

Each of the questions asked by this consultation is set out in the template below. **Note that an editable version of this response template is available on our website as an associated document to this consultation.** If you do not wish to use our response template, please ensure that you indicate the RMS and DSA to which your experiences relate.

When considering your responses to these questions, please consider your experiences, the actions that SSEPD has undertaken and the actions that you consider it could reasonably undertake.

**Please check the RMS and DSAs that are relevant to you in the table below.**

RMS	SEPD	SHEPD
1. Metered high voltage work (HV)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Metered HV and Extra High Voltage (EHV) work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Metered EHV and above work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Distributed Generation (DG) HV and EHV voltage	X	X
5. Unmetered local authority (LA) work	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6. Unmetered PFI work	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7. Unmetered Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**When answering the questions below, please check the RMS(s) and DSA(s) that are relevant to your response.**

## **Chapter Two**

Question	RMS(s)	DSA(s)	Response
<b>One:</b> Are customers aware that competitive alternatives exist?	Metered HV <input type="checkbox"/>	SEPD X	Yes, made clear through documentation and discussions with SSEPD staff.
	Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/>	SHEPD X	
	Metered EHV & above <input type="checkbox"/>		
	DG HV/EHV X		
	Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/>		
Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/>			

Question	RMS(s)	DSA(s)	Response
	Unmetered (Other) <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Two:</b> Do customers have effective choice (ie are customers easily able to seek alternative quotations)? from competitive alternatives?	Metered HV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered EHV & above <input type="checkbox"/> DG HV/EHV <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (Other) <input type="checkbox"/>	SEPD X SHEPD X	Yes, easily able to accept grid connection offers on full works or non-contestable only basis.
<b>Three:</b> Does SSEPD take appropriate measures to ensure that customers are aware of the competitive alternatives available to them?	Metered HV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered EHV & above <input type="checkbox"/> DG HV/EHV <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (Other) <input type="checkbox"/>	SEPD X SHEPD X	Yes

Question	RMS(s)	DSA(s)	Response
<p><b>Four:</b> Are quotations provided by SSEPD clear and transparent? Do they enable customers to make informed decisions of whether to accept or reject a quote?</p>	<p>Metered HV <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Metered EHV &amp; above <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>DG HV/EHV <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Unmetered (Other) <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>SEPD X</p> <p>SHEPD X</p>	<p>Yes, offers are clear and easy to understand.</p>
<p><b>Five:</b> Have customers benefitted from competition? Have they seen improvements in SSEPD's price or service quality, or have they been able to source a superior service or better price from SSEPD's competitors?</p>	<p>Metered HV <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Metered EHV &amp; above <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>DG HV/EHV <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Unmetered (Other) <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>SEPD X</p> <p>SHEPD X</p>	<p>The ability to contract an ICP for contestable element of works has been a benefit to the business in terms of delivery timelines but limited significant benefits in terms of price and quality of service by going for ICP.</p>

**Chapter Three**

Question	RMS(S)	DSA(S)	Response
<p><b>One:</b> Does the level of competitive activity in the RMSs show that there is the potential for further competition to develop?</p>	<p>Metered HV <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Metered EHV &amp; above <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>DG HV/EHV <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Unmetered (Other) <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>SEPD X</p> <p>SHEPD X</p>	<p>Yes.</p>
<p><b>Two:</b> Consider the organisational structure of SSEPD's business and its procedures and processes –</p> <p><b>(a)</b> how do they compare to those you encounter elsewhere in the gas and electricity markets or other industries? Do they reflect best practice?</p> <p><b>(b)</b> do they enable competitors to compete with the timescales for connection (from quote</p>	<p>Metered HV <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Metered EHV &amp; above <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>DG HV/EHV <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Unmetered (Other) <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>SEPD X</p> <p>SHEPD X</p>	<p>a) SSEPD are good to work with and much of what they offer (e.g. price, expertise and application process) could be considered as best practice which compares very favourably to other DNO/RECs.</p> <p>b) Timescales for connection are one of the few areas where ICP's have a potential advantage over SSEPD.</p> <p>c) Have not experienced or heard of this when working with SSEPD. The acceptance of ICP designs can drag on a bit but often due to external factors.</p>

Question	RMS(S)	DSA(S)	Response
<p>to energisation) offered by SSEPD? Or do they offer SSEPD any inherent advantage over its competitors or prevent existing competitors from competing with them effectively?</p> <p><b>(c)</b> do they assist, obstruct or delay connections providers entering the RMSs?</p>			
<p><b>Three:</b> Are the non-contestable charges levied by SSEPD for statutory connections in the RMSs consistent with those levied for competitive quotations? Are they easily comparable with competitive quotations? Do the differences in charges between a point of connection (POC) quote and the non-contestable elements of an all works quote act as a barrier to competition?</p>	<p>Metered HV <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Metered EHV &amp; above <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>DG HV/EHV <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Unmetered (Other) <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>SEPD X</p> <p>SHEPD X</p>	<p>Charges for both options are transparent and identical.</p>

Question	RMS(S)	DSA(S)	Response
<p><b>Four:</b> What factors are key influences on development of competition in the RMSs? In particular, if you are an existing/potential competitor</p> <p><b>(a)</b> what is the potential for competitors to enter each RMSs, or grow their share of an the RMS if they already operate in it?</p> <p><b>(b)</b> are there are any types of connection in any of the RMSs, or geographic locations in SSEPD's DSAs, that by their nature, are not attractive to competition? Please explain your response.</p>	Metered HV	<input type="checkbox"/> SEPD X	<p>a) Would appear to be good potential (although not an ICP)</p> <p>b) More geographically remote connections are sometimes more difficult to get cost effective ICP involvement.</p>
	Metered HV/EHV	<input type="checkbox"/> SHEPD X	
	Metered EHV & above	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	DG HV/EHV	X	
	Unmetered (LA)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Unmetered PFI	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Unmetered (Other)	<input type="checkbox"/>		

#### **Chapter Four**

Question	RMS(S)	DSA(S)	Response
<p><b>One:</b> Do you agree with the methods used by SSEPD to analyse the level of competition in each of the RMSs covered by its application? In particular, do you consider that SSEPD the data provided gives a clear indication of the current level of competitive activity in each RMS?</p>	Metered HV	<input type="checkbox"/> SEPD X	<p>Yes.</p>
	Metered HV/EHV	<input type="checkbox"/> SHEPD X	
	Metered EHV & above	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	DG HV/EHV	X	
	Unmetered (LA)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Unmetered PFI	<input type="checkbox"/>	

	Unmetered (Other) <input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>Two:</b> Do you consider that competitive activity is at a level that in itself indicates that effective competition exists? Do you consider that the coverage of existing competitive activity extends across each RMS?	Metered HV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered EHV & above <input type="checkbox"/> DG HV/EHV <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (Other) <input type="checkbox"/>	SEPD X SHEPD X		Yes

**Chapter Six**

Question	RMS(S)	DSA(S)	Response
<b>One:</b> Do you consider customers have an effective choice of connections provider? In particular, do you feel that levels of choice, value and service will be protected and will improve if the restriction on SSEPD's ability to earn a margin is removed?	Metered HV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered EHV & above <input type="checkbox"/> DG HV/EHV <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/>	SEPD X SHEPD X	Yes

Question	RMS(S)	DSA(S)	Response
	Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (Other) <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Two:</b> Do you consider that there is scope for competitors to grow their market share (for example, if SSEPD put up its prices or if its quality dropped), or are there factors constraining this?	Metered HV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered EHV & above <input type="checkbox"/> DG HV/EHV <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (Other) <input type="checkbox"/>	SEPD X SHEPD X	Yes.
<b>Three:</b> Do you consider that there is scope and/or appetite for new participants to enter the market? Do you consider that new entrants would be able to provide similar or better services than existing participants or are there factors constraining this?	Metered HV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered EHV & above <input type="checkbox"/> DG HV/EHV <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/>	SEPD X SHEPD X	Yes



Question	RMS(S)	DSA(S)	Response
	Unmetered (Other) <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Four:</b> Given your overall view of SSEPD, do you consider that we can have confidence in them to operate appropriately in the event that price regulation is lifted?	Metered HV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered EHV & above <input type="checkbox"/> DG HV/EHV <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (Other) <input type="checkbox"/>	SEPD X SHEPD X	Yes
<b>Five:</b> Do you consider that there are factors not addressed in this consultation that should be taken into consideration in determining whether price regulation should be lifted?	Metered HV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered EHV & above <input type="checkbox"/> DG HV/EHV <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (Other) <input type="checkbox"/>	SEPD X SHEPD X	No.