

# The Tide

Welcome to Xoserve's monthly Project Trident newsletter, **The Tide**, providing a summary of our progress, sharing updates and upcoming work as we work through our UK Link modernisation project together.

To ensure you can access the latest information, we are maintaining our [Project Trident homepage](#) with all the latest materials, including our active Project Trident Q&A log.

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## Trident's top three: Headlines for the month

1. Procurement PQQ evaluation and down selection now complete
2. Project Trident introduces Procurement Assurance Reporting for DSC Contract Managers
3. Chris Logue announced as Steering Committee Customer Advisor - Transporters

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### 1. Procurement PQQ evaluation and down selection now complete

We're pleased to share an update on our ongoing procurement process.

Following our previous update in The Tide edition #17, confirming both Pre-Qualification Questionnaires (*Procurement 1: Transformation Partner* and *Procurement 2: Core Services Partner*) have been issued, we have now completed the evaluation stage for both PQQs as expected. Based on this assessment, we have successfully down-selected a shortlist of three suppliers for each procurement, who will progress to the Request for Proposal.

The next phase will focus on the Request for Proposal for *Procurement 1: Transformation Partner* (RFP1). The Request for Proposal for *Procurement 2: Core Services Partner* (RFP2) will continue as expected in the second half of 2026 following a full internal review and governance prior to release.

RFP1 procurement will start with a first Statement of Work for a first phase of work, "Tranche A". We expect to then issue additional tranches of Transformation Partner support packages in three further Tranches, subject to the development and validation of

our requirements. This approach allows us to refine requirements incrementally, with no commitment to progress beyond Tranche A.

Tranche A will outline our detailed requirements, objectives, and evaluation criteria for our Transformation Partner, which will help set the foundation and processes for Transformation including its Technology Roadmap which incorporates aspects of Project Trident replacement of the UK Link core. The RFP1 invites suppliers to submit comprehensive proposals explaining how they would meet these requirements.

The shortlisted RFP1 suppliers will submit their responses and then progress into collaborative solutioning, to further explore and refine proposals. This will ensure we identify the best possible outcome aligned to our objectives and your expectations. We expect to share the outcomes from the next stage by end of half one 2026.

We will continue to keep you informed as the process progresses. If you have any questions, please contact [communications@xoserve.com](mailto:communications@xoserve.com).

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## **2. Project Trident introduces Procurement Assurance Reporting for DSC Contract Managers**

We received great feedback from our Customers on our procurement decision-making and assurance at the Project Trident Customer Day in February.

**The Customer Engagement Day presentation can be found here**

As a result, we will be introducing dedicated Independent Project Assurance (IPA) reports for DSC Contract Managers and Customer Engagement Representatives during the procurement phase of Project Trident. The reports will be produced alongside key procurement milestones throughout our process until summer 2027.

Given the need to maintain commercial sensitivity and competition, these will give a clear overview of the process from an assurance perspective without sharing commercially sensitive information.

We are expecting to launch the first report to Contract Managers and their nominated engagement representatives in May 2026.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch by emailing [communications@xoserve.com](mailto:communications@xoserve.com).

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### 3. Chris Logue announced as Steering Committee Customer Advisor - Transporters

We are pleased to announce that Chris Logue will be joining the Project Trident Steering Committee as the new Customer Advisor – Transporters.

Chris is a Chartered Engineer, with a strong background in senior regulatory and commercial roles across the gas sector. He brings extensive industry experience in both UK and European gas and energy, having held senior regulatory and leadership positions at National Gas, where he was Head of Markets, and Shell, where he led the gas regulation team for Northwest Europe.

Chris has experience of holding Xoserve leadership to account on behalf of gas transmission in his previous role as a non-executive Director of the organisation. He has also previously held board positions in Brussels with Gas Infrastructure Europe and ENTSOG.

With his detailed knowledge of gas regulations and background on supporting management boards, he will provide independence and challenge to the Project Trident Steering Committee on behalf of the gas transporters.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to **Jeremy Bending**, our previous Customer Advisor – Transporters. We appreciate the invaluable time and expertise he shared with us even during his short time on Project Trident.

The purpose of the Customer Advisors is to bring a customer perspective to the highest level of Project Trident governance: building greater transparency, credibility, and stakeholder trust within Project Trident decisions. The Customer Advisors are intended to:

- Bring independence, challenge & advice to the Project Trident Steering Committee;
- Provide the “Voice of the Customer”, but not as representatives of any company or constituencies;
- Contribute towards decision-making;
- Engage with customers and provide relevant updates to Project Trident forums;

- Supplement the existing governance, assurance, and stakeholder engagement functions for Project Trident.

Customers can contact Gareth and Chris by email, using “Project Trident” in the subject line. Please allow for a short delay in responses:

- Gareth Evans (Customer Advisor – Shippers): [gareth@waterswye.co.uk](mailto:gareth@waterswye.co.uk)
- Chris Logue (Customer Advisor – Transporters): [chris.logue@cjlenergy.com](mailto:chris.logue@cjlenergy.com)

They are also available at pre-arranged drop-in sessions:

- **IGT Constituency:** 28 April
- **DN Constituency:** 7 May
- **Shippers:** 15 May, 10:00 – 10:45

Thank you for your continued support as we progress Project Trident. If you have any feedback on Project Trident or what you’d like to see next, please email us via [communications@xoserve.com](mailto:communications@xoserve.com).

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## Stay in touch

If you have any feedback on the newsletter, its content or what you’d like to see next, please email us via [communications@xoserve.com](mailto:communications@xoserve.com). Otherwise stay tuned for more updates and thank you for your continued support.

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