

Your Northern Gas Networks Update

Our Annual Innovation Report



We have now published our annual Innovation Report.

This report covers how we've used both our NIA and SIF funds in the 2023/24 regulatory year to undertake essential research and identify opportunities to develop new products, methodologies and services.

NGN receives funding from our regulator, Ofgem, which allows us to take forward innovation projects that will contribute to addressing challenges faced by vulnerable customers and facilitate the energy systems transition to a greener future.

In RIIO-1 we led successful innovation projects across both the **Network Innovation Allowance (NIA)** and **Network Innovation Competition (NIC)**.

The RIIO-2 settlement saw a continuation of NIA, with the NIC superseded by the new **Strategic Innovation Fund (SIF)**.

The report also demonstrates how we have continued to build on our evolving culture of innovation at NGN, investing in market-ready solutions and developing new ways of working into

our business-as-usual operations.

At the heart of all our activity is our focus to support customers in vulnerable situations, and we have increased collaboration with other gas and electricity network licensees, to ensure that all elements that may impact our customers are assessed.

[Read our report](#)

Other News

IGEM Gas Sector Engagement Event



Northern Gas Networks recently welcomed IGEM (Institution of Gas Engineers & Managers) and members of DNV, Cadent Gas Limited, National Gas, SGN and Wales & West Utilities to our NERV whole systems research facility near Gateshead.

Later this year, ESO (Electricity System Operator) that is responsible for planning and operating Britain's electricity and gas networks, is due to transition to NESO (National Energy System Operator). Its new role will include a whole system perspective, bringing plans together to efficiently deliver net zero.

We were delighted to take part in their day, discussing the role of gas in the journey towards a net zero energy system, and showing the team around Futures Close - our unique street of nine homes that has been built to replicate typical UK constructions from the 1910s to the 1990s, allowing us to trial and test heating and fabric improvements on houses from different building eras. Testing a wide variety of different retrofit technologies, the homes are playing an important role in understanding the challenges and opportunities for shaping future decarbonisation of UK domestic housing stock beyond new builds.

[Find out more](#)

Get Involved

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Northern Gas Networks would like to invite you to participate in our upcoming stakeholder conference. This event will be held simultaneously in person, at our office in Leeds (with lunch provided), and online.

The purpose of the event will be to seek feedback from key stakeholders such as yourself on the work we are currently doing and, importantly, it will provide an opportunity for you to shape and refine the commitments we will make in our upcoming Business Plan period (2026 – 2031).

As the gas network responsible for delivering gas to 2.7 million homes and businesses in the North East, Northern Cumbria and much of Yorkshire, we are facing a number of challenges as the gas sector undergoes a period of significant change. Energy prices remain high for customers, meaning that we need to keep bills affordable. However, we must do this while continuing to provide a safe and reliable service and one that meets the needs of all our customers, including those in vulnerable situations.

Importantly, we must also work to support the transition to a net zero future by incorporating greener sources of gas such as hydrogen while ensuring that we continue to maintain a resilient and secure network and business.

In order to address these many challenges, it is crucial that we engage with our key stakeholders and seek their feedback on our future plans. The conference will comprise a series of interactive discussion sessions with senior personnel at Northern Gas Networks on the topics that will form our Business Plan. To ensure that this event is accessible for everyone, we are giving you the option to attend in person at our offices in Leeds (with lunch provided) or online, if you prefer.

We do hope you are able to participate.

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