

Local Authority Common Ask – Electricity

Introduction



Thank you for agreeing to provide data from your Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP) for your local electricity network operator to use in our forecasting.

UK Power Networks DSO, National Grid Electricity Distribution, Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks and SP Electricity North West have collaborated to develop the Local Authority Common Ask, which outlines how to prepare and share your LAEP data with us to inform our infrastructure planning.

Submitting forecast data in the format stipulated in this Local Authority Common Ask allows us to understand how much electrical capacity will be required on the network to facilitate local authority climate ambitions. If local authorities can provide well evidenced forecasts of low-carbon technology uptake in their area, we can update our network investment plans accordingly to ensure that the network is not a blocker to Net Zero.

The Local Authority Common Ask contains documents to help you prepare your data for submission, including a different folder for five different technologies sectors and a general information folder:

- District Heating
- Domestic Thermal Efficiency
- Electric Vehicles
- General Information
- Heat Pumps, Resistive Heating and Biomass (HP, RH and Biomass)
- Small Solar PV

These are the five key technology sectors within the scope of this process currently, however we are aware that you may have forecasts and insights for other technologies. If you have forecast data for other technologies, please contact your local network operator (contact information below). This will form a valuable insight into future updates to the Local Authority Common Ask.

For all technologies, please note that the closer you are able to provide your data to what is stipulated in this Local Authority Common Ask, the fewer conversion assumptions we have to make to include your data in our network investment plans.

Please note that this Local Authority Common Ask introduction document pertains to **electricity only**. A separate Local Authority Common Ask is available for collecting data for your local gas distribution networks. These Local Authority Common Asks are designed to minimise the amount of additional effort required to prepare data for multiple audiences. However, due to differences in how networks use your data, some unavoidable differences do exist between the formats needed for the two Local Authority Common Asks. Caution is advised to make sure that the data prepared aligns with the format required.

In the “General Information” folder, you will find the following:

- A **Local Authority Common Ask definition** in Microsoft Excel format, a **Local Authority Common Ask guide** in PDF format and a **Local Authority Common Ask checklist** in PDF format. These contain the same kind of information as described for the technology specific

folders, but cover the cases where data is relevant across multiple technologies or concerns contextual metadata around the LAEP.

- A **LSOA folder** containing files labelled “List of relevant 2011 LSOAs (UKPN only)”, “List of relevant 2021 LSOAs (UKPN only)”, and “List of relevant 2021 LSOAs (all DSOs)” which can be referenced to see which LSOAs should be considered when compiling data for your local electricity network operator.
- An optional template labelled “non_standard_area_isoa_definition”, which can be completed if your LAEP covers a non-standard area, as described in the General Information guide.
- An optional template labelled “local_authority_domestic_new_builds_data”, which can be completed if you have additional data on new builds not considered within your LAEP.
- An **Examples folder** showing how the Local Authority Common Ask questionnaire would be filled out in the two universal example cases found in the technology specific folders.
- A **Local Authority Common Ask questionnaire** in Microsoft Excel format, which should be completed with information about your LAEP and returned.

Within each of the technology folders, you will find the following:

- A **Local Authority Common Ask definition** in Microsoft Excel format, which contains the detailed specification for the format of documents to be sent over. This is the key description document for each technology, allowing users to understand the format of each of the data to be provided.
- A **Local Authority Common Ask guide** in PDF format, which contains detailed information about how to assemble the data according to the requirements of forecasting. You should **not** need to refer to this technical document unless clarification is needed on a detail of how to assemble data in the correct format.
- A **Local Authority Common Ask checklist** in PDF format, which is a quick reference guide to help in correctly assembling the required data files.
- An **Examples folder** which should be explored before preparing data so you can see examples of exactly how data should look for the LAEP. This contains files filled out with example data as a reference for how to complete the files for your LAEP. There are two or three different examples of data included, but note that **you will only need to return one complete dataset**:
 - There is an example “High Level Data”, which reflects a situation a detailed breakdown of LAEP data into the categories specified in the definitions document for the relevant technology cannot be provided.
 - There is an example “Preferred Resolution Data”, which shows the ideal format in which data should be provided if possible.
 - Where relevant (for electric vehicles), there is an “Detailed Archetypes”, which reflects a situation where the modelled archetypes of the technology in your LAEP have more detail than the archetypes mapped to in the template, and so will require some aggregation. For example, if your LAEP has vehicle archetypes of both large and small battery electric cars, compared to our archetype of battery electric cars in total.
- “**Templates” folder**, in Excel format (CSV versions can be provided upon request). Please note that these templates are the same apart from the format, and each file only needs to be provided in one format. Some of the templates are already partially complete with relevant data, which can be used to help compile data in the correct format. The types of template file you might see, depending on technology, are:

- “Definition” files are partially complete and should be filled out and returned to indicate how the LAEP data categories used should be interpreted.
- “Data template” files are empty and should be completed with the relevant LAEP data. Data can also be prepared in the Local Authority Common Ask format and returned without using the data template files if preferred.

Using this Local Authority Common Ask to guide you on the details of data compilation, you should ultimately provide the following files in a compliant format:

General Information

- A completed Local Authority Common Ask questionnaire in Microsoft Excel format
- (Optional) Geojson files which describe any custom areas used in the data files.

District Heating

- Domestic district heating percentage uptake data to 2050 in Microsoft Excel format.
- Non-domestic district heating percentage uptake data to 2050 in Microsoft Excel format.
- Proportion of buildings connected to district heating fuelled by heat pumps or waste heat data to 2050 in Microsoft Excel format.
- Proportion of buildings connected to district heating fuelled by heat pumps as a percentage of the total number of buildings connected to district heating fuelled by heat pumps or waste heat to 2050 in Microsoft Excel format.

Electric Vehicles

- Electric vehicle uptake data to 2050 in Microsoft Excel format.
- A completed electric vehicle definitions file in Microsoft Excel format.

Small Solar PV

- Domestic small (<150kW) solar PV uptake data to 2050 in Microsoft Excel format.
- Non-domestic small (<150kW) solar PV uptake data to 2050 in Microsoft Excel format.

Heat Pumps

- Domestic heat pump uptake fractions of total building stock, where the total building stock excludes buildings with district heating, to 2050 in Microsoft Excel format.
- Non-domestic heat pump uptake fractions of total building stock, where the total building stock excludes buildings with district heating, to 2050 in Microsoft Excel format.
- A completed heating technology definitions file in Microsoft Excel format.
- A completed heating technology building archetype definitions file in Microsoft Excel format.

Domestic Thermal Efficiency

- Domestic building thermal efficiency demand as a percentage of the base year (reductions due to building fabric changes only) to 2050 in Microsoft Excel format.
- A completed efficiency building archetype definitions file in Microsoft Excel format.
- (Optional) Data on the impact of the domestic thermal efficiency measures defined on the building stock in each geographic area, if required for the unit chosen.

Note that we are only requesting data for a subset of the technologies that may be modelled as part of your LAEP at this time, and we are using some of our own assumptions to supplement the technology data. In future, we may be able to add data for additional technologies and incorporate different

assumptions for existing technologies into our LAEP processing. If this occurs, you may be given the opportunity to update the LAEP data we hold by submitting additional information, but we will aim to minimise the number of data submission you are asked to make.

When compiling data, you may need to make decisions about the resolution of data provided, for example whether to provide data at a higher geographical resolution or for more individual years in the modelled period. In this case, please refer to the guide for the relevant technologies on which types of resolution are preferred over others.

The Local Authority Common Ask should include all the details you will need to return these files in the correct format. If you have any questions about the Local Authority Common Ask or the LAEP process, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Contact information:

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