

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"/>
4. Distributed Generation (DG) HV and EHV voltage	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Unmetered local authority (LA) work	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6. Unmetered PFI work	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7. Unmetered Other	✓	

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	
One: Are customers aware that competitive alternatives exist?	Metered HV	Y	Yes, we are aware of competition in almost all work undertaken by SSE (and others) as our DNO.	
	Metered HV/EHV	<input type="checkbox"/>		SHEPD <input type="checkbox"/>
	Metered EHV & above	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	DG HV/EHV	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Unmetered (LA)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Unmetered PFI	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Question	RMS(s)	DSA(s)	Response
	Unmetered (Other) Y		
Two: Do customers have effective choice (ie are customers easily able to seek alternative quotations)? from competitive alternatives?	Metered HV Y Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered EHV & above <input type="checkbox"/> DG HV/EHV Y Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (Other) Y	SEPD Y SHEPD <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes. Not only do we have but I have sought, received and even selected such alternatives.
Three: Does SSEPD take appropriate measures to ensure that customers are aware of the competitive alternatives available to them?	Metered HV Y Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered EHV & above <input type="checkbox"/> DG HV/EHV Y Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (Other) Y	SEPD Y SHEPD <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, they repeatedly point it out. It is also referenced on SSE's material very prominently.

Question	RMS(s)	DSA(s)	Response
<p>Four: 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 Y Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered EHV & above <input type="checkbox"/> DG HV/EHV Y Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (Other) Y</p>	<p>SEPD <input type="checkbox"/> SHEPD <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Yes.</p>
<p>Five: 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 Y Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered EHV & above <input type="checkbox"/> DG HV/EHV Y Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (Other) Y</p>	<p>SEPD <input type="checkbox"/> SHEPD <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Yes, cheaper and more timely solutions. I can't say I have seen an improvement in SSE's price or service quality, but in general it has been acceptable.</p>

Question	RMS(s)	DSA(s)	Response
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Chapter Three

Question	RMS(S)	DSA(S)	Response
<p>One: Does the level of competitive activity in the RMSs show that there is the potential for further competition to develop?</p>	<p>Metered HV Y</p> <p>Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Metered EHV & above <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>DG HV/EHV Y</p> <p>Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Unmetered (Other) Y</p>	<p>SEPD Y</p> <p>SHEPD <input type="checkbox"/></p>	Possibly.
<p>Two: Consider the organisational structure of SSEPD's business and its procedures and processes –</p> <p>(a) 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) do they enable competitors to compete</p>	<p>Metered HV Y</p> <p>Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Metered EHV & above <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>DG HV/EHV Y</p> <p>Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Unmetered (Other) Y</p>	<p>SEPD Y</p> <p>SHEPD <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>SEPD is as good as any and indeed probably more competitive than Northern Power Networks or UK Power Networks where I have also worked.</p> <p>b) yes</p> <p>c) assist, with quite a lot of admin</p>

Question	RMS(S)	DSA(S)	Response																		
<p>with the timescales for connection (from quote 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>(c) do they assist, obstruct or delay connections providers entering the RMSs?</p>																					
<p>Three: 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>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Metered HV</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Metered HV/EHV</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Metered EHV & above</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>DG HV/EHV</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unmetered (LA)</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unmetered PFI</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unmetered (Other)</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> </table>	Metered HV	Y	Metered HV/EHV	<input type="checkbox"/>	Metered EHV & above	<input type="checkbox"/>	DG HV/EHV	Y	Unmetered (LA)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unmetered PFI	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unmetered (Other)	Y	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>SEPD</td> <td>Y</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SHEPD</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>	SEPD	Y	SHEPD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>As far as I can tell. Yes. No.</p>
Metered HV	Y																				
Metered HV/EHV	<input type="checkbox"/>																				
Metered EHV & above	<input type="checkbox"/>																				
DG HV/EHV	Y																				
Unmetered (LA)	<input type="checkbox"/>																				
Unmetered PFI	<input type="checkbox"/>																				
Unmetered (Other)	Y																				
SEPD	Y																				
SHEPD	<input type="checkbox"/>																				

Question	RMS(S)	DSA(S)	Response	
<p>Four: What factors are key influences on development of competition in the RMSs? In particular, if you are an existing/potential competitor</p> <p>(a) 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) 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	Y	SEPD's willingness and bandwidth to do more work on the non-contestable wourks and work with the ICPs on the rest.	
	Metered HV/EHV	<input type="checkbox"/>		SHEPD <input type="checkbox"/>
	Metered EHV & above	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	DG HV/EHV	Y		
	Unmetered (LA)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Unmetered PFI	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Unmetered (Other)	Y		

Chapter Four

Question	RMS(S)	DSA(S)	Response	
<p>One: 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	Y	I am not familiar with this data.	
	Metered HV/EHV	<input type="checkbox"/>		SHEPD <input type="checkbox"/>
	Metered EHV & above	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	DG HV/EHV	Y		
	Unmetered (LA)	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Unmetered PFI	<input type="checkbox"/>		

	Unmetered (Other) Y		
Two: 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 Y Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered EHV & above <input type="checkbox"/> DG HV/EHV Y Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (Other) Y	SEPD Y SHEPD <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes. Don't know.

Chapter Six

Question	RMS(S)	DSA(S)	Response
One: 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 Y Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered EHV & above <input type="checkbox"/> DG HV/EHV Y Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/>	SEPD Y SHEPD <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes

Question	RMS(S)	DSA(S)	Response
	Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (Other) Y		
Two: 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 Y Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered EHV & above <input type="checkbox"/> DG HV/EHV Y Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (Other) Y	SEPD Y SHEPD <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes. I am sure there is such scope.
Three: 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 Y Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered EHV & above <input type="checkbox"/> DG HV/EHV Y Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/>	SEPD Y SHEPD <input type="checkbox"/>	Not sure.

Question	RMS(S)	DSA(S)	Response
	Unmetered (Other) Y		
<p>Four: 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?</p>	Metered HV Y Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered EHV & above <input type="checkbox"/> DG HV/EHV Y Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (Other) Y	SEPD Y SHEPD <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes.
<p>Five: 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?</p>	Metered HV Y Metered HV/EHV <input type="checkbox"/> Metered EHV & above <input type="checkbox"/> DG HV/EHV Y Unmetered (LA) <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered PFI <input type="checkbox"/> Unmetered (Other) Y	SEPD Y SHEPD <input type="checkbox"/>	No.

Question	RMS(S)	DSA(S)	Response