

Community Toolkit delivered in collaboration with customers and communities.

Community Toolkit is a key initiative to support customers and communities across Ireland in proactively managing their own energy use. The purpose of this document is to publish the proposed toolkit, and initiate the process of involving communities in its development, testing and adaptation from as of end Q2 2023, the roadmap and how you can get involved.

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Community Toolkit delivered in collaboration with customers and communities.

What we have proposed in this document is our preliminary proposal as Distribution System Operator (DSO) of the tools and supports which will support communities in achieving their goal in having sustainable community energy*.

With this publication, we are beginning the process of actively seeking your input into supporting development, testing and adaptation of the Community Toolkit.

The Community Toolkit is a suite of tools and supports, being delivered on a new, centralised platform, including dashboards, information and demand flexibility initiatives.

This publication marks the beginning of our process to involve communities in the development, testing and adaptation of the toolkit, to ensure our proposed tools and supports reflect communities' priorities and self-identified needs.

*By community energy we mean any community who choose to act together to progress energy awareness or initiatives, and includes but is not limited to Sustainable Energy Communities as defined by the SEAI, Renewable Energy Communities and Citizen Energy Communities as defined in the Clean Energy Package.

KEY QUESTIONS ADDRESSED IN THIS DOCUMENT



Ambition

What are we trying to achieve in partnership with communities across Ireland?



Roadmap

How will we support community energy?
What does a community toolkit include?
What is the proposed functionality?



Involvement

What is the approach to deliver in collaboration?
How can I or my community get involved?



Ambition

What are we trying to achieve?



We want electricity customers and communities across Ireland to have the tools and support they need to proactively manage their own energy use.



We want to empower customers & communities to take control of their demand by building awareness and education on what flexibility is.



We want to couple data and digital technologies with behavioural insights to gain a deep understanding of community needs so that we can deliver convenient community-specific experiences to make it easy to participate in flexibility markets and make active choices about energy use, individually and as a community.



We want to deliver a toolkit on a new platform which provides local and regional energy dashboards for communities, new community markets and services which apply innovative approaches like gamification and community rewards, and transparent market reporting.



Roadmap

How will we support community energy?

We have built capability, and we will build upon that foundation in delivering community accessible tools through ongoing involvement.

The Community Toolkit going live from 2023 includes community dashboards delivering live local energy data and forecasts, along with educational tools and market based incentives which reward energy communities for choosing to locally balance their demand and renewable generation. This toolkit will support community energy in each of the specific areas of focus which SEAI Sustainable Energy Communities have identified an interest or area of activity to date:



*These are key areas of interest as set out on the SEAI Sustainable Energy Communities Programme:
www.seai.ie/community-energy/sustainable-energy-communities



Roadmap

What does a Community Toolkit include for a participating community?

Welcome to Freaghbreen* Community Toolkit

This is Freaghbreen*, which is representative of over 750 local energy communities which currently exist in Ireland.

They have a special interest in renewable energy, taking control of how they use energy and transitioning to a low carbon community.

What new tools are we proposing to support the Freaghbreen energy community over the next 3 years to take control of their energy usage?

The screenshot shows the 'Freaghbreen Community Toolkit' interface. On the left is a dark sidebar with the ESB NETWORKS logo and navigation links: Dashboard, Forecasts, Products & Services, My Community, and Available Support. The main content area has a top navigation bar with 'Week', 'Month', and 'Year' tabs. The central content is a 3-year roadmap:

- 2023:** Community energy information and forecasts
- 2024:** Educational support packs, New community products and services
- 2025:** Enhanced tools/ supports informed through collaboration and development of products/services

*Freaghbreen is a fictitious town created for illustration purposes only.



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Roadmap

Welcome to Freaghbreen* Community Toolkit 2023

Welcome to Freaghbreen* Community Toolkit

2023:
Community energy information and forecasts

What new tools are we proposing to support the Freaghbreen energy community in 2023?

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Roadmap

Welcome to Freaghbreen* Community Toolkit 2024

Welcome to Freaghbreen* Community Toolkit

2024:
Educational support packs, new community products and services

What new tools are we proposing to support the Freaghbreen energy community in 2024?

Freaghbreen Community Toolkit

Week Month **Year** 2024

ESB NETWORKS

- Dashboard
- Forecasts
- Products & Services
- My Community
- Available Support

2024 Tools:

- View of Daily constraints & Renewable Energy Events
- Access to community support services portal
- Dynamic Insights to community energy usage
- Information tools on how to secure a flexible DER connection
- Instructions on how to participate in flexibility schemes
- Ability to measure performance against other energy communities

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Roadmap

Welcome to Freaghbreen* Community Toolkit 2025

Welcome to Freaghbreen* Community Toolkit

2025:
 Enhanced tools/supports informed through collaboration and development of products/ services

What new tools are we proposing to support the Freaghbreen energy community in 2025?

Freaghbreen Community Toolkit

Week Month **Year** 2025

ESB NETWORKS

- Dashboard
- Forecasts
- Products & Services
- My Community
- Available Support

| | |
|---|--|
| Register to participate in flexibility events | Achieve Community Certification |
| Submit Bids and Participate in Flexibility Market | Future capability informed through collaboration |
| Access Community Account for Rewards | Track Carbon Reduction |

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Involvement Approach To Deliver In Collaboration

Learning & Collaboration



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Involvement

DSO Toolkit Delivered in Partnership with Customers and Communities

What we have proposed in this document is our preliminary proposal as Distribution System Operator (DSO) of the tools and supports which will support communities in achieving their goal in having sustainable community energy*.

With this publication, we are beginning the process of actively seeking your input into supporting development, testing and adaptation of the community toolkit.

To get involved please **email engagement@esbnetworks.ie** to register for our stakeholder database where we will be issuing our calls for input or follow ESB Networks on Twitter or LinkedIn.

*By community energy we mean any community who choose to act together to progress energy awareness or initiatives, and includes but is not limited to Sustainable Energy Communities as defined by the SEAI, Renewable Energy Communities and Citizen Energy Communities as defined in the Clean Energy Package.