# RIIO-ED1

## Investment Justification

### LPN Non-load Related Expenditure

Version 1.0

# Contents

# 1 Executive summary

## 1.1 Expenditure forecast summary

UK Power Network's non-load related expenditures are organised into two principal categories:

- non-load network investment, including other costs; and
- network operating costs.

Non-load network investment expenditures include costs associated with:

- electrical safety, quality, and continuity regulations compliance (ESQCR);
- asset refurbishment;
- asset replacement;
- legal and safety;
- quality of supply (QoS);
- rising and lateral mains (RLM);
- flood defences;
- BT 21st century (BT21CN)
- technical losses and other environmental;
- civil works;
- high impact low probability (HILP) events;
- security of critical national infrastructure (CNI);
- black start;
- operational information technology and telecommunications (IT&T); and
- smart metering.

Network operating cost expenditures include costs associated with:

- inspection and maintenance;
- fault investigation and repair;
- tree cutting; and
- other network operating costs.

Table 1 below summarises our proposed non-load related expenditures for LPN. The cost numbers displayed in Table 1 reflect on-going efficiency improvements before the application of real-price effects. The cost numbers map directly to the RIG tables, but will not map directly to the Asset Stewardship Reports (ASRs), which exclude ongoing efficiencies, or our "What's changed and why?" summary document, which include real-price effects.

In addition to the average annual expenditure in the ED1 period, Table 1 presents the average annual expenditure over the full DPCR5 period taking into account three years of actual values and two years of forecast values. Average expenditure information for ED1 and DPCR5 is presented in all similar tables in this report.

On an aggregate level, LPN non-load related average annual expenditures for ED1 is essentially flat (~2% increase) when compared to the full DPCR5 period.

| | '15/16 | '16/17 | '17/18 | '18/19 | '19/20 | '20/21 | '21/22 | '22/23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Non-load network investment | 74.6 | 77.2 | 65.5 | 59.7 | 61.3 | 59.5 | 50.6 | 47.2 | **495.6** | 61.9 | 52.9 |
| Network operating costs | 41.4 | 40.9 | 40.3 | 40.0 | 39.4 | 39.1 | 37.4 | 37.1 | **315.8** | 39.5 | 46.2 |
| **TOTAL (£m)** | **116.0** | **118.2** | **105.9** | **99.7** | **100.7** | **98.6** | **88.0** | **84.3** | **811.3** | **101.4** | **99.1** |

**Table 1: Summary of non-load related expenditure for LPN[1]**

A summary of our proposed non-load network investment expenditure is provided in Table 3 below. The majority of the expenditure (~75%) over the ED1 period is for asset refurbishment/replacement and civils.

| | '15/16 | '16/17 | '17/18 | '18/19 | '19/20 | '20/21 | '21/22 | '22/23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ESQCR | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Asset replacement | 43.6 | 44.3 | 34.6 | 33.8 | 35.9 | 36.5 | 32.7 | 30.3 | **291.7** | 36.5 | 31.7 |
| Asset refurbishment | 1.5 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.7 | 2.3 | 1.7 | 2.5 | 2.3 | **14.7** | 1.8 | 2.5 |
| Legal and safety | 9.2 | 8.1 | 5.2 | 5.5 | 5.3 | 5.0 | 1.3 | 1.1 | **40.7** | 5.1 | 1.8 |
| Quality of supply | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Rising mains and laterals | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Flooding | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | **3.7** | 0.5 | 0.8 |
| BT21CN | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Technical losses and env. | 0.9 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | **4.0** | 0.5 | 0.8 |
| Civil works | 12.9 | 13.4 | 12.5 | 6.8 | 6.0 | 5.6 | 5.8 | 5.5 | **68.6** | 8.6 | 10.2 |
| HILP events | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Security of CNI | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | 0.0 | 0.6 |
| Black start | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **2.1** | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| Operational IT&T | 3.7 | 5.7 | 6.7 | 6.4 | 6.5 | 6.7 | 6.8 | 6.6 | **49.0** | 6.1 | 4.0 |
| Smart meters | 1.8 | 3.0 | 3.8 | 4.2 | 4.2 | 3.1 | 0.5 | 0.5 | **21.1** | 2.6 | 0.2 |
| **TOTAL (£m)** | **74.6** | **77.2** | **65.5** | **59.7** | **61.3** | **59.5** | **50.6** | **47.2** | 495.6 | **61.9** | **52.9** |

**Table 2: Summary of non-load network investment expenditure for LPN**

A summary of our proposed network operating cost expenditures is provided in Table 3 below. Forecast average annual expenditure for inspection and maintenance are effectively flat in real terms between of the full DPCR5 period and ED1, whereas forecast annual expenditure for fault investigation and repair is lower by approximately 25%.

[1] In this and the tables that follow, differences between the total and the sum of individual rows or columns are due to rounding.

| | '15/ 16 | '16/ 17 | '17/ 18 | '18/ 19 | '19/ 20 | '20/ 21 | '21/ 22 | '22/ 23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Inspection and maintenance | 14.9 | 14.9 | 14.7 | 14.8 | 14.5 | 14.3 | 12.5 | 12.0 | **112.7** | 14.1 | 13.9 |
| Fault investigation and repair | 23.6 | 23.1 | 22.7 | 22.3 | 22.0 | 21.9 | 22.0 | 22.2 | **179.8** | 22.5 | 29.9 |
| Tree clearing | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.1** | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Other NOCs | 2.9 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 2.9 | **23.1** | 2.9 | 2.4 |
| **TOTAL (£m)** | **41.4** | **40.9** | **40.3** | **40.0** | **39.4** | **39.1** | **37.4** | **37.1** | **315.8** | **39.5** | **46.2** |

**Table 3: Summary of network operating cost expenditure for LPN**

A breakdown of total non-load network investment and network operating costs over the ED1 period is provided in Figure 1.

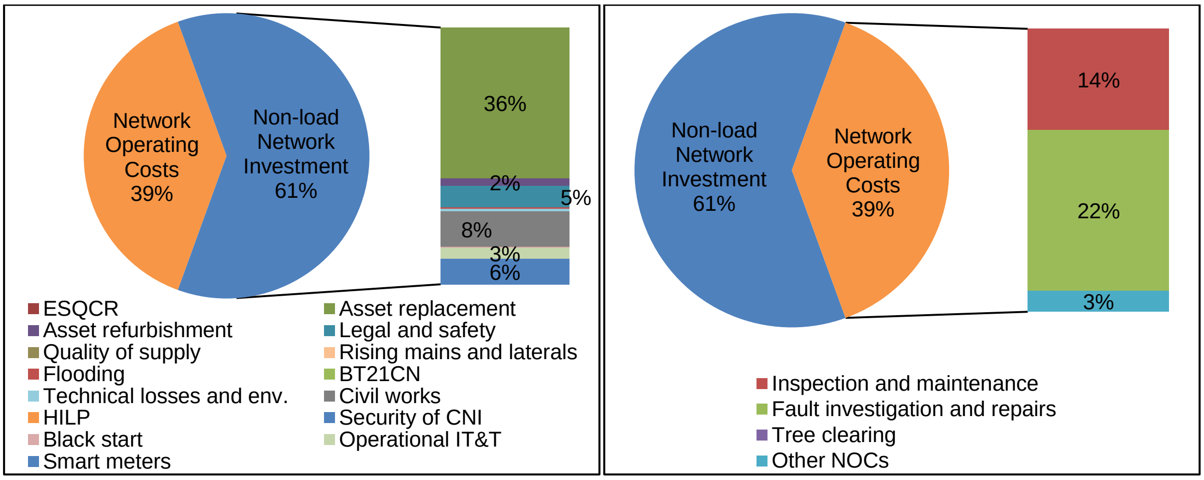



**Figure 1: Breakdown of non-load network investment and network operating cost expenditure for LPN**

## 1.2 Efficiency of volumes and expenditures

UK Power Networks uses an innovative approach to asset management that imposes tight controls on assets which are close to the end of their lives as determined through stringent condition, criticality, and defect health index assessments and definitions. Sophisticated proprietary tools, such as the asset risk and prioritisation (ARP) model that improves the accuracy of our determination and prediction of asset health, are an essential element of our asset management strategy. As we operate a complex network in the most densely populated regions in the UK, this innovative asset management strategy allows us to maintain the highest safety and reliability of our network whilst minimizing the number of interventions and maximising the utilisation and life of our existing assets.

Our ED1 forecast total expenditures build upon our proven track-record of improving network performance and asset efficiency. We are proposing to maintain the same distribution of Health Index 4 and 5 assets at the beginning and end of the ED1 period. This is the same asset health target that we set for the DPCR5 period.

We have carried out extensive cost-benefit analysis of our proposed ED1 non-load related investment volumes (covering approximately 65% of the ED1 non-load investment programme) relative to our equivalent DPCR5 volumes. The analysis shows that customers will benefit by more than £6 million of efficiency savings in ED1 given our proposed ED1 volumes compared to DPCR5 volumes. Extrapolating the findings from this analysis to our entire ED1 non-load investment programme suggests that our customers will benefit by more than £10 million in efficiency savings in ED1.

Reliability on our networks is among the best in the UK. However, we generally intervene on a smaller percentage of our assets and leave our assets in place for longer relative to other DNOs (see Figure 2). As a result, the average life of our assets is estimated to be 12% longer than other DNOs and we are able to provide very reliable service at a lower cost.

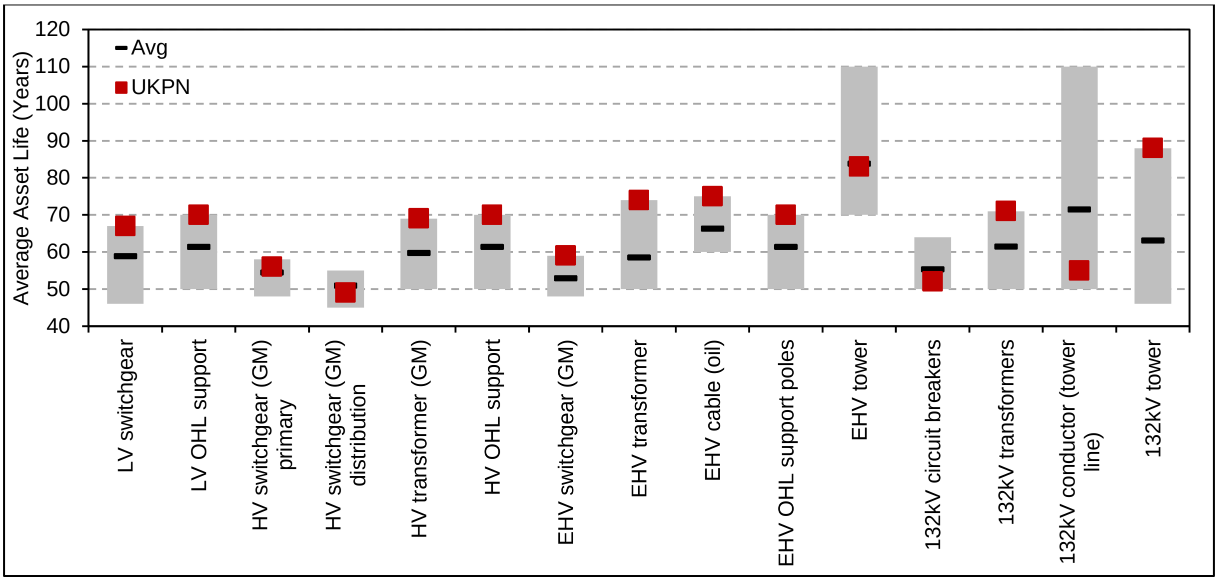



**Figure 2: Comparison of average asset lives across major asset groups[2]**

To better understand the impact of the outputs from our innovative asset management strategy, compared with other DNOs, UK Power Networks developed two alternate cost benefit analysis scenarios:

- industry representative condition (IRC);[3] and
- WPD representative condition (WPDRC).[4]

These two scenarios are used to compare our proposed ED1 non-load investment programme expenditures to those of other DNOs. Additional information on our cost benefit analyses is available in *Annex 13c: Cost Benefit Analysis* of our submission. The IRC based replacement volume scenario for LPN shows that customers are benefitting by more than £85 million through UK Power Networks' innovative asset management strategy. If this benefit is representative of UK Power Networks' overall non-load investment programme, the

2 Source: Sinclair Knight Merz. "Review of UKPN HI Classification and Asset Life Allocation". 5 March 2014.

3 In the IRC scenario, volume is determined based on an 'industry average' condition-based replacement strategy. Expenditure is calculated using a unit cost based on the LPN RIIO-ED1 plan. In order to establish an 'industry average' condition based replacement strategy, our asset engineers developed an age-based proxy, using industry average asset ages as a signal of when other DNOs condition-based strategies would result in asset replacement.

4 In the IRC scenario, volume is determined based on the asset replacement and refurbishment proportions used by WPD and assessed as efficient by Ofgem in their Fast Track decision. Expenditure is calculated using a unit cost based on our LPN RIIO-ED1 plan.

total benefit to customers would be £120 million in ED1. The WPDRC scenario for LPN shows that customers are benefitting by more than £10 million through UK Power Networks' innovative asset management strategy. When this benefit is applied to UK Power Networks' overall non load investment programme, the total benefits to customers would be £36 million in ED1.

Our unit costs are optimal in relation to our planned volume and expenditure, given the relative constraints we face operating our networks. We focus on achieving the highest levels of efficiency in load-related and non-load related volumes to compensate for higher unit costs driven by locational and situational factors. This allows us to achieve an optimal balance between volume and total expenditure. Given the relatively fixed nature of distribution utility costs, a consequence of our focus on volume efficiency is that efficiencies in unit costs generally lag.

We believe that our unit costs are within the bounds Ofgem sets for efficiency when all variables are taken into consideration. There are a number of specific locational and situational factors that contribute to UK Power Networks' unit costs:

- transport and travelling – congestion charges, parking and site access;
- excavations – accessing underground cable networks in high density urban areas and environmental restrictions on street works;
- operations – scheduling work, accessing sites, and gaining consent from multiple interested parties such as property owners and local authorities;
- resources – higher labour rates and allowances;
- security – higher network asset security requirements and access to assets;
- properties – purchasing and accessing higher cost land and buildings;
- contractors – higher contracted labour rates (due to shortage of skilled labour); and
- tunnels – building and maintaining tunnels for underground cables.

UK Power Networks' average network unit costs will always be higher than the average benchmark network costs because of the skew created by the Greater London Area. Our historic focus on volume efficiency has delivered results, and we are now turning our attention to unit costs. Our ED1 plan commits us to deliver a reduction of approximately 10% in unit costs across our network as compared to our unit costs in DPCR5. While we have a solid track record of delivering improvements and continuing to improve, reducing unit costs faster than the current trajectory embedded in our ED1 plan will be extremely difficult. The easily identifiable, high-impact improvements in unit costs are being delivered in the last two years of DPCR5, and whilst reducing unit costs continue to be a relentless focus for us, opportunities for further reductions will be harder to identify and take longer to achieve, and will be further limited by our volume management efforts and unique regional constraints.

Our ED1 forecast volume and expenditure reflects our track-record of delivering efficiencies in our business, and are part of our ongoing commitment and journey of transformation. Since becoming UK Power Networks, we have delivered a number of improvements and implemented a number of programmes to achieve better long-term value for money for our customers. Highlights of these improvements and programmes include:

- reduced customer interruptions and customer minutes lost by 30.3 per cent and 42.5 per cent respectively;
- delivered our network health and load investment targets ahead of the plan;
- cut our costs, whilst still delivering our DPCR5 output commitments, so that we are on track to deliver £200 million of cost savings; and
- launched a shareholder funded £50 million business transformation programme to deliver best-in-class business processes and systems that will enable us to achieve our ED1 commitments.

# 2 Asset refurbishment / replacement volume forecasting

## 2.1 Overview

UK Power Networks, in collaboration with EA Technology, has enhanced and expanded its modelling techniques for establishing and managing asset health. These enhancements build upon our history of asset stewardship and incorporate sophisticated techniques to assess asset health, criticality and risk. To enable the enhancements, we developed a new modelling approach that builds upon the long-established methodology of condition based risk management (CBRM). This new decision-making support tool, the asset risk and prioritisation (ARP) model, is a bottom-up model that integrates asset health, criticality, environment and risk to identify targeted investment interventions across a broad range of asset groups.

The development of ARP started in May 2011, and is split into a number of phases. Phases 1 and 2, which are now complete, saw the development and implementation of the new base modelling capability, and enabled criticality, environment and risk to be modelled for a number of asset groups. Further phases will extend the criticality and risk modelling to most of the remaining asset groups, integrate load and non-load modelling capability, support the optimisation of total expenditures (totex) through consideration of trade-offs between operating and capital investment decisions, and facilitate analysis for the optimisation of investment to support a low-carbon SMART future. As referenced in *ASR - Document 15 - Asset Category - Modelling Overview*, "UKPN have continued to work with EA Technology and are taking a global lead in asset deterioration modelling".[5] This is an ongoing project due for completion by 2015.

ARP modelling is used to establish the ED1 plan for a significant portion of our expenditure. Going forward, we will continue to roll ARP modelling and analysis out to the vast majority of the remaining assets. For asset groups where it is not possible or would not provide good value for customers to develop an ARP model, UK Power Networks uses a statistical asset replacement model (SARM), a Markov model (Markov), informed by historical experience and engineering judgement as decision support tools to inform future investment interventions.

A more detailed discussion of our modelling tools, e.g., the ARP, SARM, and Markov models, is available in *ASR - Document 15 - Asset Category - Modelling Overview*.

## 2.2 Health indices and probability of failure

The first stage in the ARP process is to determine a numeric representation of the health of each asset. This health assessment combines information that relates to its age, environment, duty, specific condition and performance of an asset. This methodology gives us a comparable measure of health for individual assets in terms of proximity to end-of-life (EOL) and probability of failure (POF).

[5] Source: Robert Davis, Group CEO, EA Technology Ltd

The ARP models use a rating of 1 to 10 to measure the current health of an asset. Low values (in the range 1 to 4) indicate some observable or detectable deterioration at an early stage. This may be considered as normal ageing, i.e. the difference between a new asset and one that has been in service for some time but is still in good condition. In such a condition, the POF remains very low and the condition and POF would not be expected to change significantly for some time.

Medium values (in the range 4 to 7), indicate significant deterioration, where the asset's degradation is starting to move from normal ageing to processes that potentially threaten failure. In this condition, the POF, although still low, is just starting to rise and the rate of further degradation is increasing.

High values (>7) indicate serious deterioration, where degradation processes are so advanced that they threaten failure. In this condition, the POF is significantly raised and the rate of further degradation will be relatively rapid.

In DPCR5, Ofgem introduced a system of health index (HI) classifications, which allows categorisation of assets into five bands of health from 'as-new' condition to 'requiring intervention'. The UK Power Networks scale is mapped to the Ofgem categories as follows in Table 4.

| Ofgem HI | Ofgem Description | ARP Health Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | New or as new | 0.50 to 1.00 |
| 2 | Good or serviceable condition | 1.01 to 4.00 |
| 3 | Deterioration requires assessment and monitoring | 4.01 to 6.00 |
| 4 | Material deterioration, intervention requires consideration | 6.01 to 7.00 |
| 5 | End of serviceable life, intervention required | > 7.01 |

**Table 4: ARP health assessment mapping to Ofgem Health Index categories**

This mapping of UK Power Networks' ARP asset health scale to Ofgem's health index is similar to the classification used in DPCR5 to map the health assessment from our earlier condition based risk management (CBRM) model. As is discussed in *ASR - Document 15 - Asset Category - Modelling Overview*, the principal distinction in terms of health assessment and mapping between the ARP model and the earlier CBRM model, is the requirement that assets undergo a physical condition assessment prior to receiving a grade of 6.01 or higher (4 or 5 on the Ofgem scale) in ARP. This additional requirement ensures that we are not intervening on the basis of age alone, and that we are focusing our interventions on assets that are truly in need of replacement or refurbishment.

In comparison to the performance of other DNOs, this approach will result in us developing both an older asset base with a smaller group of assets identified with a higher probability of failure, and a lower volume of assets being replaced as a proportion of the total asset base. As a result, we are actively managing a smaller pool of assets with Health Index 4 and 5, which are closer to service failure than may be the case for other DNOs with different asset replacement methodologies where assets could potentially be retired too early. Our replacement modelling results in a realistic replacement profile for similarly aged blocks of assets.

The health assessment for an individual asset is built from available condition-related information and reflects an engineering assessment at a given point in time. Once the current health has been established for an asset or asset group, the ARP model predicts changes in health over time reflecting different degradation processes, and in response to different intervention strategies, both of which can vary by asset group.

The ARP deterioration modelling approach that UK Power Networks developed to drive targeted, asset condition-based, investment programmes makes use of high-quality asset data collected across the business. To control and measure the quality of the data feeding into the ARP models, we developed an innovative data quality and control process. This process results in a completeness, accuracy, and timeliness (CAT) score for each asset group. The CAT score provides a measure of data quality at a specific moment in time. CAT scores for each asset group are discussed in more detail in *ASR - Document 15 - Asset Category - Modelling Overview*.

## 2.3 Consequences of failure and criticality

In addition to asset health, the ARP model has the built-in capability to dynamically assess the criticality of a particular asset or group of assets. Asset criticality is a relative comparison of the consequences of failure. The ability of the ARP model to dynamically assess health and criticality is unique, and was the driving reason behind its development. Traditional CBRM models do not assess critically. Rather it is assessed through 'bolt-on' solutions, after the fact.

The consequences of failure of an asset take into account (i) whether it would cause an outage, (ii) whether it would pose a safety concern, (iii) whether it would pose an environmental concern, and (iv) the likely cost of repair. For each asset the overall consequence of failure is the sum across the four categories stated above, measured in 'modelled' £. The average consequence of failure is calculated for each asset group. Individual assets are classified based on their position relative to the average overall consequence of failure for the population.

Table 5 below summarised the criticality bands as defined by Ofgem.

| Ofgem CI | Ofgem Description | Criticality Values |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Low criticality | Less than 75% of the average overall consequence of failure |
| 2 | Average criticality | Greater than, or equal to, 75% and less than 125% of the average overall consequence of failure |
| 3 | High criticality | Greater than, or equal to, 125% and less than 200% of the average overall consequence of failure |
| 4 | Very high criticality | Greater than, or equal to, 200% of average consequence of the average overall consequence of failure |

**Table 5: Criticality index categories**

Risk is a function of probability of occurrence and severity of impact. The health index is a measure of the probability of failure and the criticality index is a measure of the severity of the impact of failure. Taken together the health and criticality indices provide a measure of risk.

## 2.4 Optimising planned activities and expenditures

UK Power Networks' network asset management plan (NAMP) defines the non-load related expenditures for the ED1 period. The NAMP assesses the need for investment by applying appropriate and proportionate approaches depending on the materiality of the investment stream.

The NAMP incorporates several optimising features:

- interventions only occur when there is clear evidence of a deteriorated condition -- we generally do not intervene on the basis of age alone;
- consideration of engineering options, including refurbishment or replacement.
- optimisation of trade-offs between capital and maintenance expenditures;
- coordination of load and non-load interventions; and
- harmonisation of related interventions.

As a result of our transition to the ARP model, UK Power Network's network asset management plan is principally condition based, and interventions are seldom driven by age considerations alone. This results in an optimisation of intervention volumes across the network.

Engineering options are identified through a robust process that considers a wide range of potential solutions and results in a short-list of viable solutions. Further analysis is then undertaken to determine the "scheme" that delivers the greatest long-term value for customers while meeting our obligations. UK Power Networks is focused on finding the lowest-cost solutions, and as such refurbishment is generally the first consideration. However, the NAMP takes into account technical information, such as the nature of the deterioration and constraints (e.g. access to the asset) that ultimately may impact the final determination. Examples of the range of options that are considered within the NAMP are provided in the scheme papers included in this submission.

In some instances, incurring additional maintenance expenditures to defer the need for capital investment could be the optimal solution. In other instances, incurring capital expenditures to reduce or eliminate inefficient maintenance expenditures could be the optimal solution. Our NAMP takes the consideration of trade-offs between capital and maintenance expenditures into consideration.

Individual investment schemes are aggregated and put through an optimisation process that seeks to ensure that the interactions between schemes, in particular load and non-load related, are recognised and the objectives and outputs appropriately balanced. If beneficial, interventions will be accelerated or delayed to capture synergies available through the coordination of load and non-load schemes.

In addition, UK Power Networks will harmonise related interventions, and seek to make repairs or replacements in a manner that makes the most efficient use of our existing resources. For example, in the NAMP, we consider whether refurbishments or replacements are likely required for related assets or for multiple elements of a single asset. These interventions are coordinated within the NAMP to occur concurrently or sequentially in an efficient manner.

## 2.5 Demonstrating delivery of outputs

In preparation for DPCR5, DNOs determined:

- the health index profile of assets at the beginning of DPCR5;
- the health index profile of assets at the end of DPCR5 as a consequence of degradation absent any intervention; and
- the impact of proposed replacement and refurbishment programmes on the profile at the end of DPCR5.

This is illustrated in Figure 3 below.

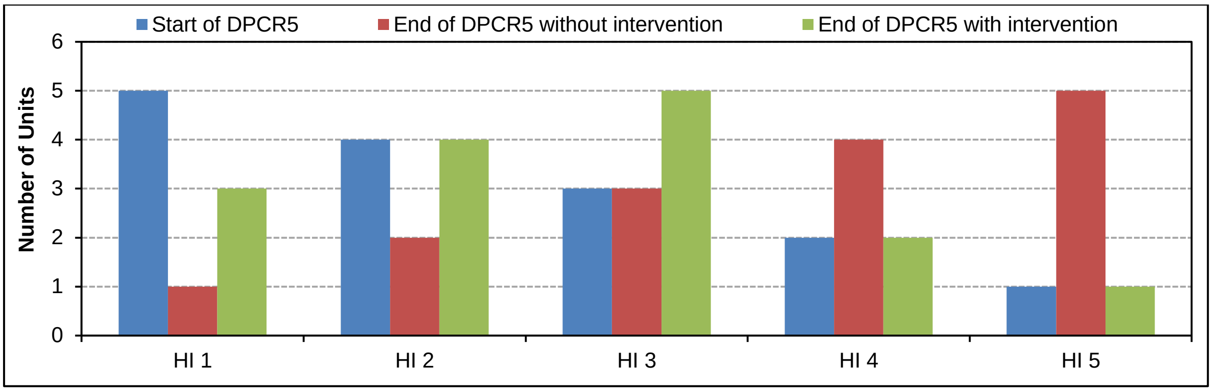



**Figure 3: Illustrative distribution of health indices**

This methodology was introduced to ensure that DNOs focused on delivering replacement programmes in line with their forecasts. For ED1, DNOs will determine:

- the health index profile of assets at the beginning of ED1;
- the health index profile of assets at the end of ED1 as a consequence of degradation absent any intervention; and
- the impact of proposed replacement and refurbishment programmes on the profile at the end of ED1.

For ED1, Ofgem also extended the concept to include criticality. Health index and criticality index data is presented in a matrix which shows the number of assets that fall into each band as illustrated in Figure 4 below. This matrix is determined for assets at the beginning of ED1 and at the end of ED1 taking into account the impact of proposed replacement and refurbishment programmes.

| | | Health Index | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | HI 1 | HI 2 | HI 3 | HI 4 | HI 5 |
| Criticality | C1 | | | | | |
| | C2 | | | | | |
| | C3 | | | | | |
| | C4 | | | | | |

**Figure 4: Health index and criticality matrix**

UK Power Networks will maintain the profile of its asset risk for each network broadly consistent over the ED1 period. This will involve maintaining the number of assets in each index category across the entire network broadly consistent, and in particular not allowing the numbers of Health Index 4 and 5 assets to increase materially. UK Power Network's plans for the ED1 period will also maintain the health of the most critical assets (C3 and C4). This output target is set for the network as a whole, and as such within individual asset groups or classes the number of Health Index 4 and 5 and Criticality 3 and 4 assets increase or decrease.

A summary of our health and criticality output targets is provided in *Annex 2: Forecast Outputs*.

## 2.6 Forecasting approach for each asset group

The approach used to determine the ED1 asset replacement programme for each asset category is shown in the Table 6 below.

| Asset Group | Methodology | Net Asset Value (£m) | % of ED1 Expenditure |
|---|---|---|---|
| LV overhead lines poles | ARP | 0.0 | 0% |
| LV overhead lines conductor (inc. services) | Historical | 0.0 | 0% |
| LV underground cable (inc. services) | Historical | 3,777.1 | 1% |
| LV switchgear | SARM | 220.6 | 5% |
| Linkboxes | Markov | 199.1 | 14% |
| LV cut outs | Historical | 446.7 | 1% |
| HV overhead lines poles | ARP | 0.0 | 0% |
| HV overhead lines conductor | Historical | 0.0 | 0% |
| HV underground cable (all) | Historical | 1,094.0 | 3% |
| HV switchgear | ARP | 323.5 | 11% |
| HV transformers | SARM | 179.8 | 3% |
| EHV overhead lines poles | ARP | 0.0 | 0% |
| EHV overhead lines towers and fittings | ARP / Cormon | 2.2 | 0% |
| EHV overhead lines conductors | ARP / Cormon | 0.8 | 0% |
| EHV underground cable (solid) | Historical | 206.2 | 13% |
| EHV underground cable (oil) | ARP | 236.0 | 1% |
| EHV underground cable (gas) | Policy | 13.0 | 0% |
| EHV switchgear | ARP | 44.3 | 4% |
| EHV transformers | ARP | 109.0 | 3% |
| 132kV overhead lines poles | ARP | 0.0 | 0% |
| 132kV overhead lines towers and fittings | ARP / Cormon | 1.0 | 0% |
| 132kV overhead lines conductor | ARP / Cormon | 0.3 | 0% |
| 132kV underground cable (solid) | Historical | 204.9 | 19% |
| 132kV underground cable (oil) | ARP | 212.4 | 3% |
| 132kV underground cable (gas) | Policy | 65.0 | 0% |
| 132kV switchgear | ARP | 101.8 | 2% |
| 132kV transformers | ARP | 175.0 | 13% |
| Batteries | Age | 3.5 | 2% |
| Other | Historical / Policy | 72.4 | 1% |

| Methodology | % of ED1 Expenditure |
|---|---|
| Age | 2% |
| ARP | 37% |
| ARP / Cormon | 0% |
| Historical | 38% |
| Historical / Policy | 1% |
| Markov | 14% |
| Policy | 0% |
| SARM | 8% |

**Table 6: Summary of volume forecasting methodologies for LPN**

# 3 Non-load network investments

The following sections review each category of non-load related expenditure in our plan.

## 3.1 Electricity safety, quality and continuity regulations

The Electricity Safety, Quality and Continuity Regulations 2002 (ESQCR) regulate power quality and supply continuity requirements and specify safety standards. Compliance with ESQCR is a statutory requirement for DNOs. UK Power Networks has defined its company policies to adhere to ESQCR and minimise risks to members of the public and employees.

The volume and expenditure forecast for the ED1 period only includes additional work identified for the period, and does not include the backlog of activities from DPCR5. In LPN, the principal driver for ESQCR expenditure, as discussed in *ASR - Document 12 - Asset Category - ESQCR*, is substation signage. These costs are allocated to legal and safety. As a result, forecast volumes and expenditures for ESQCR for LPN for ED1 are nil.

## 3.2 Asset replacement/refurbishment details

As assets age their condition deteriorates. Deterioration occurs at different rates for different assets, which is governed by a range of operational and environmental factors (e.g., duty, location, indoor/outdoor, etc.). UK Power Networks replaces or refurbishes assets which are at the end of their economically viable life, as determined by their condition, or need to be replaced on safety or environmental grounds. UK Power Networks generally does not refurbish or replace an asset on the basis of age alone, the only exception is batteries.

Condition and defect information are used to develop work programmes targeted to replace poor condition assets and those with operational restrictions. The overall programme is a mix of cost effective solutions consisting of like-for-like replacement, refurbishment and opportunistic reinforcement.

Table 3 summarises our planned asset refurbishment and replacement expenditures for each group of assets, by voltage level (where appropriate), over the ED1 period.[6] The majority of our expenditure relates to underground cables, switchgear, and transformers.

[6] Voltages are grouped as follows: low voltage (LV) - 240/480V; high voltage (2/3/6.6/11kV); extra-high voltage (EHV) - 25/33/66kV

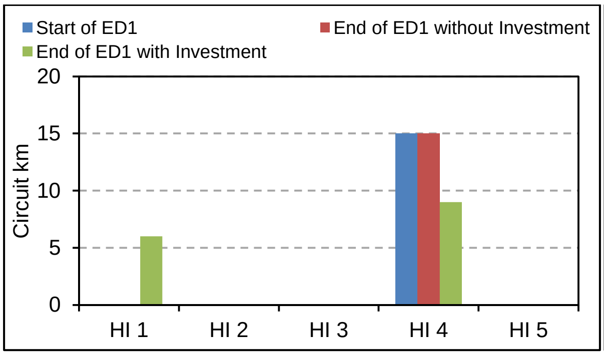
| | LV | HV | EHV | 132kV | TOTAL (£m) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Overhead tower lines | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.6 | 0.4 | **1.0** |
| Overhead pole lines | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** |
| Underground cables | 2.3 | 9.6 | 40.6 | 65.7 | **118.2** |
| Switchgear | 58.3 | 35.6 | 11.7 | 9.1 | **114.7** |
| Transformers | 0.0 | 8.2 | 8.5 | 38.6 | **55.2** |
| **By Voltage - SUB-TOTAL (£m)** | 60.6 | 53.4 | 61.4 | 113.7 | **289.1** |
| Protection and control | 12.3 | | | | **12.3** |
| Batteries | 5.0 | | | | **5.0** |
| **TOTAL (£m)** | | | | | **306.4** |

**Table 7: Summary of ED1 non-load asset refurbishment / replacement expenditure for LPN**

### 3.2.1 Overhead tower lines

There are 22 circuit km of 66kV and 132kV overhead conductor in LPN on 46 towers. The long-term investment proposal for the replacement of overhead tower lines has been informed by the health profile of the assets. The intervention volume has been set to ensure that the percentage of overhead tower line assets that have a Health Index of 4 or 5 is no worse at the end of ED1 than at the beginning.

Overhead lines represent a small asset class within the LPN network, which is made up primarily of underground cables. The overhead lines that do serve the LPN network are located in densely populated, urban areas, and as such the consequences of failure, i.e. safety and reliability, are high.



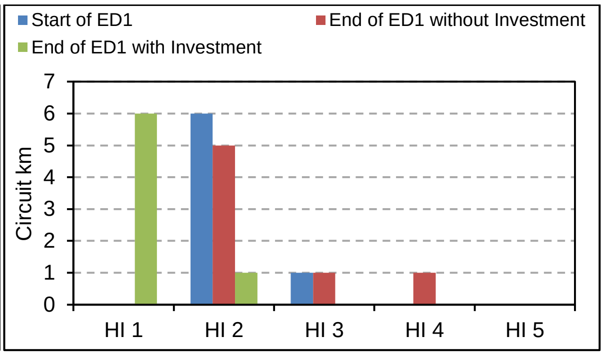




**Figure 5: 66kV (left) and 132kV (right) overhead tower lines distribution of Health Index with non-load interventions**

Forecast asset replacement/refurbishment volume and total expenditure for the ED1 period is provided in the table below.

| | Units | '15/ 16 | '16/ 17 | '17/ 18 | '18/ 19 | '19/ 20 | '20/ 21 | '21/ 22 | '22/ 23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Volume - conductor | km | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 10.0 | 0.0 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **12.0** | 1.5 | 0.0 |
| Volume - poles and fittings | each | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 92.0 | 0.0 | 12.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **104** | 13.0 | 0.4 |
| Expenditure - conductor | £m | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.9** | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Expenditure - poles and fittings | £m | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.1** | 0.0 | 0.1 |
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **1.0** | 0.1 | 0.1 |

**Table 8: Overhead tower lines ED1 forecast volume and expenditure for LPN**

Forecast asset replacement/refurbishment volume and total expenditure, by voltage level, for the ED1 period is provided in the table below.

| | Units | '15/ 16 | '16/ 17 | '17/ 18 | '18/ 19 | '19/ 20 | '20/ 21 | '21/ 22 | '22/ 23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 132kV - conductor | km | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 4.0 | 0.0 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **6.0** | 0.8 | 0.0 |
| EHV - conductor | km | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 6.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **6.0** | 0.8 | 0.0 |
| HV - conductor | km | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| LV - conductor | km | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Volume – TOTAL | km | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 10.0 | 0.0 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **12.0** | 1.5 | 0.0 |
| 132kV - towers and fittings | Each | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 28.0 | 0.0 | 12.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **40.0** | 5.0 | 0.4 |
| EHV - towers and fittings | Each | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 64.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **64.0** | 8.0 | 0.0 |
| HV - towers and fittings | Each | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| LV - towers and fittings | Each | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Volume – TOTAL | Each | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 92.0 | 0.0 | 12 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **104** | 13 | 0.4 |
| 132kV | £m | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.4** | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| EHV | £m | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.6** | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| HV | £m | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| LV | £m | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **1.0** | 0.1 | 0.1 |

**Table 9: Overhead tower lines ED1 forecast volume and expenditure, by voltage, for LPN**

Additional detail on the overhead tower line interventions, including a discussion of the types of interventions we have included in our plan, is available in *ASR - Document 1 - Asset Category - Towers and Conductors*.

### 3.2.2 Overhead pole lines

There are no wood poles and overhead lines in LPN. The forecast volumes and expenditures are nil.

### 3.2.3 Underground cable

There are 36,574 circuit kilometres of underground cable in LPN. This includes fluid-filled, gas-filled, and solid cables across the majority of voltage levels. There are also 2.3 million connected customers in the LPN licence area fed from 1.4 million underground services.

The investment strategy for underground cables is designed to ensure the lifetime cost of the underground cable assets is kept to a minimum while optimising performance and ensuring safety and regulatory compliance.

The key investment drivers for underground cables in our ED1 plan vary by cable type, as follows.

- For fluid-filled cables, the driver is to reduce the volume of fluid-filled cable top-ups, which are currently double the national average. The proposed investment plan is anticipated to reduce the current fluid-filled leakage rate by 28% over the ED1 period.  This is a primary driver of the expenditure forecast in ED1 and it is an important work programme aimed at improving the environmental impact, safety, and reliability of the LPN network.
- For gas-filled cables, the driver is UK Power Networks' policy to withdraw all gas cables from service by the end of the ED1 period.  Gas-filled underground cables are an obsolete technology and very expensive to maintain.  Maintenance requires the isolation and extraction of gas along entire cable lengths.  Furthermore the workforce trained to work with this technology has aged and available resources are scarce.
- For solid cables, investment projections are based on historical replacement trends.

Forecast asset replacement/ and refurbishment volume and total expenditure for the ED1 period is provided in the table below.

| | Units | '15/ 16 | '16/ 17 | '17/ 18 | '18/ 19 | '19/ 20 | '20/ 21 | '21/ 22 | '22/ 23 | **TOTAL ED1** | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Volume - cable | km | 13.9 | 29.6 | 16.5 | 16.2 | 16.1 | 24.9 | 15.5 | 34.9 | **168** | 21.0 | 18.0 |
| Volume - other assets | each | 48.0 | 48.0 | 48.0 | 46.0 | 40.0 | 40.0 | 40.0 | 40.0 | **350** | 43.8 | 114.4 |
| Expenditure - cable | £m | 17.9 | 20.6 | 8.9 | 9.7 | 13.3 | 18.8 | 13.3 | 15.3 | **118.2** | 14.7 | 5.5 |
| Expenditure - other assets | £m | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.4** | 0.0 | 0.7 |
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 18.0 | 20.6 | 8.9 | 9.8 | 13.4 | 18.8 | 13.3 | 15.4 | **118** | 14.8 | 6.3 |

**Table 10: Underground cable ED1 forecast volume and expenditure for LPN**

Forecast asset replacement/refurbishment volume and total expenditure, by voltage level, for the ED1 period is provided in the table below.

| | Units | '15/ 16 | '16/ 17 | '17/ 18 | '18/ 19 | '19/ 20 | '20/ 21 | '21/ 22 | '22/ 23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 132kV - cable | km | 0.4 | 14.1 | 4.0 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 9.5 | 0.7 | 19.5 | **48.8** | 6.1 | 1.1 |
| EHV - cable | km | 6.6 | 8.6 | 5.6 | 8.9 | 8.8 | 8.5 | 7.9 | 8.5 | **63.0** | 7.9 | 2.3 |
| HV - cable | km | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | **40.0** | 5.0 | 6.3 |
| LV - cable | km | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | **16.0** | 2.0 | 8.3 |
| Volume – TOTAL | km | 13.9 | 29.6 | 16.5 | 16.2 | 16.1 | 24.9 | 15.5 | 34.9 | **167.8** | 21.0 | 18.0 |
| 132kV - other assets | each | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | 0.0 | 1.4 |
| EHV - other assets | each | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | 0.0 | 0.8 |
| HV - other assets | each | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| LV - other assets | each | 48.0 | 48.0 | 48.0 | 46.0 | 40.0 | 40.0 | 40.0 | 40.0 | **350.0** | 43.8 | 112.2 |
| Volume – TOTAL | each | 48.0 | 48.0 | 48.0 | 46.0 | 40.0 | 40.0 | 40.0 | 40.0 | **350.0** | 43.8 | 114.4 |
| 132kV | £m | 8.3 | 13.3 | 4.5 | 4.0 | 6.5 | 9.8 | 8.0 | 11.3 | **65.7** | 8.2 | 2.4 |
| EHV | £m | 8.1 | 5.6 | 2.8 | 4.3 | 5.5 | 7.8 | 3.9 | 2.6 | **40.6** | 5.1 | 1.3 |
| HV | £m | 1.2 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.2 | **9.6** | 1.2 | 2.1 |
| LV | £m | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | **2.3** | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 18.0 | 20.6 | 8.9 | 9.8 | 13.4 | 18.8 | 13.3 | 15.4 | **118.2** | 14.8 | 6.1 |

**Table 11: Underground cable ED1 forecast volume and expenditure, by voltage, for LPN**

Additional detail on the underground cable interventions, including a discussion of the types of interventions we have included in our plan, is available in two documents:

- *ASR - Document 3 - Asset Category - Underground Cables*; and
- *ASR - Document 11 - Asset Category - Services and Terminations*.

### 3.2.4 Switchgear

In total, in LPN, there are:

- 224 items of 132kV switchgear;
- 579 items of EHV switchgear;
- 3,565 items of 11kV grid and primary switchgear;
- approximately 20,875 HV switchgear assets; and
- approximately 27,050 LV switchgear assets; and
- 47,632 linkboxes.

The long-term investment proposal for the replacement or refurbishment of switchgear was informed by the health profile of the switchgear assets. The intervention volume has been set to manage the network risks by maintaining the same number of switchgear assets that have a Health Index of 4 or 5 at the beginning and end of the ED1 period. The figures below provide the health and criticality indices at the start of ED1 and at the end of ED1, with non-load interventions only. HV switchgear assets in the LPN network are relatively young with an average age of 18 years. The peak of defective oil-filled assets commissioned in the 1960s (with an average age of 47 years) form the majority of the interventions proposed during ED1. The intervention volume for linkboxes is 900 per year over ED1. This will allow us to target all of the assets with Health Index 4 and 5 by the end of the period, minimise public safety risks in this area.

At the start of ED1 the number of Health Index 4 and 5 132kV switchgear assets is 1% of the total population. At the end of the period, with intervention, this increases to 10%. This figure does not take into account the reduction in Health Index 4 and 5 assets driven by reinforcement. In particular, a sizable scheme to replace the switchgear at Wimbledon for reinforcement reasons will reduce the Health Index 4 and 5 asset percentage to 5%. Similarly, load-related expenditures will further reduce the number of Health Index 4 and 5 assets at the end of ED1 from the values presented in the other tables below.

| 2015 | | Health Index | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | HI 1 | HI 2 | HI 3 | HI 4 | HI 5 |
| Criticality | C1 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 0 | 0 |
| | C2 | 20 | 32 | 20 | 1 | 0 |
| | C3 | 51 | 15 | 21 | 0 | 0 |
| | C4 | 23 | 22 | 4 | 1 | 0 |

| 2023 | | Health Index | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | HI 1 | HI 2 | HI 3 | HI 4 | HI 5 |
| Criticality | C1 | 10 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| | C2 | 27 | 35 | 4 | 3 | 4 |
| | C3 | 29 | 46 | 2 | 1 | 9 |
| | C4 | 19 | 21 | 7 | 0 | 3 |

**Figure 6: 132kV switchgear distribution of health and criticality indices with non-load interventions**

| 2015 | | Health Index | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | HI 1 | HI 2 | HI 3 | HI 4 | HI 5 |
| Criticality | C1 | 27 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 0 |
| | C2 | 42 | 135 | 21 | 26 | 0 |
| | C3 | 66 | 127 | 43 | 12 | 0 |
| | C4 | 9 | 42 | 13 | 3 | 0 |

| 2023 | | Health Index | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | HI 1 | HI 2 | HI 3 | HI 4 | HI 5 |
| Criticality | C1 | 15 | 14 | 1 | 9 | 1 |
| | C2 | 40 | 99 | 71 | 2 | 14 |
| | C3 | 46 | 85 | 102 | 2 | 3 |
| | C4 | 9 | 22 | 31 | 5 | 0 |

**Figure 7: EHV switchgear distribution of health and criticality indices with non-load interventions**

| 2015 | | Health Index | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | HI 1 | HI 2 | HI 3 | HI 4 | HI 5 |
| Criticality | C1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | C2 | 422 | 805 | 118 | 22 | 1 |
| | C3 | 350 | 1,070 | 487 | 190 | 36 |
| | C4 | 0 | 28 | 8 | 23 | 5 |

| 2023 | | Health Index | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | HI 1 | HI 2 | HI 3 | HI 4 | HI 5 |
| Criticality | C1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | C2 | 222 | 769 | 371 | 5 | 0 |
| | C3 | 536 | 811 | 573 | 4 | 204 |
| | C4 | 0 | 21 | 9 | 6 | 28 |

**Figure 8: 11kV grid and primary switchgear distribution of health and criticality indices with non-load interventions**

| 2015 | | Health Index | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | HI 1 | HI 2 | HI 3 | HI 4 | HI 5 |
| Criticality | C1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | C2 | 3425 | 3002 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | C3 | 4586 | 6177 | 923 | 0 | 0 |
| | C4 | 874 | 1370 | 518 | 0 | 0 |

| 2023 | | Health Index | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | HI 1 | HI 2 | HI 3 | HI 4 | HI 5 |
| Criticality | C1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | C2 | 648 | 5767 | 24 | 0 | 0 |
| | C3 | 2197 | 8089 | 1355 | 13 | 0 |
| | C4 | 879 | 1466 | 373 | 25 | 0 |

**Figure 9: HV switchgear distribution of health and criticality indices with non-load interventions**

| 2015 | | Health Index | | | | | 2023 | | Health Index | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | HI 1 | HI 2 | HI 3 | HI 4 | HI 5 | | | HI 1 | HI 2 | HI 3 | HI 4 | HI 5 |
| Criticality | C1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Criticality | C1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | C2 | 2824 | 6847 | 9748 | 0 | 0 | | C2 | 1342 | 7657 | 10420 | 0 | 0 |
| | C3 | 1166 | 2349 | 4025 | 0 | 0 | | C3 | 532 | 2868 | 4140 | 0 | 0 |
| | C4 | 14 | 28 | 49 | 0 | 0 | | C4 | 6 | 35 | 50 | 0 | 0 |

**Figure 10: LV switchgear distribution of health and criticality indices with non-load interventions**

| 2015 | | Health Index | | | | | 2023 | | Health Index | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | HI 1 | HI 2 | HI 3 | HI 4 | HI 5 | | | HI 1 | HI 2 | HI 3 | HI 4 | HI 5 |
| Criticality | C1 | 4730 | 6407 | 4031 | 960 | 0 | Criticality | C1 | 6943 | 4714 | 4471 | 0 | 0 |
| | C2 | 3892 | 5671 | 3316 | 790 | 0 | | C2 | 5517 | 4279 | 3690 | 0 | 183 |
| | C3 | 5230 | 7083 | 4457 | 1061 | 0 | | C3 | 6930 | 5212 | 4958 | 418 | 313 |
| | C4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | | C4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |

**Figure 11: LV linkboxes distribution of health and criticality indices with non-load interventions**

Forecast asset replacement/refurbishment volume and total expenditure for the ED1 period is provided in the table below.

| | Units | '15/16 | '16/17 | '17/18 | '18/19 | '19/20 | '20/21 | '21/22 | '22/23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Volume - refurbishment | each | 24.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 54.0 | 0.0 | 8.0 | 44.0 | **130** | 16.3 | 65.8 |
| Volume - replacement | each | 2879 | 2354 | 1886 | 1894 | 1831 | 1977 | 2368 | 2399 | **17588** | 2198 | 3255 |
| Volume - TOTAL[7] | each | 2903 | 2354 | 1886 | 1894 | 1885 | 1977 | 2376 | 2443 | **17718** | 2215 | 3321 |
| Expenditure - refurbishment | £m | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.1 | 0.8 | 0.6 | **3.0** | 0.4 | 0.6 |
| Expenditure - replacement | £m | 14.5 | 16.9 | 20.3 | 13.9 | 11.2 | 12.3 | 11.4 | 11.2 | **111.7** | 14.0 | 21.5 |
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 14.8 | 17.0 | 20.4 | 14.2 | 11.9 | 12.4 | 12.2 | 11.9 | **114.7** | 14.3 | 22.1 |

**Table 12: Switchgear ED1 forecast volume and expenditure for LPN**

Forecast asset replacements/refurbishment and total expenditure, by voltage level, for the ED1 period is provided in the table below.

[7] Includes circuit breakers, ring main units, switches, ground mounted cabinets, fuse cabinets, distribution boards, and linkboxes

| | Units | '15/ 16 | '16/ 17 | '17/ 18 | '18/ 19 | '19/ 20 | '20/ 21 | '21/ 22 | '22/ 23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 132kV - refurb./replace | each | 5 | 5 | 29 | 10 | 12 | 5 | 13 | 33 | **112** | 14.0 | 14.6 |
| EHV - refurb./replace | each | 0 | 0 | 20 | 35 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | **59** | 7.4 | 6.0 |
| HV - refurb./replace | each | 222 | 212 | 238 | 250 | 274 | 266 | 223 | 266 | **1951** | 243.9 | 466.8 |
| LV - refurb./replace | each | 2676 | 2137 | 1599 | 1599 | 1599 | 1706 | 2140 | 2140 | **15596** | 1950 | 2834 |
| Volume – TOTAL | each | 2903 | 2354 | 1886 | 1894 | 1885 | 1977 | 2376 | 2443 | **17718** | 2215 | 3321 |
| 132kV - refurb./replace | £m | 1.8 | 2.2 | 1.9 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 0.2 | **9.1** | 1.1 | 2.5 |
| EHV - refurb./replace | £m | 0.2 | 2.5 | 6.5 | 1.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.5 | **11.7** | 1.5 | 0.3 |
| HV - refurb./replace | £m | 4.6 | 4.5 | 4.8 | 4.7 | 4.3 | 4.5 | 4.0 | 4.1 | **35.6** | 4.4 | 9.8 |
| LV - refurb./replace | £m | 8.2 | 7.8 | 7.2 | 7.1 | 7.0 | 7.0 | 7.1 | 7.0 | **58.3** | 7.3 | 9.4 |
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 14.8 | 17.0 | 20.4 | 14.2 | 11.9 | 12.4 | 12.2 | 11.9 | **114.7** | 14.3 | 22.1 |

**Table 13: Switchgear ED1 forecast volume and expenditure, by voltage, for LPN**

Additional detail on the switchgear interventions, including a discussion of the types of interventions we have included in our plan, is available in four documents:

- *ASR - Document 5 - Asset Category - 132kV Switchgear*;
- *ASR - Document 6 - Asset Category - EHV Switchgear*;
- *ASR - Document 7 - Asset Category - 11kV Grid and Primary Switchgear*; and
- *ASR - Document 8 - Asset Category - HV Switchgear and LV Plant*.

### 3.2.5 Transformers

In total, in LPN, there are:

- 189 132kV transformers;
- 288 EHV transformers; and
- approximately 15,512 HV distribution transformers.

Investment drivers for 132kV and EHV transformers can be split into two categories: internal condition and external condition. External condition factors include paint condition and corrosion of any part of the transformer, cooler or conservator and their pipe work. In addition, old gasket material can become compressed and brittle. These factors pose both an environmental risk, particularly on older transformers without oil bunds, and a network risk, as they can lead to severe oil leaks and unplanned outages. Internal condition factors are the degradation of solid insulation materials on the windings and the development of discharge and heating faults. As an example, for distribution transformers recent condition data indicates that approximately 5% of distribution transformers in LPN have high acidity levels. This contributes to the increased intervention volumes between DPCR5 and ED1. Both of these internal condition factors are detected by non-intrusive oil sample testing. The intervention volume has been set to manage the network risks by maintaining the same number of assets that have a Health Index of 4 or 5 at the beginning and end of the ED1 period.

In DPCR5, the key driver of our transformer investment programme was load-related. In ED1 the principal driver will be non-load related (i.e. health and criticality) replacement.

The long-term forecasts for distribution transformer replacements have been set based on statistical model forecasts. The investment proposals have been validated by comparing the forecasts to historical fault rates and observed trends in condition data for the ageing distribution transformer population.

| 2015 | | Health Index | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | HI 1 | HI 2 | HI 3 | HI 4 | HI 5 |
| Criticality | C1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | C2 | 20 | 82 | 14 | 8 | 3 |
| | C3 | 7 | 28 | 15 | 3 | 1 |
| | C4 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 |

| 2023 | | Health Index | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | HI 1 | HI 2 | HI 3 | HI 4 | HI 5 |
| Criticality | C1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| | C2 | 15 | 62 | 46 | 4 | 2 |
| | C3 | 17 | 30 | 7 | 0 | 1 |
| | C4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |

**Figure 12: 132kV transformers distribution of health and criticality indices with non-load interventions**

| 2015 | | Health Index | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | HI 1 | HI 2 | HI 3 | HI 4 | HI 5 |
| Criticality | C1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | C2 | 9 | 27 | 7 | 1 | 0 |
| | C3 | 4 | 144 | 33 | 7 | 5 |
| | C4 | 7 | 32 | 10 | 2 | 0 |

| 2023 | | Health Index | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | HI 1 | HI 2 | HI 3 | HI 4 | HI 5 |
| Criticality | C1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | C2 | 10 | 6 | 26 | 2 | 2 |
| | C3 | 6 | 80 | 92 | 1 | 1 |
| | C4 | 4 | 19 | 23 | 1 | 1 |

**Figure 13: EHV transformers distribution of health and criticality indices with non-load interventions**

| 2015 | | Health Index | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | HI 1 | HI 2 | HI 3 | HI 4 | HI 5 |
| Criticality | C1 | 234 | 448 | 507 | 0 | 0 |
| | C2 | 1612 | 3868 | 3488 | 0 | 0 |
| | C3 | 234 | 448 | 507 | 0 | 0 |
| | C4 | 821 | 1569 | 1776 | 0 | 0 |

| 2023 | | Health Index | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | HI 1 | HI 2 | HI 3 | HI 4 | HI 5 |
| Criticality | C1 | 70 | 616 | 500 | 3 | 0 |
| | C2 | 489 | 4832 | 3628 | 19 | 0 |
| | C3 | 70 | 616 | 500 | 3 | 0 |
| | C4 | 451 | 1964 | 1737 | 14 | 0 |

**Figure 14: HV distribution transformers distribution of health and criticality indices with non-load interventions**

Forecast asset replacement/refurbishment volume and total expenditure for the ED1 period is provided in the table below.

| | Units | '15/16 | '16/17 | '17/18 | '18/19 | '19/20 | '20/21 | '21/22 | '22/23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Volume - refurbishment | each | 0.0 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 2.0 | **5.0** | 0.6 | 4.8 |
| Volume - replacement | each | 88.0 | 96.0 | 86.0 | 92.0 | 90.0 | 86.0 | 90.0 | 88.0 | **716** | 89.5 | 115.2 |
| Volume - TOTAL | each | 88.0 | 98.0 | 86.0 | 92.0 | 90.0 | 87.0 | 90.0 | 90.0 | **721** | 90.1 | 120.0 |
| Expenditure - refurbishment | £m | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | **0.9** | 0.1 | 1.0 |
| Expenditure - replacement | £m | 10.6 | 6.2 | 4.2 | 8.6 | 10.3 | 4.6 | 7.2 | 2.7 | **54.4** | 6.8 | 3.7 |
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 10.8 | 6.3 | 4.2 | 8.6 | 10.5 | 4.7 | 7.3 | 2.9 | **55.2** | 6.9 | 4.6 |

**Table 14: Transformers ED1 forecast volume and expenditure for LPN**

Forecast asset replacement/refurbishment and total expenditure, by voltage level, for the ED1 period is provided in the table below.

| | Units | '15/ 16 | '16/ 17 | '17/ 18 | '18/ 19 | '19/ 20 | '20/ 21 | '21/ 22 | '22/ 23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 132kV - refurb./replace | each | 2.0 | 7.0 | 1.0 | 6.0 | 4.0 | 1.0 | 5.0 | 4.0 | **30.0** | 3.8 | 4.0 |
| EHV - refurb./replace | each | 1.0 | 6.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | **11.0** | 1.4 | 2.6 |
| HV - refurb./replace | each | 85.0 | 85.0 | 85.0 | 85.0 | 85.0 | 85.0 | 85.0 | 85.0 | **680** | 85.0 | 113.4 |
| Volume – TOTAL | each | 88.0 | 98.0 | 86.0 | 92.0 | 90.0 | 87.0 | 90.0 | 90.0 | **721** | 90.1 | 120.0 |
| 132kV - refurb./replace | £m | 5.8 | 3.0 | 2.8 | 6.9 | 8.7 | 3.5 | 6.1 | 1.7 | **38.6** | 4.8 | 1.2 |
| EHV - refurb./replace | £m | 3.8 | 2.2 | 0.3 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.2 | **8.5** | 1.1 | 1.5 |
| HV - refurb./replace | £m | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | **8.2** | 1.0 | 1.9 |
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 10.8 | 6.3 | 4.2 | 8.6 | 10.5 | 4.7 | 7.3 | 2.9 | **55.2** | 6.9 | 4.6 |

**Table 15: Transformers ED1 forecast volume and expenditure, by voltage, for LPN**

Additional detail on the transformer interventions, including a discussion of the types of interventions we have included in our plan, is available in two documents:

- *ASR - Document 4 - Asset Category - Grid and Primary Transformers*;
- *ASR - Document 6 - Asset Category - Distribution Transformers*;

### 3.2.6 Protection and control

In total, in LPN, there are:

- 18,601 protection assets, including, measuring, key auxiliary and control devices, but excluding selector switches, ammeters, transducers and simple auxiliary relays; and
- 1,254 pilot cables.

Options for the refurbishment of protection and control assets are limited, and can only relate to the older electromechanical devices where component replacement or adjustment is possible. Modern protection devices are of a modular design, and do not lend themselves to meaningful refurbishment. In the event of failure or unexpected operation, replacement is the only option.

This investment strategy for the replacement of protection and control assets is based on targeting devices with a known history of failure or poor performance, and an ongoing replacement plan for other protection assets based on age, criticality of failure and probability of failure (likelihood).

Forecast asset replacement/refurbishment volume and total expenditure for the ED1 period is provided in the table below.

| | Units | '15/ 16 | '16/ 17 | '17/ 18 | '18/ 19 | '19/ 20 | '20/ 21 | '21/ 22 | '22/ 23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Volume - TOTAL | each | 47.5 | 54.7 | 60.0 | 65.0 | 76.0 | 76.0 | 76.0 | 75.0 | **530** | 66.3 | 177.5 |
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.6 | **12.3** | 1.5 | 0.8 |

**Table 16: Protection and control ED1 forecast volume and expenditure, by LPN**

Additional detail on protection and control asset interventions, including a discussion of the types of interventions we have included in our plan, is available in *ASR - Document 13 - Asset Category - Protection and Control*.

### 3.2.7 Batteries

In total, in LPN, there are 1,062 battery and charger installations in grid, primary and secondary substations. In addition, there are 10,126 batteries contained within other items of plant, principally remote terminal units (RTU) at secondary substations and all parasitic load trip units (PLTU).

The investment strategy for ED1 is based adopting industry best practice testing techniques to maximise battery life and achieving an optimal balance between maintenance and replacement. The battery replacement and refurbishment forecast for ED1 is driven primarily by age, and is the only exception to our principally condition-based asset management plan.

To maximise the utilisation of our battery assets, automatic discharge testing is now incorporated into our standard specifications for grid and primary battery chargers. In the future, this will allow us to optimise the timing of battery replacement. It is anticipated that battery life will be extended by one or two years by the use of this feature.

Forecast asset replacement/refurbishment volume and total expenditure for the ED1 period is provided in the table below.

| | Units | '15/ 16 | '16/ 17 | '17/ 18 | '18/ 19 | '19/ 20 | '20/ 21 | '21/ 22 | '22/ 23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Volume - TOTAL | each | 246 | 225 | 263 | 226 | 235 | 249 | 276 | 307 | **2027** | 253 | 907 |
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.8 | **5.0** | 0.6 | 0.4 |

**Table 17: Batteries ED1 forecast volume and expenditure for LPN**

Additional detail on battery interventions, including a discussion of the types of interventions we have included in our plan, is available in *ASR - Document 21 - Asset Category - Batteries*.

## 3.3 Legal and safety

UK Power Networks has an obligation to operate its network in a safe and reliable manner. This includes ensuring that the general public is protected from the dangers of electricity and the reduction of risk of injury to staff and contractors.

### 3.3.1 Site security

Substations across our networks have a high concentration of valuable assets and pose a considerable risk to theft and public safety if not properly secured. Our volume and expenditure projections for ED1 are driven by commitments to upgrade security features across our 132kV, EHV, and HV substations.

Forecast interventions and total expenditure for the ED1 period is provided in the table below.

| | Units | '15/ 16 | '16/ 17 | '17/ 18 | '18/ 19 | '19/ 20 | '20/ 21 | '21/ 22 | '22/ 23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Volume - TOTAL | each | 5439 | 3906 | 64.0 | 67.0 | 69.0 | 63.0 | 63.0 | 73.0 | **9744** | 1218 | 425.4 |
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 4.7 | 3.6 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.6 | **12.1** | 1.5 | 0.8 |

**Table 18: Legal and safety, site security, ED1 forecast volume and expenditure for LPN**

### 3.3.2 Other

The majority of this expenditure is driven by safety concerns at cable pits across the LPN service territory. There are 47,748 cable pits in LPN with the following risk ratings:

- 2,038 very high risk pits,
- 3,105 high risk pits,
- 36,624 medium risk pits, and
- 5,981 low risk pits.

There have been 29 disruptive cable pit failures since May 2012 across UK Power Networks. The incidents have resulted in the serious injury of four members of the public. We are investing £11.2M in DPCR5 in the inspection, maintenance, risk mitigation and research of our 53,801cable pits. We are proposing to invest an additional £ 22.3 million during the ED1 period to complete this risk mitigation strategy in LPN.

Additional expenditures in this category include asbestos management, enhanced fire protection, and upgraded earthing.

Forecast interventions and total expenditure for the ED1 period is provided in the table below.

| | Units | '15/ 16 | '16/ 17 | '17/ 18 | '18/ 19 | '19/ 20 | '20/ 21 | '21/ 22 | '22/ 23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Volume - TOTAL | each | 8054 | 8050 | 8057 | 8058 | 8065 | 8049 | 3828 | 3566 | **55727** | 6966 | 2108 |
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.6 | 4.8 | 4.7 | 4.5 | 0.6 | 0.5 | **28.6** | 3.6 | 0.9 |

**Table 19: Legal and safety, other, ED1 forecast volume and expenditure for LPN**

Additional detail on the cable pits interventions and those driven by other legal and safety considerations, including a discussion of the types of interventions we have included in our plan, is available in *ASR - Document 16 - Asset Category - Cable Pits*.

## 3.4 Quality of supply

UK Power Networks has set an overall business objective to improve continuity of supply in so that Customer Interruptions (CI) and Customer Minutes Lost (CML) performance from 2013/14 is in the top third compared to other DNOs during ED1. The cost of this improvement in service to customers is nil, as it will be funded directly by shareholders.

## 3.5 Rising mains and laterals

Rising mains and laterals are cables or busbars that form part of the equipment installed within multi-occupancy premises to distribute electricity to more than one dwelling or unit.

In LPN, we do not own or have responsibility for rising mains and laterals.

## 3.6 Other non-load network investments

### 3.6.1 Flood defences

UK Power Networks' flood mitigation strategy includes for protection against fluvial and tidal flood events as well as protection against surface and subsurface water flooding (pluvial). Main sources of guidance to the UK Power Networks' strategy are:

- ENA document ETR138;
- the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC);
- Environment Agency (EA);
- local authorities; and
- specialist consultants.

Flooding was a major concern from the Christmas 2013 storm. Over a 24 hour period, the highest recorded rainfall for the same period was experienced in Wych Cross (SPN – East Sussex), Goudhurst (SPN - Kent) and Frittenden (SPN - Kent) with between 30.8-38.6mm of rain. This resulted in saturated ground, and combined with the higher rainfall resulted in localised flooding across the south east with an Environment Agency spokesman stating it was the worst flooding to hit the South East region since the autumn of 2000.

In LPN, during ED1, we are proposing to make additional investments to protect against surface and subsurface flooding as a result of disrupted water mains. We have mapped this risk across our network and performed detailed cost benefit analysis that clearly demonstrates the value of our proposed mitigation measures.

Forecast interventions, including mitigation schemes and site survey, as well as total expenditure for the ED1 period is provided in the table below.

| | Units | '15/ 16 | '16/ 17 | '17/ 18 | '18/ 19 | '19/ 20 | '20/ 21 | '21/ 22 | '22/ 23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Volume - TOTAL | each | 7.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | 2.0 | **24.0** | 3.0 | 10.2 |
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | **3.7** | 0.5 | 0.8 |

**Table 20: Flood defences ED1 forecast volume and expenditure for LPN**

### 3.6.2 BT 21st century

In LPN, UK Power Networks owns its own pilot cables, as such volumes and expenditures under this programme are nil.

### 3.6.3 Technical losses and other environmental

Losses represent the difference between the electrical energy metered entering the distribution system from National Grid and that billed to customers. These losses comprise a technical component which is the energy that turns to heat as electricity flows though the distribution system, a proportion that is a result of illegal consumption and inaccuracies in the process of reconciling the energy billed to customers with that entering the distribution system. Our plan to address losses include asset replacements, general reinforcements and loss management.

Other environmental reporting and mitigation schemes we are proposing for ED1 include:

- oil pollution mitigation;
- noise abatement; and
- contaminated land clean up.

Forecast interventions and total expenditure for the ED1 period is provided in the table below.

| | Units | '15/ 16 | '16/ 17 | '17/ 18 | '18/ 19 | '19/ 20 | '20/ 21 | '21/ 22 | '22/ 23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Volume - TOTAL | each | 79.0 | 79.0 | 79.0 | 79.0 | 79.0 | 79.0 | 79.0 | 79.0 | **632** | 79.0 | 53.4 |
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 0.9 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | **4.0** | 0.5 | 0.8 |

**Table 21: Technical losses and other environmental ED1 forecast volume and expenditure for LPN**

### 3.6.4 Civil works

For the purpose of this plan civil assets are divided into six subcategories:

- substation building components and surrounds;
- substation security;
- substation flood protection;
- oil containment;
- cable tunnels; and
- cable bridges

In total, in LPN, there are 19,062 distribution substations, 223 grid and primary sites, 17,630 secondary buildings, 152 primary building and 63 grid substation buildings.

There are two types of civil works in our plan:

- Condition driven civil works; and
- Asset replacement driven civil works.

Our condition driven civil works represent the investment in replacement of all substation building components and surrounds that have been assessed as 'poor condition'.

The failure of civil assets can lead to environmental and safety issues, affect quality of supply, compromise system security and in worst cases result in a large number of supply interruptions. Replacement of poor condition substation buildings and enclosures will also reduce the deterioration of substation equipment and the risk of trespassing.

Assets are forecast to be replaced once they reach Health Index 4. Due to most of the network civil works being constructed during the 1960s and the deteriorating conditions of the assets a large replacement programme will continue to be required throughout ED1. We also anticipate that the ongoing inspection process will find new replacement works due to degradation.

Forecast interventions and total expenditure for the ED1 period is provided in the table below.

| | Units | '15/ 16 | '16/ 17 | '17/ 18 | '18/ 19 | '19/ 20 | '20/ 21 | '21/ 22 | '22/ 23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Volume - TOTAL | each | 1321 | 1321 | 1320 | 1326 | 1320 | 1320 | 1320 | 1288 | **10536** | 1317 | 1356 |
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 11.3 | 10.7 | 9.6 | 4.7 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.6 | 4.4 | **54.3** | 6.8 | 5.5 |

**Table 22: Civil works, condition driven, ED1 forecast volume and expenditure for LPN**

Our asset replacement driven civil works forecast represents consequential volumes and expenditures that arise as a result of the replacement of other assets. For example, this would occur an existing building in good condition needs to be replaced to accommodate new transformers, switchgear, etc.

Forecast interventions and total expenditure for the ED1 period is provided in the table below.

| | Units | '15/ 16 | '16/ 17 | '17/ 18 | '18/ 19 | '19/ 20 | '20/ 21 | '21/ 22 | '22/ 23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Volume - TOTAL | each | 37.0 | 37.0 | 66.0 | 39.0 | 100.0 | 24.0 | 16.0 | 79.0 | **398** | 50.0 | 30.0 |
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 1.6 | 2.7 | 2.8 | 2.1 | 1.5 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.1 | **14.2** | 1.8 | 4.7 |

**Table 23: Civil works, asset replacement driven, ED1 forecast volume and expenditure for LPN**

Additional detail on both condition and asset replacement driven civil works interventions, including a discussion of the types of interventions we have included in our plan, is available in *ASR - Document 10 - Asset Category - Civils*.

### 3.6.5 High impact, low probability events

High impact, low probability (HILP) events expenditure is designed to increase the security of supply to specific areas of the network that have a level of economic activity over and above a specified threshold.

There are no customer funded volumes or expenditures forecast for LPN in ED1.

### 3.6.6 Security of critical national infrastructure

UK Power Networks works with the security services and the Centre for the Protection of the National Infrastructure to take even more stringent security measures at sites which are key to the UK. The measures include the installation of enhanced security features, such as:

- electrified fences;
- alarm systems; and
- closed-circuit television.

The forecast volumes and expenditures for LPN are nil, as there is already substantial work underway, which started during the DPRC5 period and is expected to complete in 2015.

### 3.6.7 Black start

Black start is the procedure to recover from a total or partial shutdown of the distribution network system which has caused an extensive loss of supplies.

In the event that a large scale loss of local and national generation occurs, Ofgem and the Energy Emergencies Executive Committee (E3C) require each DNO to ensure SCADA control and tripping batteries (including inter-tripping systems, 50V and 60V) in all grid and primary substations are serviceable after a period of black start recovery.

Each DNO has approached this in a number of ways. UK Power Networks proposed to develop and install a black start controller unit to isolate/reduce the standing load on the grid and primary substation battery charger systems for both SCADA and tripping functions. Additionally, where a battery/charger installation has a single battery string, a second string will be added to facilitate the installation and functionality of the black start controller.

A company-wide standard has been written to detail the requirements for a black start controller and this has also been incorporated into a wider specification for grid and primary battery installations. Discussions have taken place with approved suppliers capable of providing the required equipment and this has helped to ensure the specification meets the needs of the network.

In order to meet the recommendation for 72 hour resilience, it is proposed that each grid and primary substation be equipped with dual string 110V tripping battery supplies, each string being rated for six hours use at rated output. In conjunction with the black start controller unit this will ensure that dc supplies to substation equipment during and after a period of black start outage is available. The SCADA monitoring battery supply will be sized for the full 72 hours, the maximum period a black start recovery is expected to last according to the report published by Ofgem in 2010.

It is estimated that this roll-out will take eight years.  Forecast volume and total expenditure for the ED1 period is provided in the table below.

| | Units | '15/16 | '16/17 | '17/18 | '18/19 | '19/20 | '20/21 | '21/22 | '22/23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Volume - TOTAL | each | 65.0 | 63.0 | 61.0 | 60.0 | 38.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **287** | 35.9 | 23.8 |
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **2.1** | 0.3 | 0.2 |

**Table 24: Black start ED1 forecast volume and expenditure for LPN**

Additional detail on black start interventions, including a discussion of the types of interventions we have included in our plan, is available in *ASR - Document 18 - Asset Category - Black Start*.

## 3.7 Other costs

### 3.7.1 Operational information technology and telecommunications

In total, in LPN, there are 9,100 RTUs (180 primary RTUs and 8,920 secondary RTUs). Correspondingly, there are 180 primary Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) communications circuits and 8,920 secondary SCADA communications circuits.

To assist in the delivery of the government's carbon reduction targets and to minimise the overall cost to the UK as a whole, the use of smart technologies will become more widespread during ED1. These technologies will leverage greater capacity out of the power network and enable the connection of increased levels of low-carbon generation by providing more accurate data, extracting additional capacity from network elements, such as transformers and circuits, and using fast-acting algorithms to keep a potentially volatile network stable. All of this will require larger volumes of data to be transferred at greater speeds than is currently possible, both between equipment in the field and between that equipment and the control centre site.

LPN was an early adopter of SCADA at the distribution level, and as such, many of the existing assets are now so old that they can no longer be supported. The network requires a significant upgrade to enable innovative technologies to be deployed to realise better asset information and enhance its management. This strategy proposes the replacement of a significant amount of SCADA equipment, including RTUs and communications systems over the ED1 period.

The communications networks must also be able to operate during a power outage to swiftly and safely restore supplies. GPRS is currently used to provide communications to the secondary RTUs. The resilience of the GPRS network is not sufficient for modern automation schemes due to the lack of battery back-up on the base station sites. This has resulted in many automation schemes not operating correctly, resulting in CIs and CMLs.

Our network management system (NMS) requires continual upgrading to enable reliable operation and to accommodate ever increasing demands. These include:

- increasing volumes of RTUs installed on the network;
- increasing volumes of automation;
- increasing sophistication of automation schemes;
- obsolescence of information and technology (IT) equipment; and
- increasing functionality.

Asset management and monitoring techniques will also become more widespread over the coming years, which will require a communications system with greater bandwidth to enable substation asset monitoring and management data to be transmitted effectively. This requires greater bandwidth, which cannot be provided with the existing SCADA systems.

Investment drivers for RTUs can be split into three main categories:

- availability of spares and components - due to the age of the RTU equipment and the relatively short lifespan of IT equipment, some of the components within the RTU and RTU plant cards are no longer manufactured and/or supported by the manufacturer;
- suitability of technology - better technology is required to ensure the network can accommodate higher levels of volatile generation and unpredictable loads; and
- RTU availability - upgraded equipment is required to improve the availability of RTU assets during fault conditions and to enable accelerate restoration of supply to customers.

Forecast operational information technology and telecommunications volume and total expenditure for the ED1 period is provided in the table below.

| | Units | '15/ 16 | '16/ 17 | '17/ 18 | '18/ 19 | '19/ 20 | '20/ 21 | '21/ 22 | '22/ 23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Volume - TOTAL | each | 4146 | 5018 | 5460 | 5176 | 5295 | 5289 | 4420 | 4604 | **39408** | 4926 | 40.8 |
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 3.7 | 5.7 | 6.7 | 6.4 | 6.5 | 6.7 | 6.8 | 6.6 | **49.0** | 6.1 | 4.0 |

**Table 25: Operational information technology and telecommunications ED1 forecast volume and expenditure for LPN**

Additional detail on RTU and SCADA interventions, including a discussion of the types of interventions we have included in our plan, is available in *ASR - Document 19 - Asset Category - RTU and SCADA*.

### 3.7.2 Smart metering

The Government has mandated the rollout of smart gas and electricity meters to all domestic and non-domestic customers by the end of 2020. This is a major national change programme that will involve visits to every premise in the UK and the installation of more than 100 million devices over a five year period.

The rollout of smart meters will play an important role in Great Britain's transition to a low-carbon economy, and help us meet our long-term challenges in ensuring an affordable, secure and sustainable energy supply. They will provide real-time information on energy usage and accurate billing, helping consumers to target their usage and save money; they will enable the introduction of more sophisticated energy management, with Time-of-Use Tariffs and load shifting and they will pave the way for the smart grid and the network of the future.

The rollout is Supplier-led to maximise the potential for consumer benefits, but has significant dependencies on and opportunities for, DNO. Specific dependencies include:

- interventions
- industry interface and income management
- security and privacy
- Data Communications Company (DCC) costs:

Opportunities include:

- improved real-time data - fault management and customer service enhancements;
- improved asset and performance data - network condition and planning; and
- improved real-time control.

We have assessed each area of cost for our networks and sought ways to optimise spend, consistent with delivering a quality consumer experience and the overall benefits. Forecast total expenditure for the ED1 period is provided in the table below, and includes only those costs that are passed through to our customers. Cost categories include:

- interventions;
- indirect costs (including training);

- industry interface and income management;
- call centre;
- network condition and planning;
- DCC fixed and transaction charges; and
- IT costs.

| | Units | '15/ 16 | '16/ 17 | '17/ 18 | '18/ 19 | '19/ 20 | '20/ 21 | '21/ 22 | '22/ 23 | **TOTAL ED1** | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 1.8 | 3.0 | 3.8 | 4.2 | 4.2 | 3.1 | 0.5 | 0.5 | **21.1** | 2.6 | 0.2 |

**Table 26: Smart metering ED1 forecast expenditures for LPN (including variant costs)**

# 4 Network operating costs

## 4.1 Inspections and maintenance

UK Power Networks inspects and maintains its network to minimise the expected whole life cost of an asset. We have developed an inspection and maintenance policy based upon a combination of real time information and studies of asset condition. Inspection and maintenance is used to ensure that the life of an asset is maximised by identifying and fixing asset problems before they occur.

The strategy for inspection and maintenance is to continue to maintain, monitor and review the performance of the assets to achieve maximum life, while keeping the risks to the network and the general public, as well as whole-life costs, as low as reasonably practical. The overall strategy for ED1 is to manage a steady state position for the majority of the asset types, with the number of Health Index 4 and 5 assets remaining generally consistent across the period. The proposed plan manages any change in risk due to an ageing asset population or from the deployment of increasing volumes of lower maintenance equipment such as vacuum and SF6 switchgear.

UK Power Networks adopted reliability centred maintenance (RCM) assessments to optimise inspection and maintenance activities. This has recently driven changes to substation and switchgear inspections, as well as the adoption of new inspection techniques that optimise maintenance requirements. New technology also provides the chance to reconsider how we carry out activities not only more efficiently, but in a safer manner. Inspection and maintenance innovations include:

- increased use of (remote) change of state operations to check mechanism operations and hence reduce routine inspections;
- continuous (fixed) partial discharge monitoring;
- tailoring post fault maintenance to the cumulative fault current rather than number of operations; and
- Tailoring diverter maintenance to the specific transformer and tap changer types.

UK Power Networks has a separate inspection and maintenance strategy for the Central London Area. This strategy is to increase inspection and maintenance frequencies for safety-critical assets and to improve our fault response capability by employing additional resources in the Central London Area. The investment strategy has been set such that we will improve network performance and reliability as well as reduce risks to staff and the general public.

### 4.1.1 Inspections

An increase in the inspection period was recently instigated for substation sites, driven by an opportunity to create efficiency improvements that will optimise expenditure in this area during ED1. For secondary substations, the period between dedicated inspections will be increased from two years to three years. For primary substations the period between inspections will be increased from three months to six months. This change in strategy is enabled by the recognition that there are a number of ad-hoc visits to substations throughout the year into which some of the basic aspects of the period inspections can be incorporated.

Generally speaking, the routine inspection of a substation includes the inspection of all the assets within it. Hence, with the secondary substation inspections increased from two to three years, the interval for inspections of the distribution transformers, HV switchgear (circuit breakers, ring main units and switches) and LV assets (wall-mounted LV boards, air circuit breakers and feeder pillars) in the substation also increased. Similarly, with the grid and primary substation inspections increased from three to six months, the inspections of the grid and primary transformers, HV/EHV/132kV circuit breakers and other assets in the substation increased.

In the Central London Area, because of the larger population and greater density, the inspection regime is different. Inspections will be carried out annually on the 4,014 substations and 3,416 linkboxes in the area to ensure safety and network performance. Outside the Central London Area these assets are inspected every three years for secondary substations and every four or eight years for linkboxes -- four years at high risk locations and eight years at all other locations.

Forecast volume and total expenditure for the ED1 period is provided in the table below.

| | Units | '15/ 16 | '16/ 17 | '17/ 18 | '18/ 19 | '19/ 20 | '20/ 21 | '21/ 22 | '22/ 23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Volume – TOTAL '000 | each | 107 | 108 | 108 | 108 | 108 | 108 | 102 | 96 | **844** | 105.5 | 56.8 |
| Expenditure – TOTAL | £m | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 4.4 | 4.3 | 4.2 | 3.7 | 3.5 | **33.7** | 4.2 | 3.3 |

**Table 27: Inspections ED1 forecast volume and expenditure for LPN**

### 4.1.2 Maintenance

Maintenance activities are driven by the desire to maintain the current level of CI and CML throughout the ED1 period. Maintenance activities are carried out on assets in our network on a routine basis at intervals determined by the type and condition of an asset. Intervals for maintenance activities are set based on a combination of the outcome of RCM studies, manufacturers' recommendations and our experience in operating the assets.

Forecast volume and total expenditure for the ED1 period is provided in the table below. The decrease in expenditure proposals in ED1 is primarily due to a reduction in unit costs and the mix of maintenance activities.

| | Units | '15/ 16 | '16/ 17 | '17/ 18 | '18/ 19 | '19/ 20 | '20/ 21 | '21/ 22 | '22/ 23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Volume – TOTAL '000 | each | 44.5 | 45.1 | 45.5 | 45.6 | 46.1 | 46.0 | 45.1 | 44.1 | **362** | 45.3 | 28.7 |
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 10.4 | 10.4 | 10.3 | 10.4 | 10.2 | 10.0 | 8.8 | 8.5 | **79.0** | 9.9 | 10.7 |

**Table 28: Maintenance ED1 forecast volume and expenditure for LPN**

## 4.2 Fault investigation and repair

Collectively, our investment and operational programmes seek to minimise the likelihood of faults on our network. However, inevitably, they will still occur. When faults occur, our priorities are goal is to respond to faults in an efficient, timely, and effective manner to restore service as quickly as possible and ensure the safety and security of our network, the public, our employees and contractors.

The volumes and expenditures included in our plan are designed to keep the volume of incidents broadly consistent over the DPCR5 and ED1 periods.

Under regulatory reporting, there are two main categories of trouble call activities: incidents covered by the Interruption Incentive Scheme (IIS) and Occurrences Not Incentivised (ONIs.) The forecast volumes of activities and expenditures in each of these two categories are provided in the following subsections.

### 4.2.1 Trouble call

Forecast volume and total expenditure for trouble calls covered by the IIS for the ED1 period is provided in the table below. We have included the benefits of the smart metering programme in our ED1 plan.

| | Units | '15/ 16 | '16/ 17 | '17/ 18 | '18/ 19 | '19/ 20 | '20/ 21 | '21/ 22 | '22/ 23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Volume – TOTAL '000 | each | 9.4 | 9.4 | 9.5 | 9.5 | 9.5 | 9.6 | 9.6 | 9.6 | **76** | 9.5 | 8.4 |
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 17.7 | 17.6 | 17.4 | 17.2 | 17.1 | 17.0 | 17.0 | 17.3 | **138.3** | 17.3 | 22.8 |

**Table 29: Trouble call ED1 forecast volume and expenditure for LPN**

### 4.2.2 Occurrences not incentivised

Forecast volume and total expenditure for ONIs for the ED1 period is provided in the table below.

| | Units | '15/ 16 | '16/ 17 | '17/ 18 | '18/ 19 | '19/ 20 | '20/ 21 | '21/ 22 | '22/ 23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Volume – TOTAL '000 | each | 20.5 | 18.3 | 16.7 | 15.1 | 14.0 | 14.0 | 14.6 | 14.6 | **128** | 16.0 | 24.8 |
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 5.9 | 5.5 | 5.3 | 5.1 | 4.9 | 4.9 | 5.0 | 4.9 | **41.5** | 5.2 | 7.1 |

**Table 30: Occurrences not incentivised ED1 forecast volume and expenditure for LPN**

### 4.2.3 Severe weather (1-in-20)

Each year, periods of poor weather and storms can result in network damage. In some very rare instances these storm events are classifies as exceptional, or 1 in 20 year events. The network damage of these 1 in 20 year storms generally arise from gale force winds that disrupt trees and overhead lines.

Our forecast of SW120 expenditures and volumes for LPN are nil, as the Greater London Area is generally more susceptible to flooding, which is considered separately.

## 4.3 Tree cutting

The strategy for tree cutting is to ensure vegetation around overhead lines is managed in order to keep the risks to the network and the general public, as well as overall costs, as low as reasonably practical.

Tree cutting is managed through the deployment of contractors and in-house staff to maintain cutting to ENA Technical Specification 43-8 (horizontal and vertical clearances) and to achieve a more resilient network as required by ENA Technical Recommendation ETR132 (Network Resilience) of the ESQCR 2006.

Forecast volume and total expenditure for the ED1 period is provided in the table below.

| | Units | '15/ 16 | '16/ 17 | '17/ 18 | '18/ 19 | '19/ 20 | '20/ 21 | '21/ 22 | '22/ 23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Volume - TOTAL | spans | 90 | 90 | 90 | 90 | 90 | 90 | 90 | 90 | **720** | 90 | 4.1 |
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.1** | 0.0 | 0.0 |

**Table 31: Tree cutting ED1 forecast volume and expenditure for LPN**

## 4.4 Other network operating costs

Other network operating costs (NOCs) include:

- dismantlement costs;
- remote location generation operating costs, including fuel; and
- substation electricity

Forecast expenditure for the ED1 period is provided in the table below.

| | Units | '15/ 16 | '16/ 17 | '17/ 18 | '18/ 19 | '19/ 20 | '20/ 21 | '21/ 22 | '22/ 23 | TOTAL ED1 | AVG. ED1 | AVG. DPCR5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Expenditure - TOTAL | £m | 2.9 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 2.9 | **23.1** | 2.9 | 2.4 |

**Table 32: Other network operating costs ED1 forecast expenditures for LPN**