



SONI Forward Work Plan 2024-25

Appendix 4
Commercial Interface

Northern Ireland
September 2024

SONI Deliverables 2024-25

Role 4 Commercial Interface

The SONI Forward Work Plan provides details on the various projects and programmes of work that will be undertaken over the period from October 2024 to September 2025. This appendix provides further detail on those deliverables associated with Role 4 Commercial Interface and should be read in conjunction with the main document.

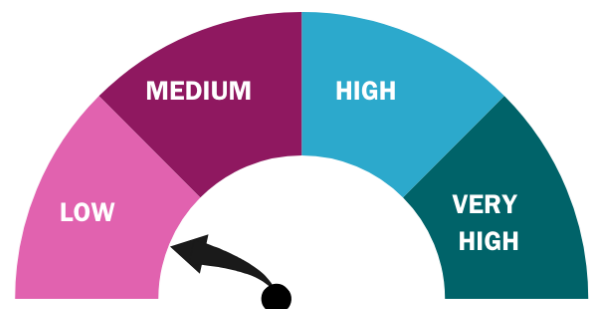
Cost Scale

SONI have created a Cost Scale in order to assist the audience in understanding the scale and/or importance of a project, and detailed where on this scale each project lies. The costs indicated are SONI related costs and do not cover any costs accrued by any stakeholder SONI may be collaborating with on said project.

This scale applied is detailed in the table below, the gauge icon will be used in the detailed project information for each deliverable.

LOW	£0-£500K
MEDIUM	£500K-£1M
HIGH	£1M-£5M
VERY HIGH	£5M+

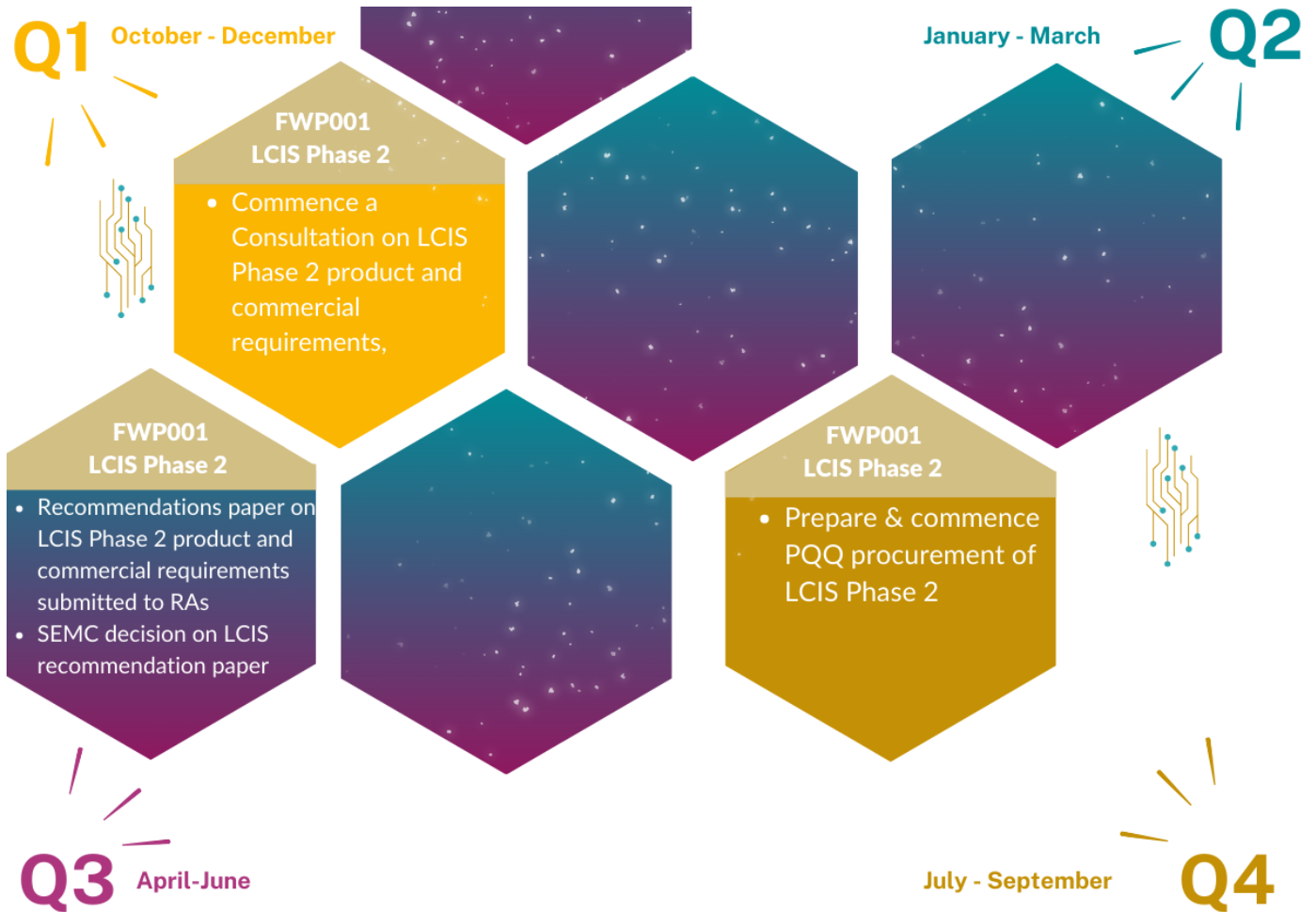
Cost Scale Table



Cost Scale Gauge

Project Overview

The table below provides a complete view of a number of projects being progressed by SONI across Role 4 Commercial Interface. Additional detail is provided around these projects and associated deliverables following this summary.



Role 4 Projects

Project	Milestone	Timescale	Performance Measure	Project Carried forward
FWP001 LCIS Phase 2	1. Commence a consultation on LCIS Phase Two product and commercial requirements	December 2024	Timely delivery of recommendations paper to Regulatory Authorities	Yes
	2. Recommendations paper on LCIS Phase 2 product and commercial requirements submitted to RAs	April 2025		
	3. SEMC decision on LCIS recommendation paper	May 2025		
	4. Prepare & commence PQQ procurement of LCIS Phase 2	July 2025		

Detailed Programme of Deliverables

Role 4

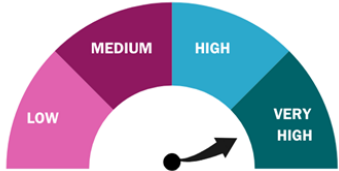




Low Carbon Inertia Services (LCIS) Phase 2

The Single Electricity Market Committee (SEMC) has requested that the TSOs carry out an assessment and bring forward proposals for a fixed term procurement in relation to low carbon inertia services (LCIS). The motivation for this request is to support the integration of technologies which can facilitate a reduction in the quantity of carbon intensive conventional generation required on the all-island power system. This reduction will facilitate the further integration of renewable generation and contribute towards achieving our 2030 Renewable Energy Source (RES) targets.

FWP001: Low Carbon Inertia Services

Description of Activities	<p>LCIS is a critical service to deliver on the Government’s renewable energy ambitions to 2030. LCIS is required to enable relaxation of operational constraints and to accommodate more wind and solar generation. Therefore, the basis of this programme of work is to develop a process to procure LCIS in order to meet our requirements and achieve our targets.</p> <p>The procurement of LCIS will follow a phased approach. In Phase 1, LCIS will comprise the provision of synchronous inertia, reactive power support, and additional system strength (short circuit contribution) and the procurement will focus on our 2026 requirements. A Phase 2 will follow to meet our 2030 requirements.</p> <p>Phase 1 was completed in the 2023/24 Forward Work Plan. Details of the steps taken in this are below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Commence Tender (RfP) process2. Tender (RfP) Outcome
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	<p>Following completion of Phase 1, Phase 2 will commence in 2024/25. The purpose of Phase 2 is to deliver additional services to allow for further relaxation of the Minimum conventional units online (MUON) constraint and locational considerations.</p> <p>The detailed technical requirements for LCIS Phase 2 technical studies are to be completed in Q4 2024; outcome and results approved via internal governance to progress consultation phase in Q4 2024.</p> <p>Planned activities for 2024/25 are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Commence a consultation on LCIS Phase 2 product and commercial requirements. 2. Recommendations paper on LCIS Phase 2 product and commercial requirements submitted to RA's. 3. SEMC decision on LCIS recommendation paper 4. Prepare & commence PQQ procurement of LCIS Phase 2
<p>Key Benefits</p>	<p>Key benefits of these deliverables are listed below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Reduced Carbon Intensity: The transition to new sources of low-carbon system services will significantly lower the carbon footprint compared to legacy plants, supported the broader goal of achieving net zero emissions. ❑ Enhanced Security and Reliability: A balanced portfolio of energy sources, including batteries, demand-side solutions, interconnectors, and renewable gas-ready conventional capacity, ensures a secure safe, and reliable transmission system. ❑ Diverse and flexible energy supply: This deliverable will facilitate the procurement of all forms of low-carbon generation, allowing greater flexibility in electricity supply and enhancing the grid's ability to adapt to varying conditions. ❑ Improved Grid Security and stability: SONI believe this project deliverable will contribute to a more secure and stable grid by integrating various low-carbon energy providers, thereby enhancing the overall security of supply and aligning with the SONI Grid Security outcome. ❑ Facilitation of the net zero transition: Supports a secure transition to a net-zero energy system by ensuring that new, less carbon-intensive capabilities replace older, higher-emission sources.

<p>UR Strategic/ Service Priorities</p>	<p>A culture of effective engagement and collaboration, developing markets through competition and stakeholder engagement and collaboration.</p> <p>The Low Carbon Inertia Services project is a key part in awarding contracts which will facilitate a low carbon future. SONI is being proactive in our engagement surrounding the procurement of, and contractual approach, to LCIS. SONI considers this demonstrates our agility and responsiveness to changing policy and market development through competition and engagement activities with stakeholders.</p>
<p>Engagement</p>	<p>A similar engagement approach as was taken for Phase 1 will be adopted for Phase 2. SONI have maintained a consistent flow of communication with Regulatory Authorities through workshops and fortnightly meetings. These sessions allowed us to provide regular updates on progress and gather valuable input, ensuring transparency and alignment with regulatory expectations.</p>
<p>Performance Measure</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete an effective consultation window 2. Timely delivery of recommendations paper to RAs 3. Commence LCIS procurement process by Spring 2025
<p>Timescale</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consultation on LCIS Phase 2 product and commercial requirements – December 2024 2. Recommendations paper on LCIS Phase 2 product and commercial requirements submitted to RAs – April 2025 3. SEMC decision on LCIS recommendation paper – May 2025 4. Prepare & commence PQQ procurement of LCIS Phase 2 – July 2025
<p>Cost Scale</p>	
<p>SONI Outcome</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Decarbonisation</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Grid Security</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>System Wide Costs</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Stakeholder Satisfaction</p> </div> </div>