

Invitation to apply for the Open Networks Challenge Group Chair role

Energy Networks Association's (ENA) Open Networks programme is inviting applicants to apply for the Independent Chair role for a new Open Networks Challenge Group, which will be launching in January.

Applicants should send a CV and short covering letter indicating their suitability for the post to Opennetworks@energynetworks.org by **17:00, Tuesday 16 November**.

Company overview

Energy Networks Association (ENA) represents the 'wires and pipes' transmission and distribution network operators for gas and electricity in the UK and Ireland. Our members control and maintain the critical national infrastructure that delivers these vital services into our homes and businesses. More information about the company can be found here:

<https://www.energynetworks.org/about-ena/>

ENA's Open Networks programme

The Open Networks programme is a major industry initiative that is transforming the way our energy networks operate, underpinning the delivery of the smart grid in the UK.

This world leading programme brings together all of Britain's network companies and industry stakeholders to help transform the way our energy networks operate. Now in its fifth year, this initiative is playing a pivotal role in facilitating the move towards a Net Zero future by laying the foundations of a smart, flexible energy system in Great Britain that leaves nobody behind – including improving transparency, removing barriers and simplifying participation.

By helping to pave the way to bring on more smart, low carbon technologies – in line with Government's Ten Point Plan and Climate Change Committee targets – the programme is making sure that customers across the country can see the benefits that smarter, more flexible energy networks can bring. Allowing customers to take advantage of these new technologies and take control of their energy will ultimately lower costs and secure the energy we rely on every day.

More information about the programme can be found on our [website](#).

Open Networks Challenge Group

This year, Open Networks has been exploring ways to work more collaboratively with the wider industry to shape and progress key programme developments on flexibility. As part of this work, the programme is looking at making a number of updates to the way they work and recently launched a [consultation](#) on its open governance approach, open till Tuesday 16 November, to help inform the team's direction moving forward.

As part of this work, Open Networks is setting up a Challenge Group to begin in January. The objective of the Challenge Group is to shape the direction of the programme and its outcomes by providing a more formal challenge function on behalf of the wider industry.

More information on the Challenge Group, the roles and responsibilities of the Chair and ways of working can be found in the [Terms of Reference](#).

What we're looking for

An ideal candidate will:

- Have a strong understanding of the UK energy industry
- Have a strong understanding of the roles of various actors in the energy industry and the challenges and opportunities facing them
- Have demonstrable experience of independently chairing similar groups in the industry.

The requirement

The Chair will be required for 15-20 business days per year to attend meetings (Challenge Group, Steering Group and the Dissemination Forum and others as needed) and undertake the preparatory work as required.

This will be a remunerated role that will be reviewed and contracted on a yearly basis.

Note: An annual contract will be negotiated with the Chair with the guideline days required as set out in this invitation. ENA should then be invoiced on a quarterly basis. If the work required increases significantly, the contract should be reviewed and renegotiated accordingly.