

Document:	RIIO - GD3 Stakeholder Engagement and Decision Log Northern Gas Networks
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RIIO-3 Outcome											
1	Policy Area	Type of Engagement Undertaken	Stakeholder Groups	Summary Feedback	Impact on B	Business Plan					
The primary RIIO-3 outcome to which the engagement relates	The policy area or areas to which the engagement relates	How did you engage with stakeholders? For example, through webinars, roundtables, surveys, through third parties, representative bodies, trade associations etc	Which stakeholder groups were represented through the engagement & provide commentary on the relative balance of stakeholder voices. Were any relevant groups not represented?		What impact has the feedback received had on your business plan? Provide specific example relevant decisions that have been influenced by the engagement. Where you have made a sthat might be seen as counter to the feedback received, explain why this is and set out what measures you have taken to address the feedback received.						ade a decision
INSIGHT 1. System efficiency and long-term value for money	Cost	ongoing deliberative engagement with our longstanding Citizens Panel and Young	situations, future), stakeholders (consumer representatives, local government, skills and research, charities, environmental groups and other utilities), colleagues and the ISG  Note that our public affairs engagement was constrained by MPs' competing priorities (General Election) and their time-poor nature. Although less strongly represented, we are holding MP drop-in days	tensions between short- and long-term goals and the dynamics NGN must manage. Customers (especially older, low income, and digitally excluded customers) value energy affordability above all other priorities. In our value perception engagement, no service improvement was universally valued – for every improvement tested, at least 16% of domestic customers said they could not afford to pay anything towards the improved service. Conversely, future customers indicated they prioritise helping the region to meet climate change targets (and not leaving anyone behind). Local stakeholders generally share this long-term view; however, the reality for many LAs is a short-term focus on supporting those in vulnerable situations. Furthermore, national groups say they will judge our performance by how resilient the business is. Overall, there is a desire for NGN to maintain frontier performance, delivered at the least cost.	support and ongoing affor actively looke customers. On have set out abandoning programme enthe most efficient improvement stakeholder enthe workforce resiminimise the increase with and affordabil	I investment, ordability conceed for other opposed for other opposed for other opposed for other opposed for ambition ariser than 203 dient gas distributed for will achieve engagement, which is the cost impact of customers (cost lity was lower to the cost of	with the evid cerns. Our over cortunities to keep out on the cost presson mitigate Reports and expenses. To balance so this through the course out of systems corequired due to this via our Dest of service contains in previous cerns.	ent tension a erall Totex is in eep the cost of sure will be his pex cost pres risive options stakeholders' properties that targeted investing of the collaboration, do new HSE fations of the collaboration membined with contract the state of the collaboration membined with contract the collaboration members and collaboration members are collaboration and col	around the increasing by a four services gher Repex properties withing to deliver the priorities, we are in delivering in delivering the same of digital gue guidance odel. We encost of debt, a nning cycles,	ne clear need of necreased cost 21%, therefore as low as possing rogramme delivers the plan, where remaining Requill maintain oung continuous portions of though we will alisation. Change, though we will gaged on the overcelerated depression of the plant of the plan	of living and we have ble for ery costs. We le also ex r position as erformance ion, enhanced es in seek to erall cost eciation etc.), I acceptance
İ			throughout late 2024 to seek input and viewpoints.		placed		perception			, insigning in	, <b>.,</b>
İ					✓	✓			<b>✓</b>	✓	43%
INSIGHT 2. System efficiency and long-term value for money	Data and digital strategy	Data and digital services personas research, Ofgem industry working groups, and meetings with government departments, regulatory bodies, cyber experts and specialist consultants	Triangulated weight of voice: Data users, stakeholders (government departments, regulatory bodies, think tanks and		After introducing robust data triage and classification processes in August 2023, we launched Open Data Portal. Since then our engagement with existing and prospective data users has enhanced our understanding of the services needed to meet the needs of each persona and resulted in a more ambitious programme of work in GD3. In RIIO-3, we will make availab more types of data on the portal, and develop an Open Analytics Platform and user support, so people can more easily use our data and analytics tools. In addition to Open Data being useful in the decentralisation and decarbonisation of the energy sector, we see this port a key way for people to learn about data, analytics and the gas industry. We will continually engage to understand the changing data needs and satisfaction of each persona and adjust ou data plans accordingly.						s has a and
			research, other utilities, cyber security, digitisation), colleagues and the ISG	among personas is data standardisation across different regional data portals, with access to support tools that help users get the most value from the data available e.g. user stories, videos, how-to guides etc. New digital methods can add value when used appropriately and are easily accessible. Artificial intelligence (AI), if deployed effectively, can enhance processes, streamline efficiency and, if fully accessible,	support, so period being useful in a key way for engage to under	people can mor in the decentral people to lear derstand the ch	re easily use ou lisation and de n about data, a	or data and and carbonisation of the analytics and the analytics analytics and the analytics and the analytics and the analytics analytics and the analytics and the analytics and the analytics analytics and the analytics and the analytics and the analytics analytics and the analytics and the analytics and the analytics analytics and the analytics analytic analytics analytic an	alytics tools. of the energy he gas indust	In addition to O sector, we see ry. We will cont	d user pen Data this portal as inually
			security, digitisation),	among personas is data standardisation across different regional data portals, with access to support tools that help users get the most value from the data available e.g. user stories, videos, how-to guides etc. New digital methods can add value when used appropriately and are easily accessible. Artificial intelligence (AI), if deployed	support, so pleing useful is a key way for engage to undata plans acc	people can mor in the decentral people to lear derstand the ch	re easily use ou lisation and de n about data, a nanging data no Value	or data and and carbonisation of the analytics and the analytics analytics and the analytics and the analytics and the analytics analytics and the analytics and the analytics and the analytics analytics and the analytics and the analytics and the analytics analytics and the analytics and the analytics and the analytics analytics and the analytics analytic analytics analytic an	alytics tools. of the energy he gas indust	In addition to O sector, we see ry. We will cont	d user pen Data this portal as inually djust our  Acceptance
			security, digitisation),	among personas is data standardisation across different regional data portals, with access to support tools that help users get the most value from the data available e.g. user stories, videos, how-to guides etc. New digital methods can add value when used appropriately and are easily accessible. Artificial intelligence (AI), if deployed effectively, can enhance processes, streamline efficiency and, if fully accessible,	support, so pleing useful in a key way for engage to undertally data plans according to the support of the supp	people can mor in the decentral people to lear derstand the ch cordingly.	re easily use ou lisation and de n about data, a nanging data n	ur data and and carbonisation of analytics and the eeds and satis	alytics tools. of the energy he gas indust faction of eac	In addition to O sector, we see ry. We will cont h persona and a	d user pen Data this portal as inually djust our
INSIGHT 3. Infrastructure fit for a low-cost transition to net zero		Ongoing deliberative engagement with our longstanding Citizens Panel and Young Innovators Council, Redcar Hydrogen Village trial customer exit research, collaborative research undertaken with other gas networks (GB customer LCT tracking research and in-depth interviews with national stakeholders), annual NGN Stakeholder Conference, Stakeholder Hot Topic workshops, NGage colleague forum, bilateral meetings, CIVS partner workshops	Triangulated weight of voice:-Customers (domestic, those in vulnerable situations, future), stakeholders (consumer representatives, local government, skills and research, charities, environmental groups and other utilities), colleagues and the	among personas is data standardisation across different regional data portals, with access to support tools that help users get the most value from the data available e.g. user stories, videos, how-to guides etc. New digital methods can add value when used appropriately and are easily accessible. Artificial intelligence (AI), if deployed effectively, can enhance processes, streamline efficiency and, if fully accessible, improve customer experience.  The difference in priorities among national, local and customer groups highlights tensions between short and long-term goals and the different dynamics NGN must manage. General bill payers continue to prioritise keeping bills low, however future customers prioritise helping the region meet climate change targets, and providing help to those that need it most (so that those at risk or in vulnerable situations don't get left behind). Among local stakeholders, helping the region meet climate change targets gained most of the votes (75%) for increasing in importance during 2026-2031. Stakeholders and customers agreed that NGN has a clear role to play in net zero education, which is central to public acceptance, behaviour change and stakeholder advocacy, as many	support, so peing useful is a key way for engage to understand the left behind. The UIOLI funding Zero Research for Warmth p which are fail	repeople can more in the decentral repeople to lear derstand the characteristics. Triangulation  Triangulation	Value perception  Value perception  Value perception  Ve have heeded prate closely with the learning gaurney research ll train and wore energy transicequitable. Add	SROI  SROI  ucation strate vulnerability (P (energy transite treases in awand feedback to not be the red through and development of the support fitionally, to ensistency to ensistency the support of th	CBA  CBA  CBA  CBA  CBA  CBA  CBA  CBA	Regulatory  Regulatory  Regulatory  our core GD2 foor range of GD3 to measures will income as the North of Englipher in th	d user pen Data this portal as inually djust our  Acceptance testing 79% us of schools pics, including lude, but not port, and the astomer and to risk of being will prioritise e NeRV (Net a Centres ive outcomes

INSIGHT 4. Infrastructure fit for a low-cost transition to net zero	tested ability and willingness of 1,709	Triangulated weight of voice:-Customers (domestic, businesses, those in vulnerable situations, future) and the ISG	respects to reporting carbon emissions. Our Citizens Panel advocated the use of the 75th percentile as an action standard for making trade-off decisions. On this basis, bill payers are willing to pay towards proactively improving nature and wildlife at NGN's sites, but other environmental investments, such as increasing the assurance of our environmental reporting, must be self-funded.	Consequently, ensure all of conduct will be suppliers with overburdening plant 20,000 selatively low sufficient qual informed cust. While uninform	we will set an equir carbon reported adhered to by environmental age SMEs. Addition sapplings of hedgin terms of enviritative evidence omers. In responsed customers parts of the customers parts of the customers	example without its are reviewed all of our key count and sustainability ally, in response gerow at our operonmental impairs, we're required acced lower values.	passing costs by independent ontracted supply standards the to the high value at materiality maddressing climesting circa £1. ue on this, the	to customers in texperts before iers, directing a support ourselve customers to promote biomatrix, we determate change wasom to improve initiative will sa	two key areas e publication, 2 approx. £1bn in , while avoiding place on biodiv diversity. While mined that the s a high priority building energy ave 120 tCO2-e	: 1) We will ) Our code of spending to lersity, we will this initiative is re was for our efficiency. annually.	
				NGN best placed ✓	Triangulation <	Value perception ✓	SROI	СВА	Regulatory	Acceptance testing 77%	
INSIGHT 5. Infrastructure fit for a low-cost transition to net zero	acceptability testing and ISG deep dive	Triangulated weight of voice: Customers (domestic, businesses, those in vulnerable situations, future), stakeholders (TBC), and the ISG deep dive	ambitious emissions targets and want us to continue to have ambitious targets, even if we might not reach them - future customers feel particularly strongly about this. Following a deep dive with our ISG into our EAP targets, including our shrinkage reduction strategy and the decision making behind it, they were		ch will reduce of will mean that be retain our BCF or know this will be our future custo	our direct carb etween 2013 an ommitment to a e challenging to mers and also r	on emissions d 2031 we will achieve net zero achieve but wo	by over 200,000 have reduced to operations so will strive to be	rage by 22% over the course of 200,000 tCO2-e over the uced our annual gas shrinkage by ons scope 1&2 emissions by the end ve to be ambitious recognising the net zero.		
			environmental impacts.	NGN best placed	Triangulation ✓	Value perception	SROI	CBA	Regulatory  ✓	Acceptance testing 70%	
INSIGHT 6. Infrastructure fit for a low-cost transition to net zero	bilateral discussions with other utilities,	Triangulated weight of voice: Local government, other gas networks, industry bodies, think tanks and research, skills and the ISG	emergencies do not have detailed plans for how these targets will be achieved, so are still planning rather than implementing. LAs are seeking tailored guidance and assistance to help them develop strategies and implement investments to help them reach their goals of achieving net zero emissions at the local level. National stakeholders want to see the gas networks work more closely with the electricity network operators to take a stronger leadership role for guiding the transition plan. Complete, consistent and highly available data is an essential element in the transition to a Net Zero energy system. Through our personas engagement, data users (including LAs) have told us where enhanced or	Our Future of Gas Strategy aims to support regional decarbonisation through developing capabilities in market facilitation, energy systems planning and real-time optimisation, in collaboration and partnership with cross-sector partners. We responded to stakeholder expectations by including a proposal at draft stage to build a dedicated RESP team which will engage with local authorities, electricity, gas and water networks, and the National Energy System Operator (NESO) to bring together the outputs of							
				<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>					78%	
INSIGHT 7. Infrastructure fit for a low-cost transition to net zero	ongoing deliberative engagement with our longstanding Citizens Panel and Young Innovators Council, collaborative research undertaken with other gas networks (GB customer LCT tracking research and indepth interviews with national stakeholders), annual NGN Stakeholder Conference, Stakeholder Hot Topic	and research, charities,	least afford to pay for a reduced gas network. To achieve this, future customers have urged us to focus efforts on whole-systems thinking and building the evidence base required to determine whether transition to full or blended hydrogen networks is a safe and cost-effective pathway. A consensus supports our pursuing low-regret innovation to aid decarbonisation, such as biomethane, hydrogen blending and hydrogen for industrial use.  In our hot topic workshops 92% of stakeholders supported our proposal to develop the biomethane and hydrogen blending planning and management.  In our biomethane survey, we gathered feedback from a range of stakeholders, including plant and Production Managers. While many noted improved.	Decommissioning  The extent and speed of decommissioning the gas network is subject to government policy, as well as how much of the network is repurposed. Our engagement has helped us ringfence the scope of regrets action supported by our stakeholders. We will continue innovation to understand the minimum viable network structure needed to enable the transition. Our innovation will include a focus Multiple Occupancy Buildings and social housing stock. The action standard for our proposed low-regrescivity is that it will reduce costs, support the delivery of any future decommissioning activities and ensure learning is shared across the industry.  Re-purposing of the gas network - Biomethane:  Biomethane is a decarbonisation solution availation, but continued barriers to entry and operation exist. In RIIO-3, we remain committed to support innovation projects that aim to reduce biomethane connection and operational costs through Future Energy Network's Green Gas Taskforce, and business as usual process evolution.  Re-purposing of the gas network - Hydrogen:  We will prioritise UIOLI funding for research and development aimed at assessing the operational readiness of our network for hydrogen conversion.							
	·			NGN best placed	Triangulation	Value perception	SROI	СВА	Regulatory	Acceptance testing 76%	
INSIGHT 8. Secure and resilient supplies  7- and 28-day repair	ongoing deliberative engagement with our longstanding Citizens Panel and Young Innovators Council, Customer Priorities Tracking (including depth interviews with underreached customer groups), annual NGN Stakeholder Conference, NGage colleague forum, bilateral meetings, CIVS	·	non-shrinkage emissions to reduce carbon emissions. After seeing our performance on responding to gas escapes compared with other gas networks, customers said we should as a minimum sustain current performance and focus more on reducing the carbon impact of outstanding repairs, even if they have been classified as safe. Our Citizens Panel would like a 7–28-day gas escape standard to become a national performance target from 2026, with penalties for poor performance and a reward for exceeding targets. This was the most popular option of the seven different service improvements tested. 1,709 domestic	in driving up and 98% with strengthened other network via increased Totex, embed proposing fina	pport was fund industry stand thin 28 days. To stakeholders' views to account. Alta bills, we will delified ding enhanced we ancial ODIs for Right for gas escaped	dards by volume the shortfall of Color with the NGN shough at least over this output workforce production of the search of the s	ntarily adopting the control of the	ng targets for y GDNs, based icker repairs, to ers are willing to any additional iencies achieve ce our commit	89% repairs to on RRP data in the benefit custor to contribute £0 all expenditure at d in recent year ment to providir	to play a role within 7 days RIIO-2, further mers and hold .48 per year above the base rs. By and timely and timely and time of our	

INSIGHT 10. Climate			shared the detail our Climate Resilience Strategy in a Cross Utility Forum. Representatives from Northern Powergrid, Cadent and Yorkshire Water shared their resilience strategies enabling discussion about gaps in service, any overlapping work, and opportunities to work together - including data sharing.	We will invest £1.6m to continue to monitor of our network assets, enabling real-time access data, optimised decision-making, and more efficient operation of the network.  Investments in climate resilience must be viewed as a trade off between balancing immediate costs to customers of proactive investment, versus possible future cost: customers, along with potential customer service performance impacts, from delay. This programme of work is necessary, cost efficient and targeted to address known risks, we being forward-looking and flexible enough to enable us to respond to anticipated risks based experiences and future projections. These include the iron mains replacement programme (£1.6m), pipeline inspection remedial programme (£9.6m), overcrossing inspection and remedial programme (£7.6m) and flood mitigation at critical sites (£0.2m). We will continue to seek out opportunities to collaborate Cross Utility Forum to identify and align to best practices, such as championing open data shadous control of the network.  NGN best Triangulation Value SROI CBA Regulatory						and targeted borate with the sharing.  Acceptance		
				placed		perception				testing		
	Consumer Value Perception Research,	Triangulated weight of	The impact of climate change requires us to proactively <b>reduce the</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>✓</b>	<u> </u>		<b>√</b>	<b>✓</b>	93%		
Secure and resilience: seve weather supplies	bilateral meeting with ENWL, CIVs and Community Resilience: A Cross-Utility	businesses, those in vulnerable situations, future),	collaborative, cross-network approach. 'Preventing supply interruptions from extreme weather by providing back up power' was the most highly valued service improvement among billpayers in our Customer Value Perception study (on average, respondents were willing to pay £0.53pp at 75%).	time, right place', we will deliver mutual assistance with our DNOs during major incidents,								
				NGN best placed	Triangulation	Value perception	SROI	СВА	Regulatory	Acceptance testing		
				,/	./	/				93%		
Secure and digitalisation resilient supplies	ongoing deliberative engagement with our longstanding Citizens Panel, consultations via regulatory bodies, bilateral meetings with Electricity North West and NPg and DNO Annual Vulnerability Reports July 2024	vulnerable situations), stakeholders (regulatory bodies, consumer representatives, local government, local resilience forums, emergency services, charities and other utilities), and the ISG	rely on the copper network, and 53% worry about making calls during a power outage. For 3% of landline users, it's their only way to make or receive calls at home. Other customers use landlines due to poor mobile signal. Our Citizens Panel is concerned about helping people who might not be able to communicate or report issues during emergencies in the future.	While we are r authorities and We will share of that are most NGN best placed	not making a for dipartners by coour social data roulnerable to the Triangulation	perception	en commitment expanding the er target awarer ver.	c, we will use ou e reach of exis ness campaigns CBA	ting awareness, prioritising the	support local ss channels. ne communities  Acceptance testing  79%		
INSIGHT 12. Workforce		Triangulated weight of	1							-		
Secure and resilient supplies planning	Council to explore workforce composition and recruitment strategies, engagement with workforce including colleagues and direct service providers (DSPs), stakeholder engagement including annual conference, and Hot Topic workshops with	voice: Customers (domestic, future), stakeholders (consumer representatives, local government, skills and research, other utilities, national stakeholders, charities), colleagues, direct service providers, and the ISG	important that this is reflected in a diverse apprenticeship programme. Informed customers, future customers, and national, local and industry stakeholders have consistently told us that they would like to see NGN make broad-reaching workforce training commitments.  Our YIC were asked to do some research on apprenticeships; what they are, how and where to apply, and thoughts on NGN's apprenticeship job advertisements. Two colleagues from NGN shared contextual detail and answered questions. The YIC then entered break out rooms to explore the pros and cons of different types of apprenticeships. The conversations were very nuanced, but largely the group preferred the idea of apprenticeship programmes that offer experience across the business, and they thought that the number of opportunities available was more important than having a guaranteed job at the end. They also valued lower-level roles (Level 2 or GCSE equivalent and Level 3 or A-Level equivalent).						our inclusion gineers, erience, year-incontinue our nain resilience rticularly in inteering, students via an GD3. In I in our ng cumulative ermanent planning rnover is low ncluded a new Acceptance testing			

INSIGHT 13. Secure and resilient supplies	Cyber resilience	Stakeholder engagement (conferences, Hot Topic workshops, perceptions tracker), ongoing deliberative engagement with our longstanding Citizens Panel and Young Innovators Council, Customer Perceptions Tracking Research (domestic customers including future customers, those in vulnerable situations, digitally disengaged and SMEs), Ofgem industry working groups, bilateral meetings with government departments, regulatory bodies, cyber experts and specialist consultants	Triangulated weight of voice: Expert stakeholders (government departments, regulatory bodies, think tanks and research, other utilities, cyber security, digitisation), colleagues, and the ISG	to influence, but they seek reassurance that NGN is 1) prioritising investment to safeguard the network against perceived threats, 2) considering cyber vigilance	Our GD3 projects will focus on delivering the following outcomes:  • enhancing our ability to manage and maintain our critical industrial assets by virtualising industrial technology. This helps us increase visibility and transparency, gaining greater security control and additional safety, resilience and reliability benefits.  • improving our monitoring and incident response by implementing holistic identity and access management controls throughout our operations. This will improve our ability to prevent incidents occurring in the first place and also the speed we can resolve incidents that do occur.  • improving our monitoring capability by extending onto operational assets. By monitoring additional data sources, we improve our ability to detect incidents, support timely resolution and limit their overall impact.  •refining our security training and awareness programme, adapting our approach to align with staff roles and providing specific, targeted training for those in high-risk roles. This will include continued simulation and exercising of security processes and behaviour-driven awareness activities.  •continuing to develop, test and assure our cyber resilience capability by running simulation events at our cyber physical twin test facility. By emulating highly disruptive incidents, we can demonstrate the real-world.						nd access cidents oring additional their overall oralign with ude continued simulation
					NGN best	Triangulation	Value	SROI	СВА	Regulatory	Acceptance
					placed √	<b>✓</b>	perception			<b>✓</b>	testing 93%
INSIGHT 14. High quality of service from regulated firms	Customer service	Customer Perceptions Research, customer focus groups with underreached inclusion groups, CO and PSR market research, ongoing deliberative engagement with our longstanding Citizens Panel and Young Innovators Council, NGN and NPg - Working Better Together workshop, ICS research report, NGN Hot Topic Stakeholder Workshop (Resilience), bilateral meeting with Electricity North West, Northern Powergrid and Northumbrian Water, CIVs workshops	Triangulated weight of voice:-Customers (domestic, businesses, those in vulnerable situations, future, complainants), stakeholders (regulatory bodies, consumer representatives, skills, research and accreditation, local government, charities, other utilities), and the ISG	maintain our industry-leading RIIO-2 service levels. They expect continuous improvement and inclusive support services that go beyond our licence obligations. Despite our high standards, our ISG cautioned against complacency and urged us to focus on continuous learning and optimising all customer journeys. Our root cause analysis shows that communication issues account for 36% of complaints, with an increasing number of customers using social media to voice concerns. Our Perceptions Tracker revealed that customers value satisfactory resolution over its speed. This insight has led us to update our customer strategy, consider new areas for CSAT measures and expand our thinking around complaints metrics for RIIO-3. Our research shows that	We've updated our Customer Strategy based on best practices centred around six key pillars of customer experience focusing on consistent and sustained customer performance, while also expanding our metrics and reporting to drive continuous improvement. We will support the direction from Ofgem and stakeholders to introduce a new voluntary disconnections customer satisfaction survey, to support an easy transition to low carbon technology, such as integrating referrals to our regional DNOs for low carbon technology advice - within our customer journey. To enhance this we will set a voluntary benchmark based on a pilot survey in RIIO-2. To further improve complaint management, we will balance the reduction of complaints with the quality of resolution. For RIIO-3, we will voluntarily report our complaint figures as a percentage of our total impacted customer base. Influenced by engagement with our ISG, we recognise the increasing use of digital channels, such as social media, for customer communication and complaints. In GD3, we will voluntarily report the percentage of social media complaints compared to the overall number of complaints received. We will categorise social media complaints across our four main work groups: E&R, Planned work, connections, maintenance and 'other' (which captures any other complaints that sit outside of the four main work groups). Additionally, we will start voluntarily reporting an extended complaint metric that includes segmented PSR data to ensure our processes meet the needs of all our customers. More widely our collaboration with regional DNOs will expand with voluntary commitment to lead and implement a mutual incident framework ensuring a high quality and joined up service from regulated firms during adverse weather events.						nce, while ill support the ner satisfaction is to our this we will management, ill voluntarily nced by ich as social rt the ved. We will connections, main work includes widely our and
					NGN best	Triangulation	Value perception	SROI	СВА	Regulatory	Acceptance testing
					✓	<b>✓</b>	' '			<b>✓</b>	80%
INSIGHT 15. High quality of service from regulated firms	Vulnerability: VMCA & BAU	Customer Perceptions Research, focus groups with underreached customer groups, ongoing deliberative engagement with our longstanding Citizens Panel and Young Innovators Council, bilateral meetings with consumer representatives and other utilities, CIVs partner workshops, NGage colleague forum, Citizens Advice COL dashboard, CIVs and Community Resilience: A Cross-Utility Study	Triangulated weight of voice:-Customers (domestic, businesses, those in vulnerable situations), stakeholders (consumer representatives, charities, Vulnerability and Carbon Monoxide Allowance (VCMA) project partners and other utilities), colleagues, and the ISG	to effective targeting and take up of support services among non-financial vulnerabilities. Stakeholders would like us to commit to collaborating more closely with other regional utility providers to provide improved services to customers in vulnerable circumstances. Examples cited include jointly funding	estimates of particular plans on particular plans on particular plans on particular plans of particular pl	A investment, laying to our strus. To meet ou event duplicated to 20-2 target, but ligibility gaps are we will support laborative investigation and responded delivery moderating with part DNO efforts. We councils, and pure structure of the councils, and pure structure of the councils, and pure structure of the councils.	up from £9.6 rength in collaboration of effort. No can be delivered underreached ort over 38,000 estment strates to a stakehold el for fuel poverners on innovat will also work will also	m, and set ou brating with oth expectations, IGN will deliver d cost efficient areas.  D high-risk how the projects are ity services is dive projects and ith community es to deliver 10	t 21 voluntarier utility compour joint PSR approx. 10,000 y. We will target useholds with the standard alleviatin alleviatin ifferent to DNC destablishing to partners such 0,000 face-to-f	ISG, we have y commitment anies that serve awareness strong referrals annuate our engagem in-depth case proportionate to g fuel poverty a se, however this wo-way referral as charities, hour ace CO awarenese-to-one awarenese-to-	s. We've based the same rategy with ally, which is ent on the ework, to the VMCA sakey focus. will allow us to s, to using ess sessions. eness,
					placed		perception				testing
					<b>V</b>	<b>Y</b>		<b>V</b>			79%

High quality of	Vulnerability: services beyond the meter	Customer Perceptions Research, Consumer Value Perception Research (proxy for willingness to pay), focus groups with underreached customer groups, ongoing deliberative engagement with our longstanding Citizens Panel, bilateral meetings with consumer representatives and other utilities, CIVs partner workshops	situations), <b>stakeholders</b> (consumer representatives, charities, Vulnerability and Carbon Monoxide Allowance (VCMA) project partners and	All services beyond the meter (SBMT) are seen as highly beneficial, but our Citizens Panel didn't unanimously support NGN taking responsibility for delivering all of them. Views are influenced by the impact on bills. Although proposed costs are small, the chance of a gas escape (which triggers the delivery of each intervention) could be as rare as once in 45 years. Attitudes toward risk differ, making SMBT appealing to some (such as those who have experienced gas escapes or are in vulnerable situations) but less appealing to others. We included all SBMT proposals in our Consumer Value Perception Research to quantify the value associated with these services (against cost of delivery) and willingness/ability of bill payers to contribute towards greater ambition. While we couldn't test all our Business Plan commitments in this standalone piece of research, we prioritised SBMT for inclusion as it represented a newer area and one with greater discretion where benefits and risks needed to be balanced. Overall, customers say SBMT should be implemented at minimum cost. Carbon monoxide investigations add 12p to the average annual bill, but bill payers are willing to pay 15p. Appliance repairs (2p) and replacements (37p) cost 39p, but bill payers are only willing to pay 36p. Energy efficiency advice adds 1p to the average annual bill, but bill payers are willing to pay 28p.	compared to RIIO-2 baseline volumes as follows 1) Appliance repair and replace following an NGN call out (target of 3,975 customers), 2) Enhanced carbon mono (target of 3,250 customers), and 3) Essential gas appliance servicing (target of 1 customers). 30,000 customers will receive energy advice during RIIO-3. up from RIIO-2. Some aspects of our SBMT programme are embryonic meaning we have not had baseline to work from for target setting. Therefore, we have looked at committing to an exportfolio of work that we can confidently and efficiently deliver. Our cost benefit analysis decision to bring the work in-house for GD3. As we scale-up the future programme we maximising learning to increase efficiencies further, and optimising the value of our intectstomers, tracked through SROI. Our support will keep people safe and warm by mai safety and efficiency of essential appliances, through preventative action to avoid or reduction incidents, and by assisting families in making simple, impactful changes to affordably heat The SROI our activities are proven to deliver is as follows:  • Carbon monoxide investigations: £8.52  • Appliance repairs and replacements: £2.75  • Energy efficiency advice £4.00  • Gas safety checks £2.75						
					NGN best placed	Triangulation	Value perception	SROI	СВА	Regulatory	Acceptance testing 79%
	Innovation strategy	Stakeholder engagement including Hot topic workshops and annual conference and depth interviews, ongoing conversations with large I&C customers and biomethane stakeholders, ongoing deliberative engagement with our longstanding Young Innovators Council to understand innovation priorities, Customer Value Perception research, bilateral conversations with Ofgem, DEZNZ, Northern Powergrid and Electricity North West, colleague engagement, reports such as Innovator Insights Survey Report 2022 EIC, Sustainability First FOG viewpoint, UKRI – Energy Networks Innovation Culture Exemplar	future, businesses including I&C and SMEs), stakeholders (consumer representatives, local government, industry	Customers are supportive of an innovation strategy that solves problems today but also prepares for a net zero future. A consensus exists around NGN pursuing low-regret innovation and development to support decarbonisation, such as investigating biomethane, hydrogen blending and hydrogen for industrial use. Innovation should be weighted towards supporting vulnerable customers. Future customers want to see whole-systems leadership.  Targets should be in place so NGN can be held accountable, and projects should deliver long- and short-term benefits.  The move away from ENA is an opportunity for NGN to take a leadership role among other GDNs.	Customer \ minimizing the like limited fur      Whole Ener innovate how water.     Repurposir distribution sy gas network in      Sustainable, de      Data and D      world-class tec      Customers and standards of a      customer direct to measure RC      models especifrom customer consistency. In      site to support projects.      NGN best	vulnerability: set transition's impleted transition's impleted to the set of these energy so these energy so these energy so the set of these energy so the set of these energy so the set of the set	Supporting vulne pact. We aim to a or access to low Reducing emission ources work toget Systems: Development of the part of th	rable custome ensure everyor carbon technis by integrat ther to cut carboning the technologist by all authorities and authorities and authorities are leaders in efficient and authorities as urement and we're adopting dertake a mark RnD projects del will be app GDNs, we will	rs through eneme benefits, esponsies. ing gas, electrication across tectrology needed end community ergy planning for by innovation, safety, Council have so benchmarking the collaboration for the collaboration of the collied to custom I utilise our exponsions.	ergy system cha specially those fa- sicity, and liquid in hnology, transport I to transition the g alternative use y networks in creand clean transport and clean transport and customer sectorically advocate g. To track delive tive benefits value eading cost benefits value exprimary driver er related innovisting National R	fuels. We will ort, heat, and he gas ses for existing port solutions. Is and adopting ervice. It does not be defined for high very aligned to lue framework efit assessment of affordability vation to ensure Research Village
					placed		perception			1 -	testing