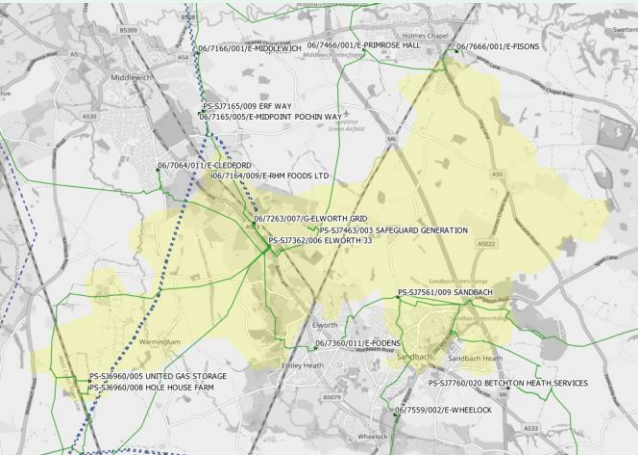


Sandbach primary reinforcement

Reinforce, supported by flexibility



The Sandbach primary substation comprises of a single 7.5MVA 33/11kV transformer, supplied from 4 x 33kV circuits in the Crewe/Coppenhall/Radway Green/Whitchurch grid supply group. The Sandbach primary network group supplies ca. 3,400 customers with a mix of domestic, industrial and commercial customers. The 11kV group network is normally operated split from the adjacent primary group network.

Constraint

THERMAL

The loading at the site is already very close to capacity. With forecast demand and LCT growth, this group is expected to exceed network capacity by 2025/26.

Decision

Reinforce, supported by flexibility

Install a new 10MVA 33/11kV transformer at neighbouring Fodens, and establish new 11kV interconnector between Sandbach and Fodens. Contract flexibility services to support the network during the project delivery.

Justification for decision

With the increased risk duration, capacity requirements and cost of flexibility services through RIIO-ED2, reinforcement deferral via flexibility services is not commercially viable.

Flexibility product

Scheduled Utilisation

Constraint season(s)

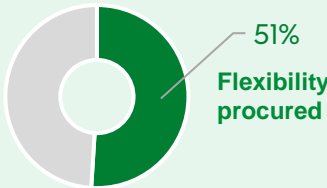
Year round

Flexibility guide price

Availability fee up to **£107/MW/hr**
Utilisation fee up to **£130/MWh**

Reinforcement timescale

2024/25



Flexibility position at March 2024	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Risk duration (hours)	327.5	669.0	1,187.0	2,020.0	3,134.5
Flexibility required (MW)	1.3	1.8	2.4	3.2	4.5
Flexibility procured (MW)	1.0	1.5	2.1	0.0	0.0
Flexible MW capacity met (%)	78%	86%	90%	0%	0%

Flexibility Tendering

Open

We are tendering for flexibility services at this location.

More information is available on the [PICLO Flex website](#)

Technical Appraisal

More detailed technical information on the nature of the constraint, network impacts, solutions considered and selected intervention are available in this scheme's [Engineering Justification Paper](#)

To ensure that our plans and publications cover the needs of our stakeholders, customers, and the communities we serve, we welcome ongoing feedback.

Feedback can be emailed to: systemdesignteam@spenergynetworks.co.uk