Innovation Basecamp 2026

4th February 2026 – Park Plaza, London

Introduction

SSEN DISTRIBUTION NETWORK AT A GLANCE

Nearly **4 million** homes and businesses

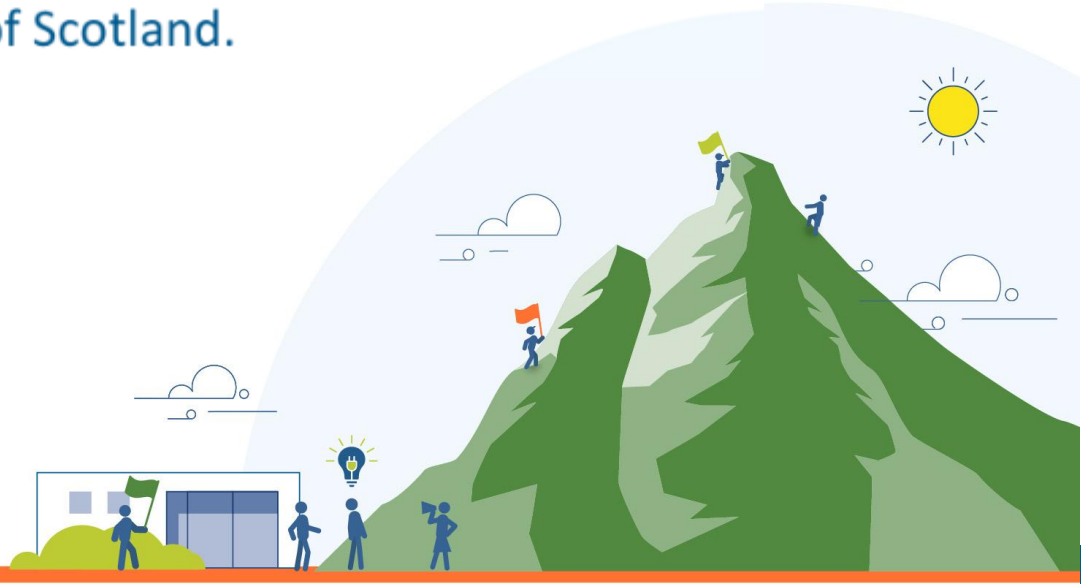
Over **128,000km** of overhead lines and underground cables

Over **460km** of subsea cables powering our island communities

Over **4,400** employees across the country

We're Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) Distribution, part of the SSE plc Group.

We're the Distribution Network Operator (DNO) responsible for delivering power to almost 4 million homes and businesses across central southern England and the north of Scotland.



Background Information

- **Reasons behind the problem statement?**

SSEN use a wide range of generators for both planned and unplanned shutdowns. These generators could be placed in any location, and this often means they are left in remote and isolated areas, which leave them vulnerable to theft or damage.

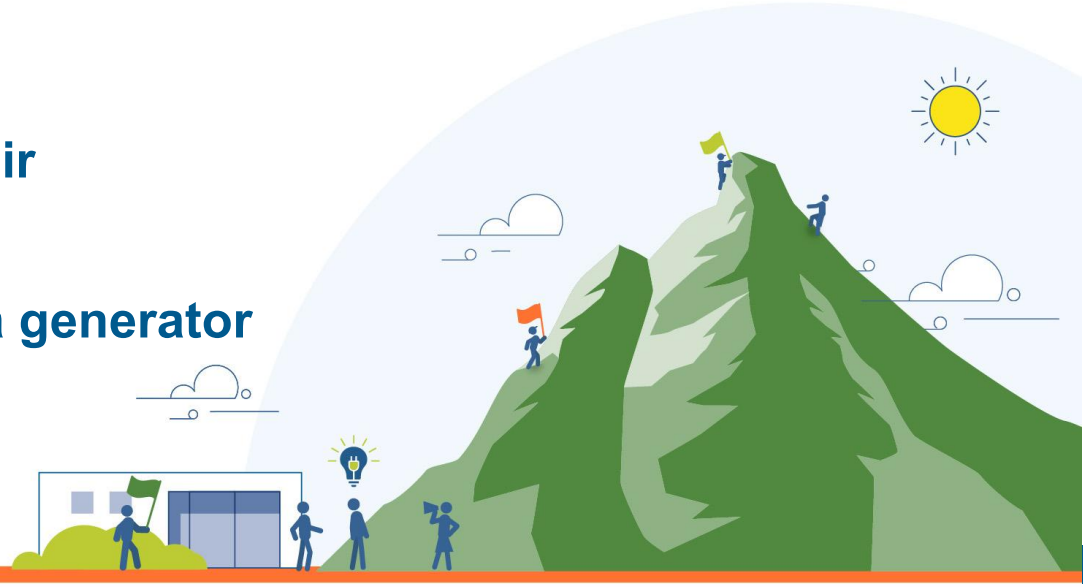
When a generator is damaged, it means the whole set needs to be replaced and repairs need to be completed. This removes the set from the fleet and could result in delays to planned work or customers experiencing longer unplanned loses of supply.

There is a particular problem with the leads being stolen – a form of copper theft. We have experience numerous issues of this happening with safety implications and further loss of supply for customers. We are especially looking for a solution to this issue.

What are the Problems?

- What are the key issues?
- We are not always able to select the locations where generation is required
- Sites often have easy access to roads
- We utilise several internally controlled generators and externally sourced units
- Size can vary from towed units to large container sized devices

- Why do you think these are the issues?
- Damage to the devices is costly and takes time to repair
- Significant safety implications
- Severely disruptive to those customers connected to a generator



Our Expectations

What are we looking for?

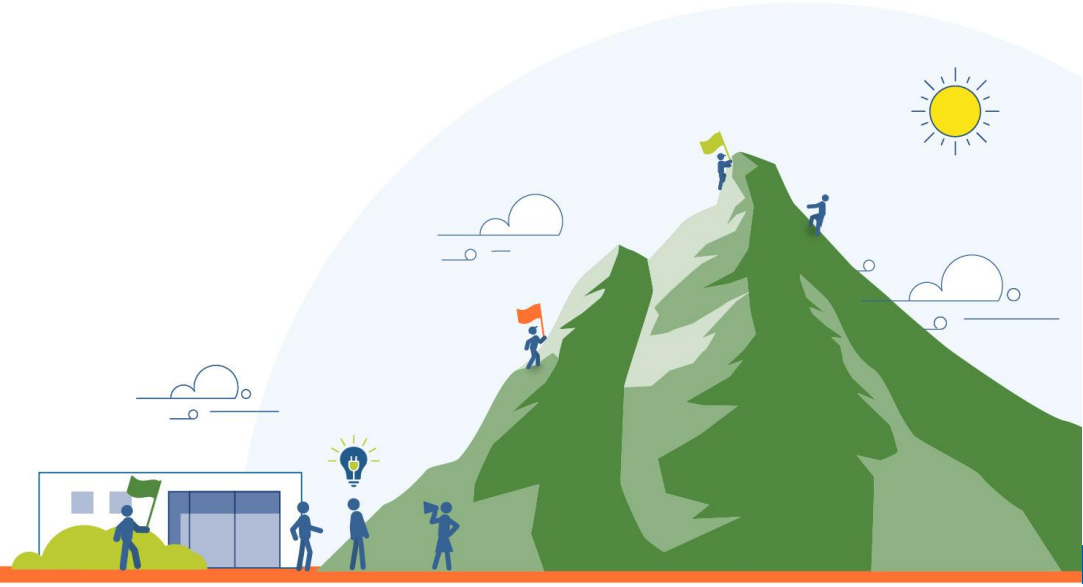
- **Solution Expectations:**
- **The device or solution should be able to prove how it can make the site more secure.**
- **The solution would need to be portable enough to be stored and moved with the generators and light enough that it could be installed by the crews on site.**
- **Any digital solution would need to comply to all our cyber security policies and be available to our control room and depot environments.**
- **Non-negotiables:**
- **Solutions can not contain or utilise any chemical deterrents.**
- **Solutions shouldn't utilise audio deterrents.**

IMPORTANT

We are looking for professionally presented plans.

Ideally, these will contain suggested work packages, partners, and costs.

A list of ideas without any delivery plans are unlikely to be taken forward.



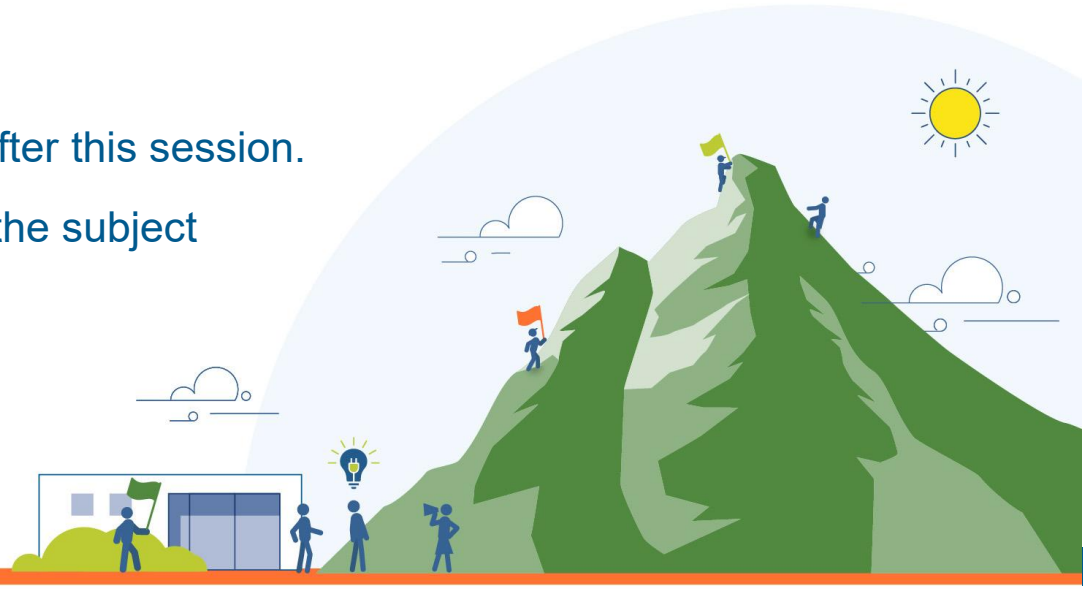
Questions:

Any questions please?

Key Contacts:

For further information and clarity, please see Simon, Divante or me after this session.

Alternatively, please email futurenetworks@sse.com at any time with the subject heading: **Basecamp26.**



Energy Networks Association
4 More London Riverside
London SE1 2AU
t. +44 (0)20 4599 7700

@EnergyNetworks
energynetworks.org

scan me

Subscribe to our newsletter to receive updates from ENA

energynetworks.org/**subscribe**

The voice of the networks