

# Maintenance Programme Review 2023/24

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# Introduction

This report provides a summary of the maintenance and investment activities that took place during the 2023/24 year and details any changes that were made to the maintenance plan as published on 31 March 2023. This report is published in line with our obligations in Special Condition 5.6 (Part G: Maintenance and Operational Planning) in our gas transporters license in respect of the National Transmission System (NTS).

To ensure a high level of safety and reliability in operation, it is essential that a system of inspection and maintenance exists for assets associated with the transmission of natural gas. Effective maintenance is essential to minimise the potential safety and environmental risks caused by the failure of pipelines and plant.

In order to facilitate work on the NTS, it is sometimes necessary to require network outages or impose operating restrictions (e.g., where steady gas flows may be required). This may affect one or more parties connected to the NTS including:

- Gas-fired power stations and large industrial consumers
- Gas Storage Facilities
- Gas Entry facilities
- Distribution Networks
- Interconnectors

This report covers work scheduled including maintenance activities on the NTS from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024. It does not include maintenance carried out upstream of the NTS by Delivery Facility Operators (DFOs) and Producers or downstream of the NTS by Distribution Networks Operators or large connected users.

We work closely with our customers to ensure any impacts due to our maintenance activities are kept to a minimum and endeavour to meet our firm Exit Capacity obligations. The Uniform Network Code (UNC) enables National Gas Transmission to inform NTS Users of intended “Maintenance Days” where maintenance activities will have an impact on a specific site connected to the NTS. These Maintenance Days are notified in advance of the work to provide NTS Users with an opportunity to discuss the timing and impact and for us to respond to any industry requests for further information.

Where possible National Gas Transmission always endeavours to align its NTS maintenance activities with our customers own outages to minimise any potential disruption to gas supplies. Where this is possible National Gas Transmission will issue the customer an “Advice Notice”, notifying them of our planned work, aligned with their own outage.

If you have any queries, questions, or feedback regarding the information contained within this document, please contact us via e-mail at [NTSAccessPlanning@nationalgas.com](mailto:NTSAccessPlanning@nationalgas.com)

## Maintenance Work in 2023/24

Primarily the maintenance activities that can impact our customers are because of routine maintenance, asset replacement, pipeline inspections, and faults as well as work to facilitate investment in the NTS which may be because of a new connection or capacity requirement.

During the 2023/24 maintenance programme, a wide range of maintenance activities were carried out which had the potential to impact our customers. Through careful planning and regular customer liaison, we aim to minimise these impacts. This is not always possible and Maintenance Day notifications will be issued in these circumstances to allow the maintenance to be completed safely.

As shown below, the majority of maintenance activities were carried out without the use of Maintenance Days and therefore had no impact on our customers. This may be because the activity did not have any direct impact on a customer due to the geographic location, strategic network configurations were employed, or because the activity was aligned directly with our customer's outages, mitigating any potential impact. The majority of the maintenance activities carried out in 2023/24 were managed without the need for calling Maintenance Days, mainly due to an increased focus on customer impacts.

## Overview of NTS maintenance activities undertaken in 2023/24 impacting customers and requiring Maintenance Days

Maintenance Activity	Completed Maintenance Activities	Potentially Impacting Activities	Impacting Activities	Maintenance Days Called
In Line Inspections (ILI)	18	6	0	0
Compressor Jobs	176	0	0	0
Defect Inspections	22	4	0	0
Enhanced Gas Monitoring Programme (EGMP2) works	0	0	0	0
Flow Weighted Average Calorific Value (FWACV) Works	9	0	0	0
Gas Quality, Metering & UPS	51	0	0	0
Remote Telemetry Unit (IRIS) Replacement	3	0	0	0
New NTS Connections	1	0	0	0
Pipeline/AGI	379	0	0	0
Cyber / Telemetry	59	0	0	0
DSEAR Inspections	13	0	0	0
Remote/Local Valve Operations	198	29	1	1

Note: All maintenance activities listed under the “Potentially Impacting” column that did not result in Maintenance Days being called were either managed through the alignment of works or by other engineering and strategic processes.

## Overview of changes made to NTS maintenance activities in 2023/24

Maintenance Activity	Planned jobs	Completed to plan	Completed with amendments	Replanned	Cancelled
In Line Inspections	18	16	2	0	0
Compressor Jobs	189	158	18	6	7
Defect Inspections	22	19	3	0	0
Enhanced Gas Monitoring Programme (EGMP2) works	0	0	0	0	0
Flow Weighted Average Calorific Value (FWACV) Works	9	8	1	0	0
Gas Quality, Metering & UPS	53	49	2	2	0
Remote Telemetry Unit (IRIS) Replacement	6	3	0	2	1
New NTS Connections	3	0	1	2	0
Pipeline/AGI	381	357	22	0	2
Cyber / Telemetry	65	59	0	6	0
DSEAR Inspections	13	13	0	0	0
Remote/Local Valve Operations	219	159	39	21	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>978</b>	<b>841</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>10</b>

National Gas Transmission always aims to minimise the impact of planned maintenance on customers through a transparent and flexible approach, endeavouring to align all maintenance activities with customer outages where feasible and practical.

Each year we ask when our customer's outages are to enable alignment of works. If customer outages or other operational plans change at any time, we request to be notified as soon as possible so that we can consider whether we also can realign our planned maintenance activities.

There may be occasions when either National Gas Transmission or our customers ask for work to be rearranged or altered in some way. In 2023/24, our initial draft plan was published in January, to enable customer feedback prior to publishing the final plan by 1 April 2024.

There were no changes initiated by National Gas Transmission during the maintenance period for 2023/24 but we facilitated a number of change requests initiated by our customers.

## Length of Short and Long Line In-Line Inspections (ILIs)

Date	Type of ILI undertaken (Long/Short) <sup>1</sup>	Length of Run (Km)	Time taken to complete (Days)
10/04/2023	Long	44.00	3
24/04/2023	Long	55.70	3
08/05/2023	Long	69.43	3
05/06/2023	Long	94.77	3
26/06/2023	Long	89.91	2
02/07/2023	Long	62.14	2
17/07/2023	Long	50.61	3
18/09/2023	Long	39.75	3
25/09/2023	Long	59.66	3
02/10/2023	Long	17.48	3
16/10/2023	Long	36.15	6
16/10/2023	Long	42.48	4
27/10/2023	Short	6.15	3
30/10/2023	Long	30.34	3
06/11/2023	Long	78.35	7
13/11/2023	Long	45.53	3
27/11/2023	Long	37.52	4
18/02/2024	Long	34.42	4

The number of days taken to complete each run is broadly in line with previous years.

<sup>1</sup> Long In-Line inspection is longer than 10 km

## Enabling Flexibility

Sometimes standard maintenance approaches may not be optimal for our customers. Where this is the case, a bilateral contract (known as the Minor Works Agreement) can be utilised to enable parties to agree on a different, one-off way of completing specific maintenance. This enables customers to pay the incremental costs of working flexibly outside normal working practices pending our ability to accommodate such a request. For example:

(a) Customer-initiated requests for us to change our planned maintenance to a non-standard arrangement, such as requesting planned maintenance during non-standard hours (e.g., weekends or bank holidays).

(b) Customer-initiated requests for National Gas Transmission work e.g., the isolation of the customer's supply using National Gas Transmission plant to facilitate the customer's own works.

If you would like to talk to us about these potential options, please contact us at:

[box.SCM.GTO@nationalgas.com](mailto:box.SCM.GTO@nationalgas.com).



## General Queries

Further information on the maintenance activities undertaken by us is available on our website.

If you have any queries or questions regarding the information contained within this document, please contact:

[NTSaccessplanning@nationalgas.com](mailto:NTSaccessplanning@nationalgas.com)

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We would welcome any feedback from you in relation to the maintenance programme or the way in which this information is provided. If you would like to provide feedback, please contact us via email above.

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