North Sea Transition Authority

CS Stewardship Survey 2026 Summary of Changes

from the 2025 CSS Survey

Date of publication 27/10/2026

The document can be found on the NSTA's website.

Copyright © NSTA 2026

You may re-use this information free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the NSTA's User Agreement. To view this, visit: https://www.nstauthority.co.uk/site-tools/access-to-information/ or email correspondence@nstauthority.co.uk

This document is available in large print, audio and braille on request.
Please email: correspondence@nstauthority.co.uk with the version you require.

Enquiries to:
North Sea Transition Authority
50 Broadway
London
England
SW1H 0DB

Email: correspondence@nstauthority.co.uk

Published by the North Sea Transition Authority

Contents

1. Introduction 4
2. General 4
   2.1. Deadlines 4
   2.2. User guide 4
   2.3. Confirming pre-populated data 4
   2.4. Conditional formatting 4
   2.5. Data validation rules 4
3. Survey section details 5
   3.1. Store details and plans 5
   3.2. Store activity details 5
   3.3. Well details 5
   3.4. Licence geophysical data 5
   3.5. Store forecasts 5
4. Help and support 6

1. Introduction

The NSTA aims to maintain a broadly standard survey so that data can be collated, compared, and contrasted with previous annual datasets. However, small changes may occur and will be communicated accordingly.

This document defines the main changes that have been made to the 2026 CSS Stewardship Survey, taking into consideration feedback received from operators following the 2025 survey.

2. General

2.1. Deadlines

The Survey is open for the same length of time as last year.
It will go live on Monday 2 November 2026 and will close on Friday 29 January 2027.

Operators can expect to receive clarification requests during February/March, whilst the data is being quality checked.

2.2. User guide

The CSSS User guide has been updated following the QC/clarification period last year and feedback from operators. Updates within the User guide are highlighted in yellow.

2.3. Confirming pre-populated data

The template for 2026 is pre-populated, where applicable, with the data that was submitted last year written in red.

Action: As you review the data, change the font colour to black.
This will act as a means of confirming that you have assessed the previous data and either accepted it or updated it.

Note:
It is the responsibility of the operator/licence holder SPA (Single Points of Accountability) to ensure that the data submitted is accurate.

2.4. Conditional formatting

Conditional formatting has been incorporated that will turn a cell background dark grey to indicate no data should be entered into the cell based on data entered into a previous cell.

2.5. Data validation rules

Data validation rules have been updated to restrict the data entered and minimise erroneous data.

3. Survey section details

The following changes have been implemented in the specified section of the Survey:

3.1. Store details and plans

1. Renamed the ‘Method of transport’ column header to ‘Method of offshore transport’ and reduced the number of selection options, to clarify that NSTA are requesting data about the offshore transport of CO_2 to the storage site.
2. Added the column ‘Comments – Store details & plans’ so that operators can enter further details to support or explain any data you have submitted regarding:
   a) the store structure, capacities, CO_2 stream, transportation and infrastructure,
   b) additional information required to explain the allocation of the forecasted data for an activity within worksheet ‘5 – Store # - forecasts’

3.2. Store activity details

No changes have been made to the ‘Store activity’ details section of the survey.

3.3. Well details

1. Added the column ‘Previous Well reference’ to enable operators to select a wellbore ID from the list of wells previously submitted into the CSSS, or state that a required wellbore ID has not been submitted into a previous CSSS.
2. Renamed the ‘Well reference name’ column header as ‘Wellbore ID’ to match the identifier used in WONS.
3. Reordered/renamed the first four columns to ‘CS Licence’, ‘Store that the well sits in’, ‘Previous Well reference’, and ‘Wellbore ID’.
4. Renamed the ‘Is this an existing well?’ column header as ‘Existing well’.

3.4. Licence geophysical data

1. Added the column ‘Organisation’ to be able to link a geophysical survey submitted in the NDR to an organisation.
2. Renamed the 'Is the data intended to be used as a baseline survey’ column header as ‘Baseline survey data’.

3.5. Store forecasts

1. Updated the profile years so that they run from 2025 through to 2075.
2. Renamed the column ‘Total ABEX (£ MM)’ to ‘Total POCEX (£ MM)’ to emphasise that the cost estimates are for post-closure expenditure.

4. Help and support

If you require help or support whilst completing the Carbon Storage Stewardship Survey, please email CSSS@nstauthority.co.uk and the team will respond as quick as possible.

North Sea Transition Authority

Copyright © North Sea Transition Authority 2026

The North Sea Transition Authority is the business name for the Oil and Gas Authority, a limited company registered in England and Wales with registered number 09666504 and VAT registered number 249433979. Our registered office is at 50 Broadway, London, England, SW1H 0DB.