	4.2	35.8	0.0	35.8	4.8
21 Feb	Overnight Min	19.7	4.2	21.1	n/a	n/a	4.6
21 Feb	Evening Peak	41.7	2.4	41.0	0.0	41.0	2.2
22 Feb	Overnight Min	21.6	3.3	21.4	n/a	n/a	3.4
22 Feb	Evening Peak	40.2	3.8	39.7	0.0	39.7	3.4

The black line (National Demand) is the measure of portion of total GB customer demand that is supplied by the transmission network.

Blue line serves as a proxy for total GB customer demand. It includes demand supplied by the distributed wind and solar sources, but it does not include demand supplied by non-weather driven sources at the distributed network for which ESO has no real time data.



# Demand | Week Ahead



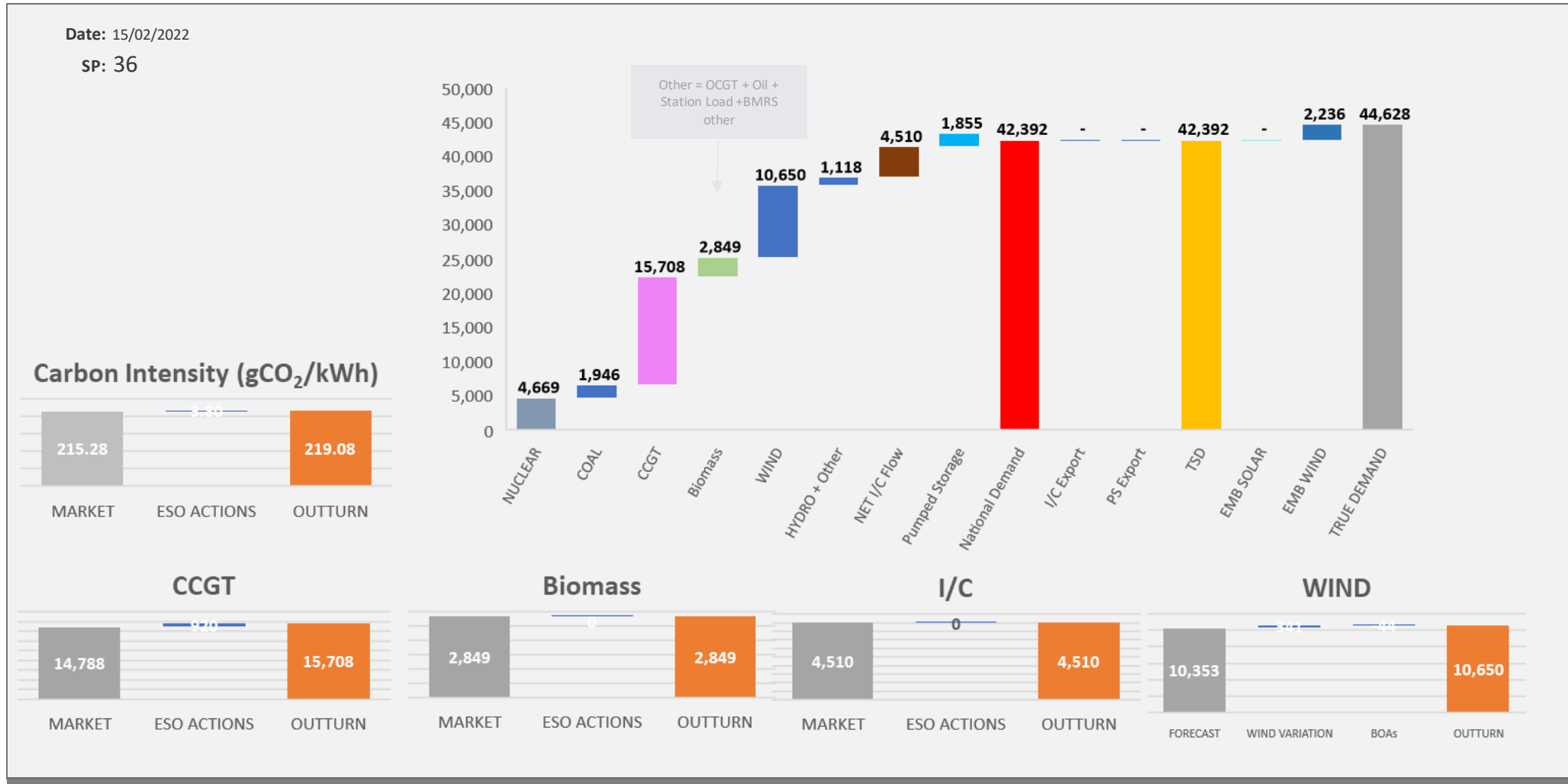
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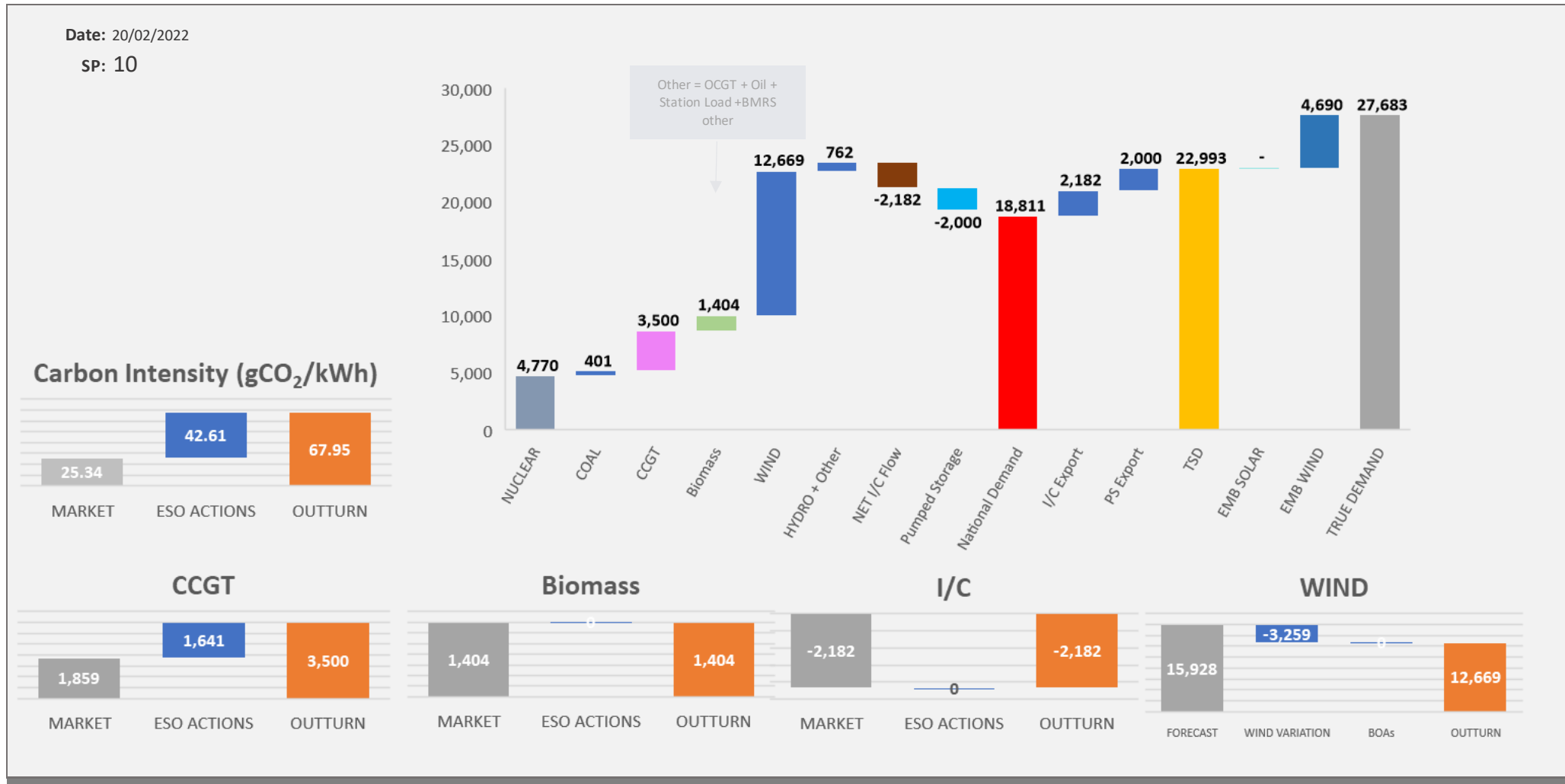
First time ESO shares its Triad Avoidance adjusted **National Demand** forecast is after 21:00 on D-1

		FORECAST (Wed 23 Feb)	
Date	Forecasting Point	National Demand (GW)	Dist. wind (GW)
23 Feb	Evening Peak	38.7	4.1
24 Feb	Overnight Min	22.0	3.2
24 Feb	Evening Peak	39.5	4.0
25 Feb	Overnight Min	21.5	3.7
25 Feb	Evening Peak	41.0	1.4
26 Feb	Overnight Min	21.5	2.7
26 Feb	Evening Peak	34.5	3.5
27 Feb	Overnight Min	20.3	3.0
27 Feb	Evening Peak	35.8	3.3
28 Feb	Overnight Min	20.3	3.6
28 Feb	Evening Peak	40.5	2.2
01 Mar	Overnight Min	23.0	1.8
01 Mar	Evening Peak	41.5	1.7

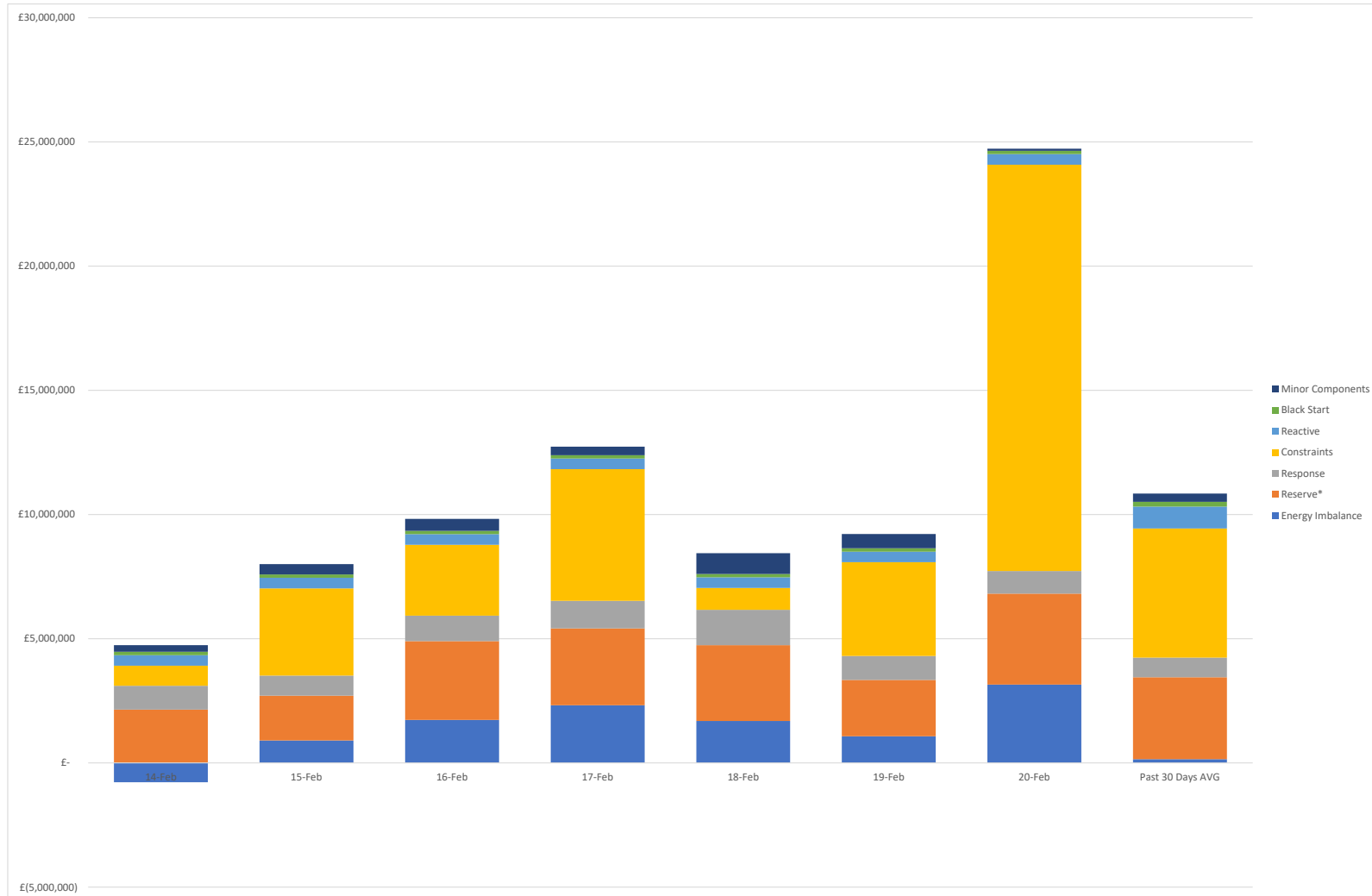
# ESO Actions | Tuesday 15 February Peak



# ESO Actions | Sunday 20 February Minimum



# Transparency | Costs for the last week

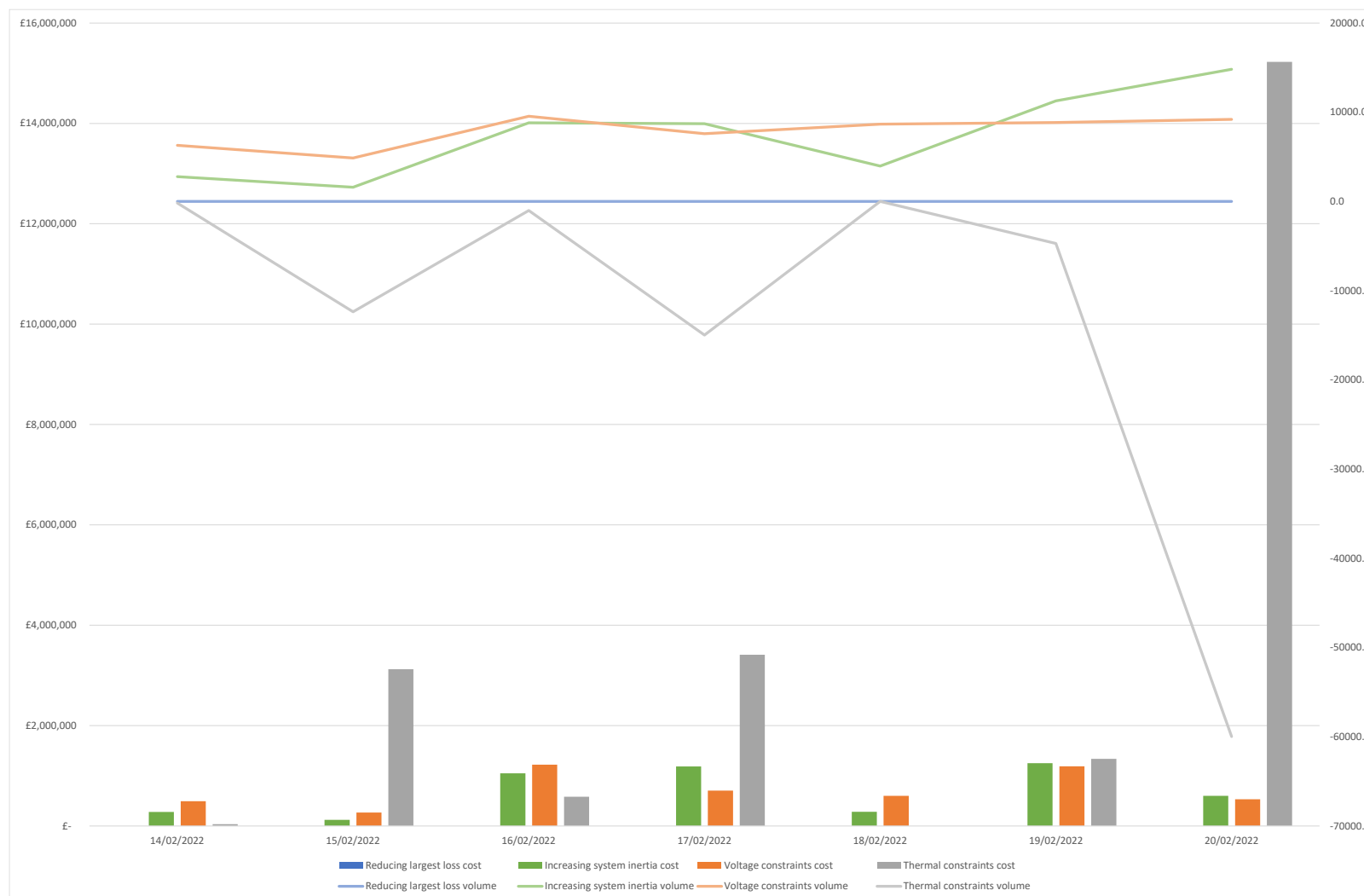


Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> was the most expensive day with a spend of nearly £25m. Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> the daily spend was around £13m.

The main component of the daily spend on most days of the week was costs associated to constraint actions.

**Past 30 Days Average added**

# Transparency | Constraint cost breakdown



## Thermal – network congestion

Throughout all days, actions were required to manage thermal constraints, with little to no intervention required on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Large volume of actions were required on Sunday.

## Voltage

Action taken to synchronise generation to meet voltage requirements were required throughout the week.

## Managing largest loss for RoCoF

No intervention required to manage largest loss on interconnectors.

## Increasing inertia

intervention required to increase minimum inertia every day

<https://data.nationalgrideso.com/balancing/constraint-breakdown>

# Operational margins: week ahead

## How to interpret this information

This slide sets out our view of operational margins for the next week. We are providing this information to help market participants identify when tighter periods are more likely to occur such that they can plan to respond accordingly.

The table provides our current view on the operational surplus based on expected levels of generation, wind, imports and peak demand. This is based on information available to National Grid ESO as of 23 February and is subject to change. It represents a view of what the market is currently intending to provide before we take any actions.

The indicative surplus is a measure of how tight we expect margins to be and the likelihood of the ESO needing to use its operational tools.

For higher surplus values, margins are expected to be adequate and there is a low likelihood of the ESO needing to use its tools. In such cases, we may even experience exports to Europe on the interconnectors over the peak depending on market prices.

For lower (and potentially negative) surplus values, then this indicates operational margins could be tight and that there is a higher likelihood of the ESO needing to use its tools, such as issuing margins notices. We expect there to be sufficient supply available to respond to these signals to meet demand.

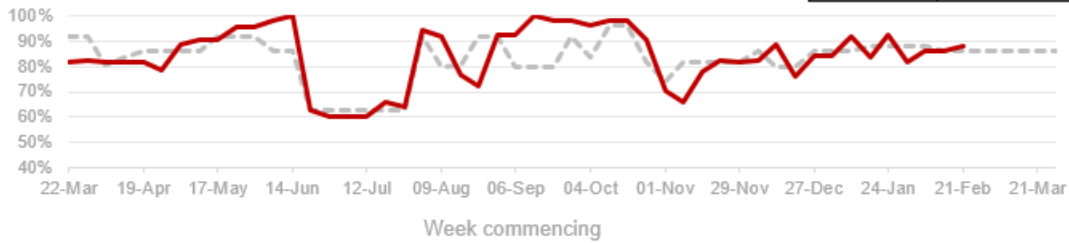
Margins are adequate for the next seven days.

Day	Date	Notified conventional generation (MW)	Wind (MW)	Interconnector availability (MW)	Peak demand (MW)	Indicative surplus (MW)
Thu	24/02/2022	41360	15329	3750	39861	15202
Fri	25/02/2022	41494	5865	4250	40730	6657
Sat	26/02/2022	40861	14106	4250	35260	17593
Sun	27/02/2022	42722	13891	4250	36819	16987
Mon	28/02/2022	42904	10847	4250	40469	12620
Tue	01/03/2022	42927	5536	4250	42064	5885
Wed	02/03/2022	42906	8969	4250	41784	9361

# Transparency | Constraint Capacity

**B6 transfer capacity**

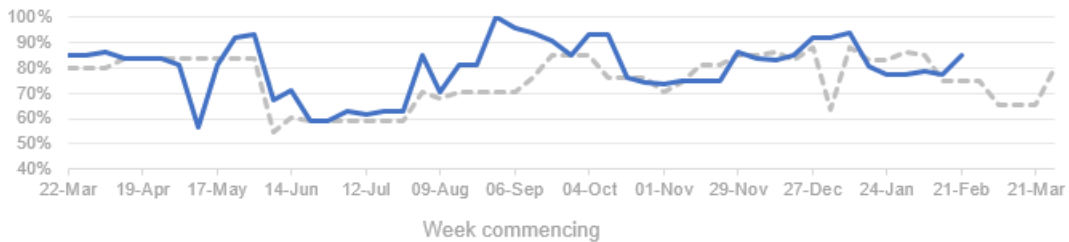
---Forecast —Actual



100% transfer capacity (MW)	
B6	5400
B7	8250
B2/B4	2700

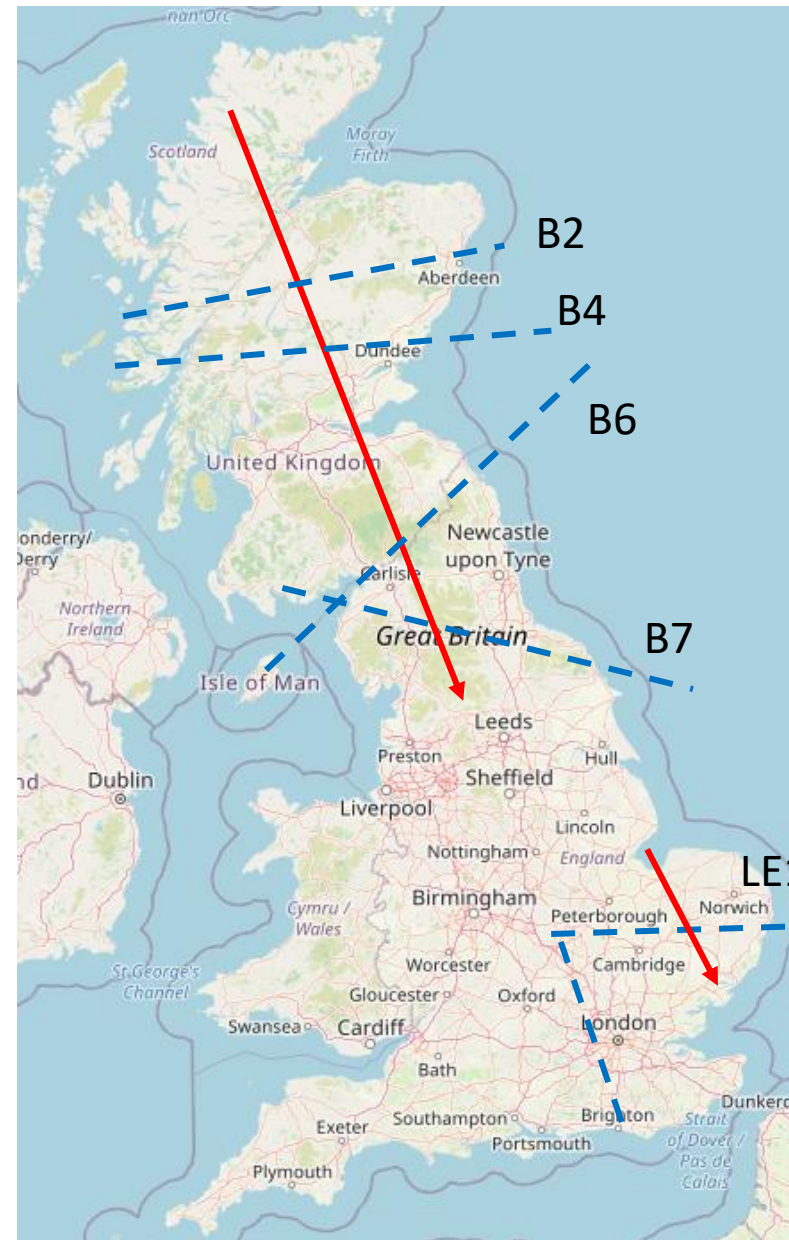
**B7 transfer capacity**

---Forecast —Actual



**B2/B4 transfer capacity**

---Forecast —Actual



## Headroom and Sterilized Headroom

The purpose of this presentation is to explain in a simple way what the Headroom of the generating units is and how it relates to constraints costs when operating the system.

£(Constraint Sterilized Headroom) => Constraint Costs



# Operating Reserve

**Operating Reserve** is needed to operate the transmission system securely enabling the frequency control by providing the reserve energy required to meet the demand when there are shortfalls, due to demand forecast changes or generation breakdowns.

It is made up of:

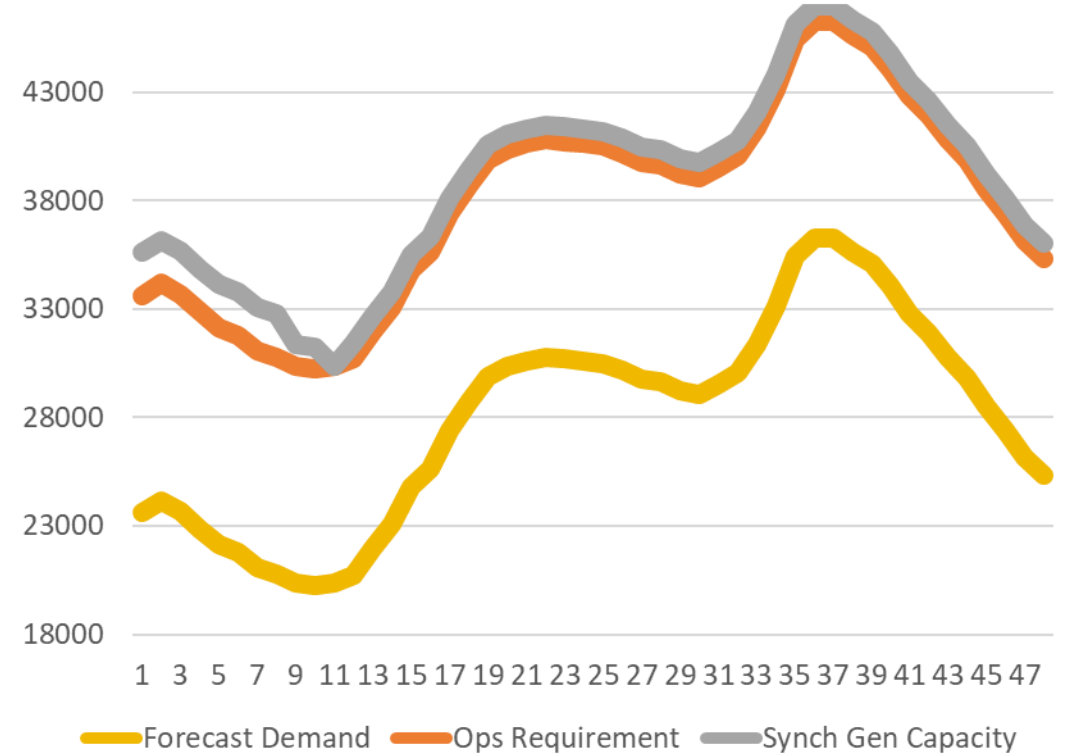
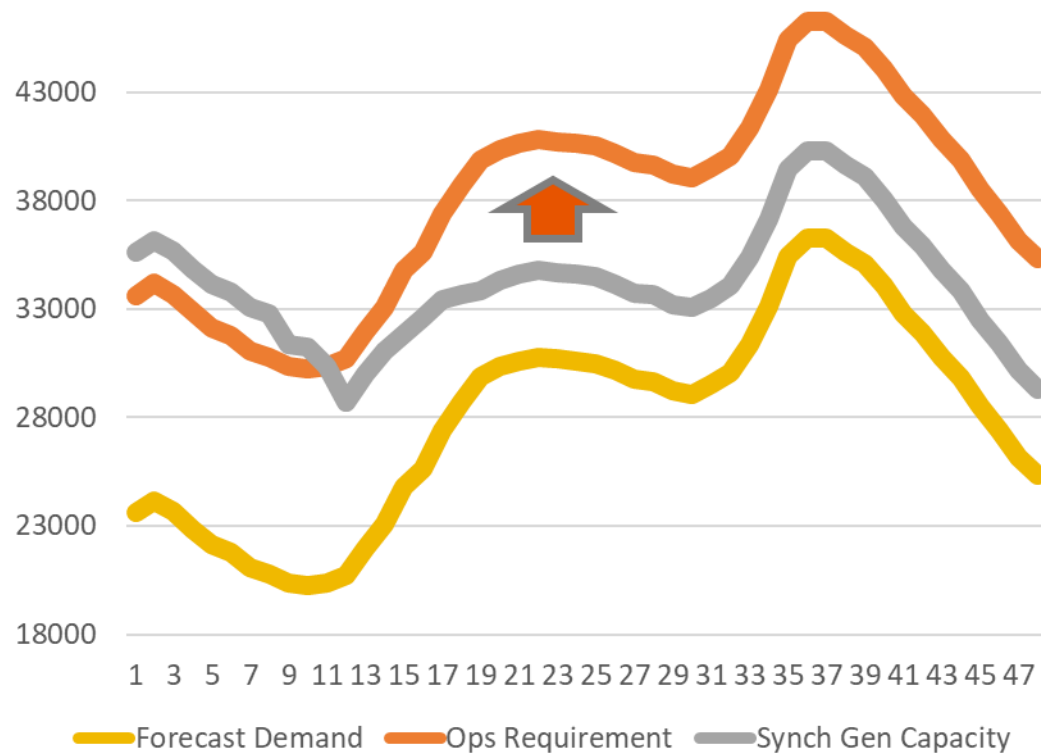
- a) Scheduled Reserve: BM units and/or balancing services providers that are able to regulate their output automatically or on receipt of despatch instructions, providing **Synchronized Generation Capacity**.
- b) STOR: capacity capable of generating (normally from standstill) or reducing demand within a defined period.

Where the difference between the **Synchronized Generation Capacity** available and the **Forecast Demand** is less than the Operating Reserve Requirements action must be taken to increase the **Operating Reserve**.

# Operating Reserve Requirements

Action must be taken to increase the Operating Reserve if:

$$[\sum \text{Synchronized Generation Capacity}] - \text{Forecast Demand} < \text{Operating Reserve Requirements}$$



## Headroom and Sterilized Headroom

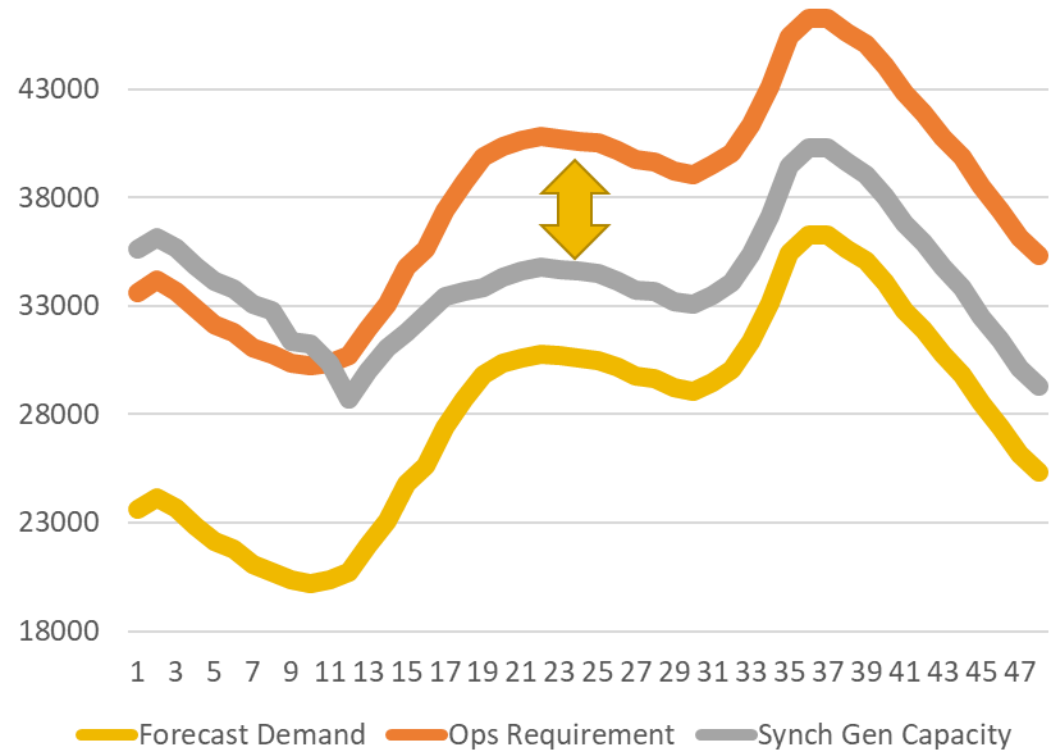
**Headroom** represents spare generation capacity on operating generating units which the ESO can potentially access to meet its **Operating Reserve** requirements.

**Headroom** become inaccessible if these generators are located behind an export constraint boundary

The **Headroom** that is available on the constrained generation become **Sterilized Headroom** and needs to be replaced elsewhere outside the constraint boundary through actions in the BM at a cost.

The cost of replacing this Sterilised Headroom can contribute materially to overall Constraint Costs.

For this reason this cost is categorized as Constraint Sterilized Headroom.

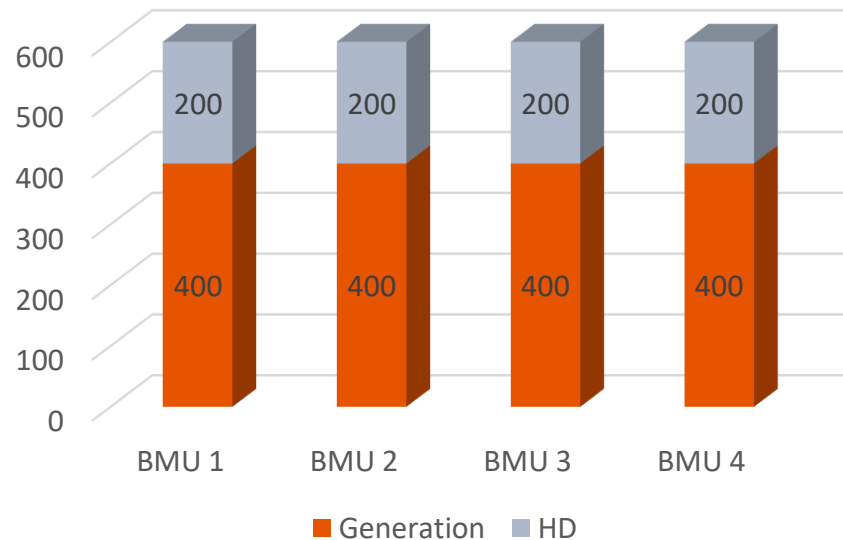


## Headroom and Sterilized Headroom

- 4x600MW BMUs running at 400MW each
- Generating 1600MW and creating 800MW Headroom

They are locally supplying a demand of 200MW and sending out to the rest of the network a power flow of 1400MW

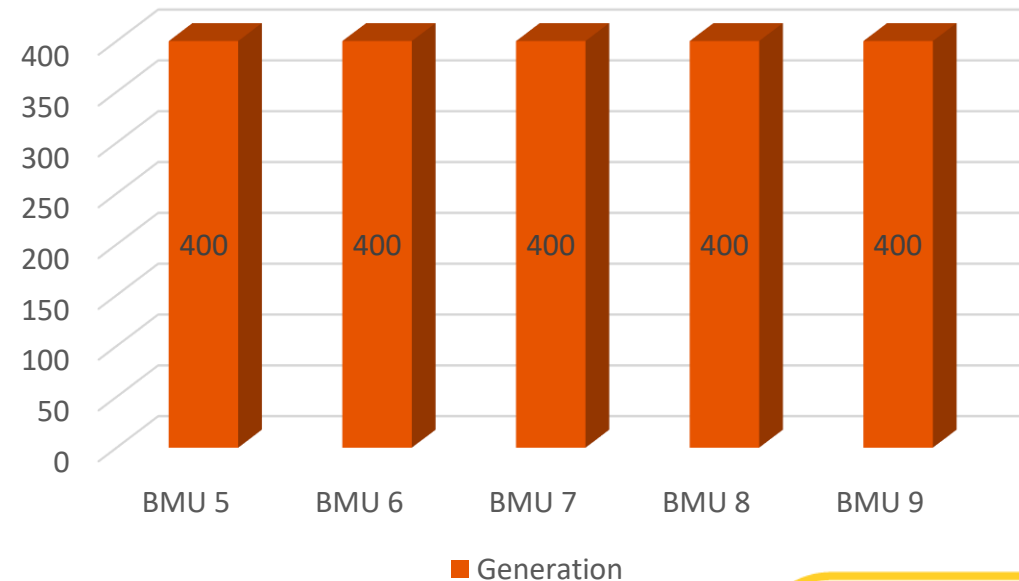
Generation and Headroom



A constraint limit become active and only 1200MW can be exported

This means that the 800MW Headroom won't be available if/when required.

Generation Only (Sterilized Headroom)

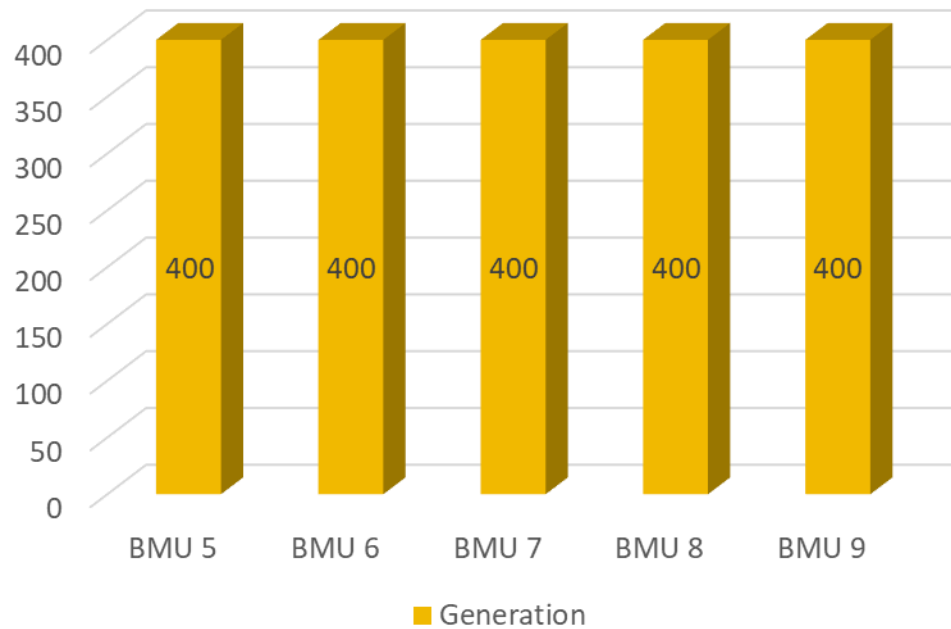


## Sterilized Headroom

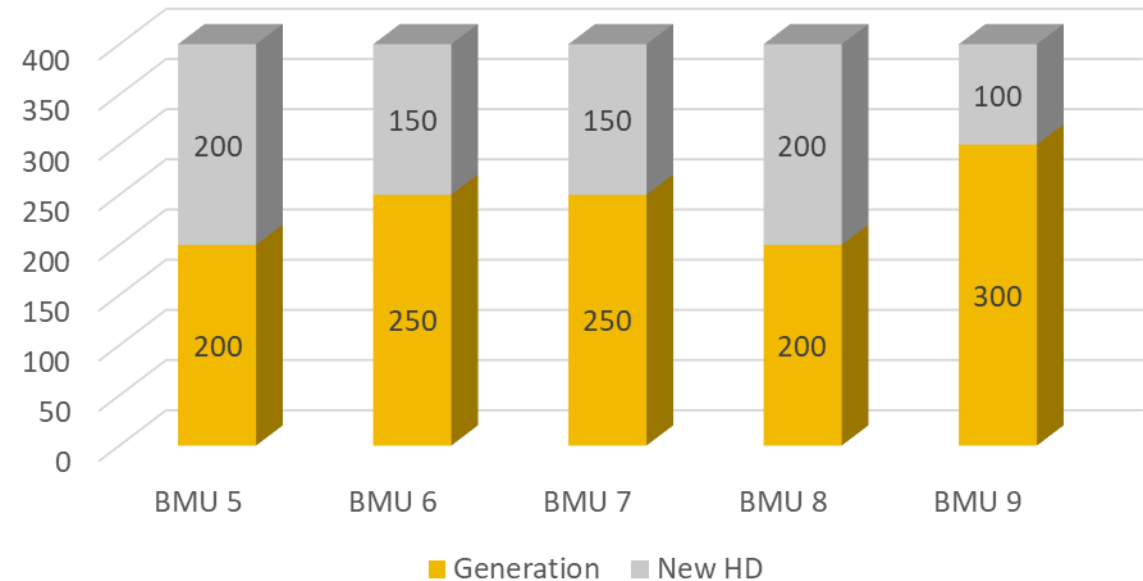
SO Actions outside constraint boundary:

1) Pull back units outside the constrained area to recreate the missing 800MW Headroom.

Outside Boundary Generation



Outside Boundary Generation pull back + Headroom recreated

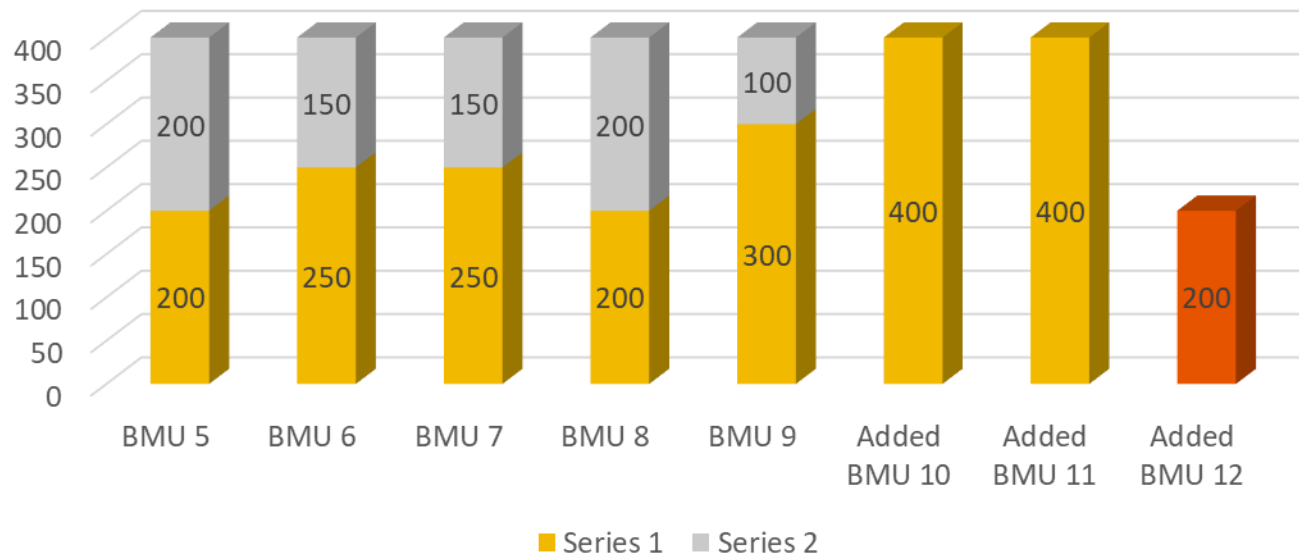


## Constraint Sterilized Headroom

SO Actions outside constraint boundary:

- 1) Pull back units outside the constrained area to recreate the missing 800MW Headroom.
- 2) Synchronize and instruct to generate additional units to cover for the energy removed due to action one and the energy that the constraint blocked, in our case is 200MW.

Outside Boundary Generation pull back + Headroom +  
added new Generation



The cost for replacing the **Sterilised Headroom** can contribute materially to overall **Constraint Costs**.

For this reason this cost is classified as **Constraint Sterilized Headroom**.

## Constraint Sterilized Headroom Complexities

**Sterilised Operating Reserve** refers to BMUs which are unable to achieve maximum output as they are located behind a constraint boundary which cannot transmit all of the necessary power through the available assets

**Constrained Margin Costs** are incurred when actions are taken, which have the combined effect of:

- Replacing **Sterilised Operating Reserve** behind a constraint boundary
- Increasing the amount of **Positive Reserve** available for operation

The action must only partially replace **Sterilised Operating Reserve** and partially increase the amount of **Positive Reserve** available in order to have the spend associated classified as a **Non-Constraint Cost** and categorized as **Constrained Margin Cost**.

If the action is taken to completely replace **Sterilised Operational margin** then, this can be treated as **Sterilized Headroom** and the costs are assigned to **Constraint Costs**.

Cost categorisation is based on the total cost of the action. For constraints, this will be the cost of the action to resolve the constraint plus the calculated cost of replacing that energy. In a tight margin situation the cost of replacing energy is typically higher due to scarcity pricing in the market and so the **Constraint Sterilized Headroom** cost can become much higher should constraints be active on the system during periods of tight margin.

# Markets Forum Planning Update

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- **Date:** Tuesday 22nd March
- **Hybrid event:**
  - Capacity for 180 people at the RSA in London (on the Strand)
  - Option to join virtually
- **How to sign up:** sign up [here](#)
- **Who to contact:** planning team for questions (Kirsten Shilling, Vicky Allen, Frank Kasibante, Ruth Roberts, Izzie Sunnucks)

Agenda	
Presenting	Topic
Market Development	Markets Roadmap
FSO	Update on FSO
Market Strategy	Net Zero Market Reform
Fintan	TBD
Panel Discussion	TBD
Networking	Opportunity to talk with Senior Leaders



# Domestic Reserve Scarcity trial - update

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## Recap

- NG ESO have collaborated with Octopus Energy on a trial exploring domestic flexibility within the suppliers smart meter customer base.
- Domestic households will be incentivised to reduce their demand across a 2-hour time period.
- Demand turn down events will be initiated at the day ahead stage, based on thresholds set in publicly available data.
- The trial period will until the end of March 2022, and look to enact up to 10 separate events.

## Update

- Trial period live from 11/02, with customers being recruited in several waves across the last 2 weeks.
- 100,000 customers have opted in to participate in the trial already.
- Will be running a trial event this week (Thursday 24/02: 16:30 – 18:30), to build a reference point for forecasting, baselining and participation for future events. Increasing understanding of the accuracy of the chosen methodology and allowing for improvements to be made for live trial events.
- Given recent market conditions and no triggered events the thresholds initially chosen will be reviewed to ensure they still align with trial objectives. Any amendments to these will be reported at future OTF's.

## Useful Links

- [Original OTF presentation](#) (02.02.2022)
- [Octopus Energy Blog](#)

# ESO Frequency Response Requirements Update – February 2022

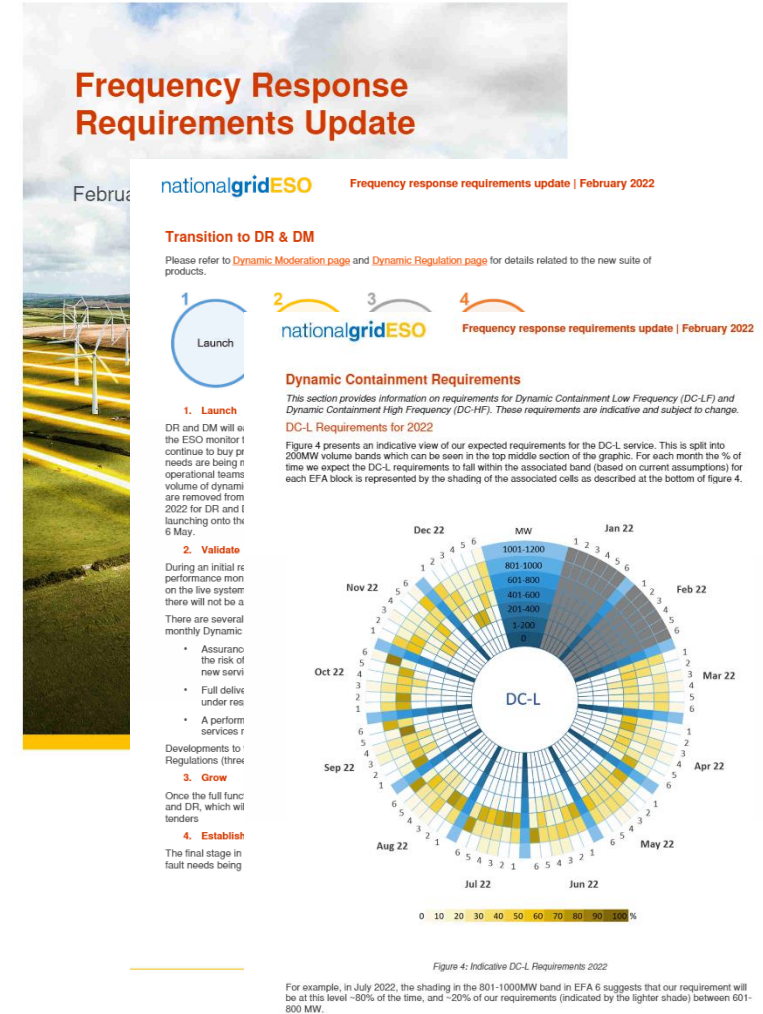
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## ■ ESO Frequency Response Requirements Update:

### ■ [Published on the ESO Data Portal](#)

### ■ Includes details on our plans to transition to our new response services

### ■ Provides a view of indicative requirements for both the new services and existing services



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# Audience Q&A Session

 Start presenting to display the audience questions on this slide.

## Q&A

**Please remember to use the feedback poll after the event. We welcome feedback to understand what we are doing well and how we can improve the event ongoing.**

If you have any questions after the event, please contact the following email address: [box.NC.Customer@nationalgrideso.com](mailto:box.NC.Customer@nationalgrideso.com)

