



# HEAT SEMINAR

DRIVING STRATEGIC HEAT DECARBONISATION

26 FEBRUARY 2025 | GLASGOW

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# State of the nation – the future of heat

Chaired by Helen Melone, Head of Heat & Solar,  
Scottish Renewables

**Esther Harris**  
Senior Analyst  
Climate Change Committee

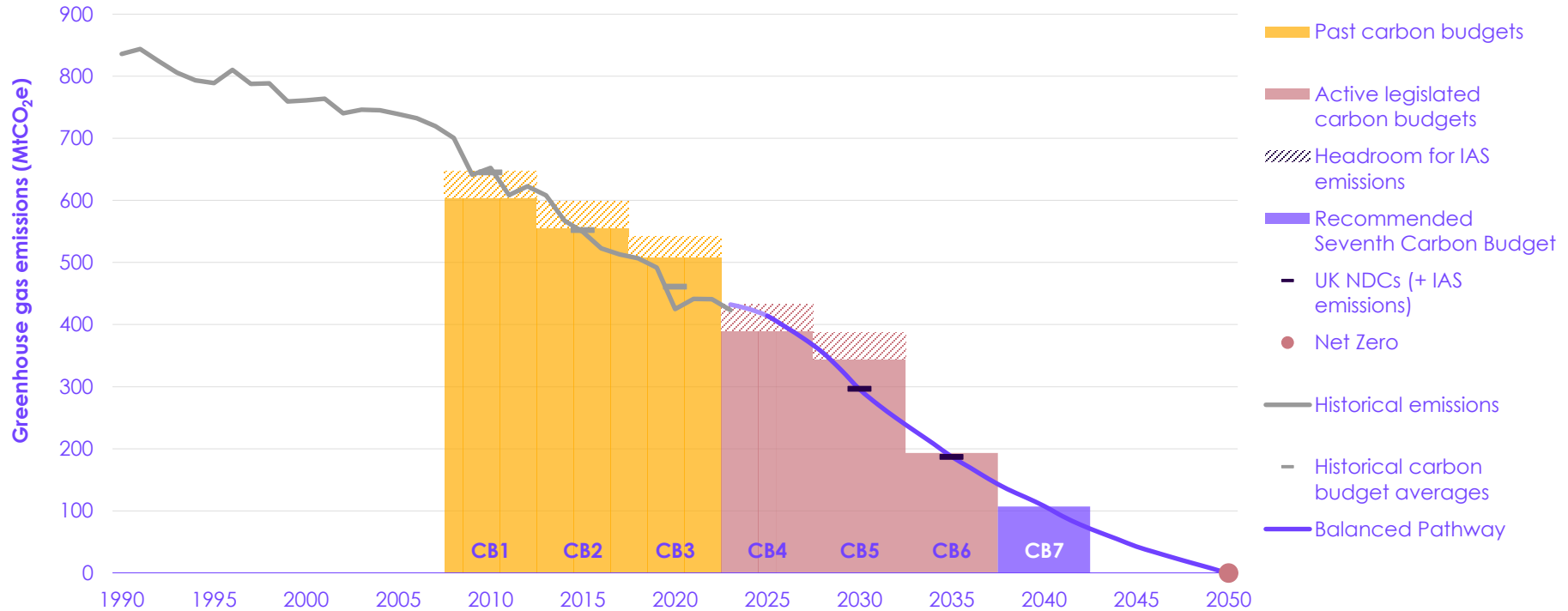
26 February 2025

# Seventh Carbon Budget advice: Pathway for residential buildings

Esther Harris

# The recommended Seventh Carbon Budget

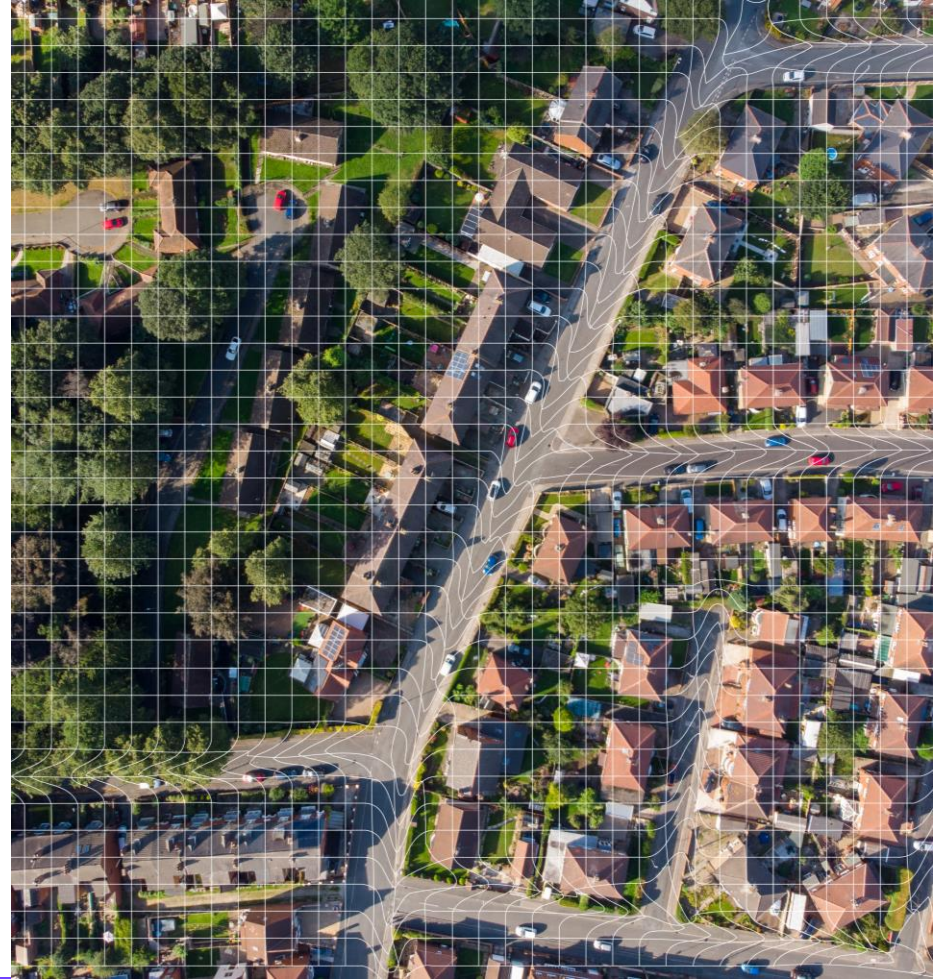
Our Balanced Pathway meets all existing carbon budgets, the UK's NDCs, and Net Zero



Source: CCC analysis.

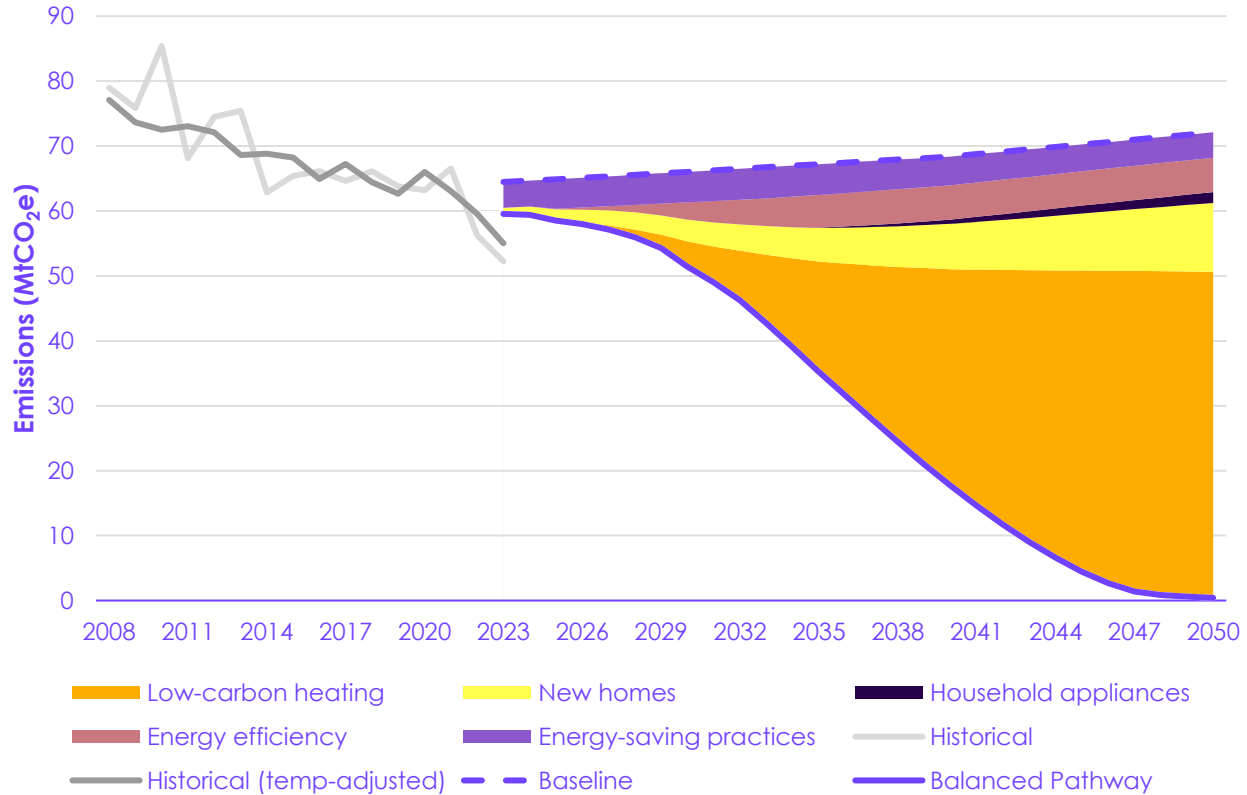
## Key messages for heating in the buildings sector

- Electrification of heating is essential to eliminating emissions from buildings.
- There is no role for hydrogen.
- Energy efficiency provides important near-term emissions reductions, delivering health benefits including reduced fuel poverty in the residential sector.
- Significant scale-up is required in the heat pump supply chain to reach required deployment rates for Net Zero.
- Households will need better incentives to adopt low-carbon heating, including cheaper electricity.
- The public sector decarbonises heat ahead of the commercial sector, with the Government leading by example.



# Sources of abatement in the Balanced Pathway

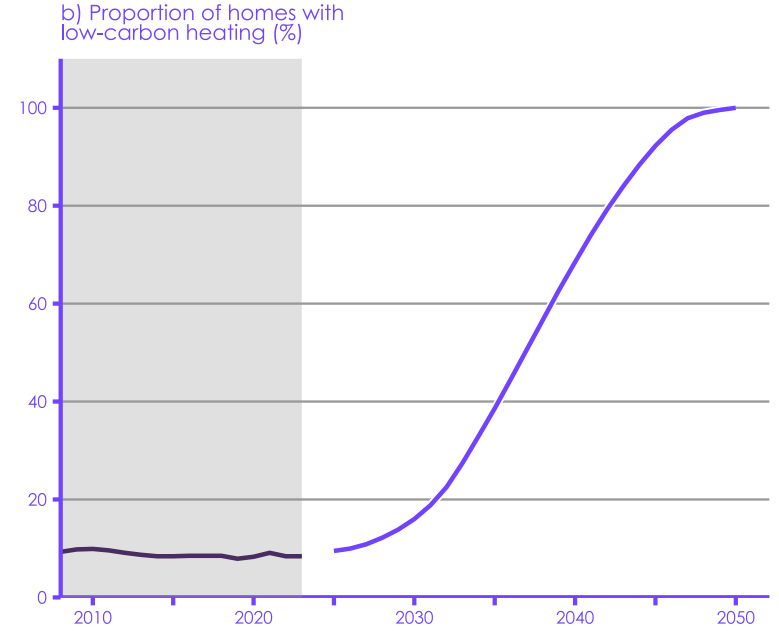
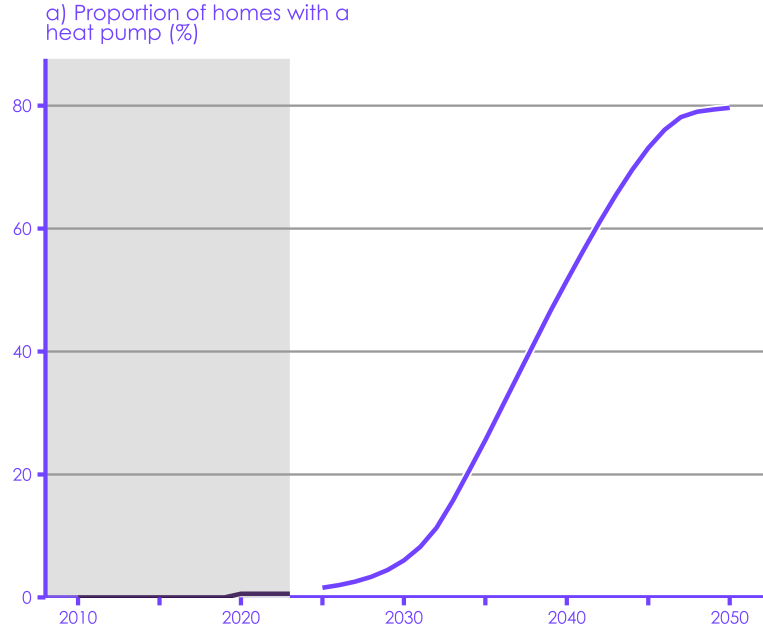
## Residential buildings





# Key indicators for the buildings sector

## Low carbon heat roll out



— Historical

— Balanced Pathway

1st Floor, 10 South Colonnade  
Canary Wharf  
London, E14 4PU  
[www.theccc.org.uk](http://www.theccc.org.uk)

# Stewart Reid

## Head of Future Networks

### SSEN Distribution

# SSEN APPROACH TO NET ZERO

**STEWART REID**  
HEAD OF FUTURE NETWORKS  
SSEN (DISTRIBUTION)



**Scottish & Southern  
Electricity Networks**

DSO Powering Change



# SSEN's STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

Making decisions today considering long-term and whole system needs.

Forecasting needs



Create strategic plan



Develop detailed options



Deliver projects



SSEN DISTRIBUTION FUTURE ENERGY SCENARIOS 2023

Results and methodology report for the North of Scotland

March 2024



JUST TRANSITION, VULNERABILITY AND FUTURE ENERGY SCENARIOS

Planning for a fairer net zero future  
September 2024



SSEN Distribution  
**STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANS METHODOLOGY**  
Draft for consultation  
October to December 2023



**STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN – KINTORE GRID SUPPLY POINT**  
February 2025



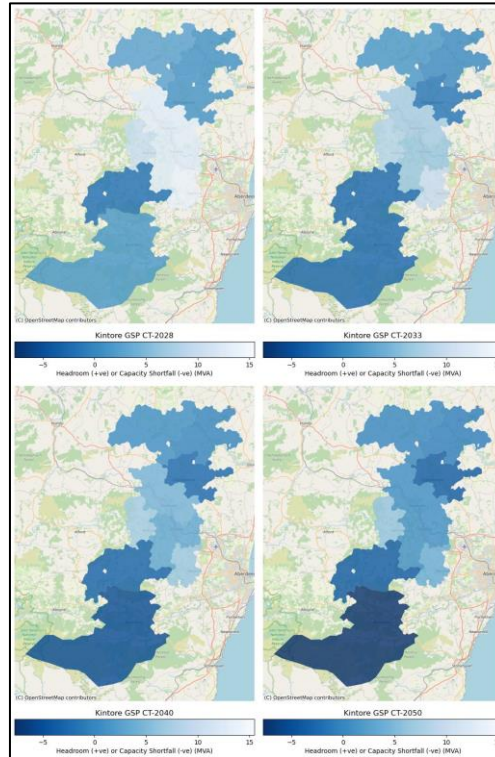
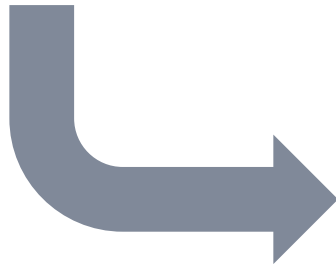
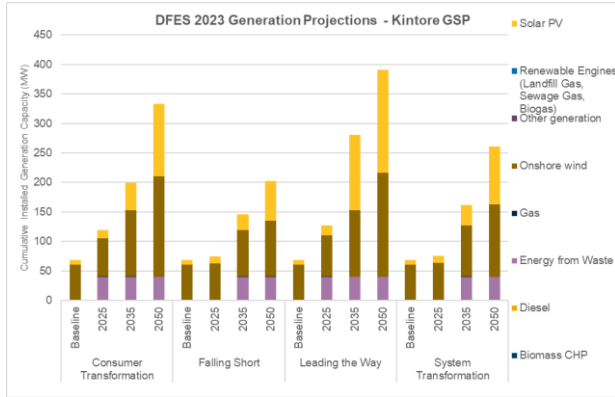
SSEN Distribution  
**DISTRIBUTION NETWORK OPTIONS ASSESSMENT (DNOA) METHODOLOGY**  
March 2024



SSEN Distribution  
**DNOA OUTCOMES REPORT**  
January 2025



# KINTORE GRID SUPPLY POINT – CASE STUDY



## DNOA Outcome Report

### Banchory (Banchory Primary/Circuits)

**Scheme description**

- The reinforcement of the Banchory PDS will increase capacity in the Banchory area (Priority 1 PDS, PDS1, PDS2)
- Local delivery: Approved by Council
- Lead related - substation and circuit thermal overhead/underage issues during network state conditions due to forecasted demand growth.

**Proposed option**

- Feasibility/Asset Solution: Utilise flexibility for 3 years ahead of Banchory PDS reinforcement and circuit reinforcement
- The option addresses the forecasted thermal overhead and underage issues of Banchory PDS out to 2050.
- Capacity released: 12.14MW

**System need requirement**

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**DNOA History**

2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29
0	0	0	0	0

**Indicative flexibility price (if available)**

- Availability price: £100/MWh
- Utilisation price: £120/MWh

**Reinforcement timeline**

- Feasibility solution rolled from start of 2026/27 until end of 2026/28
- Reinforcement delivery by end of 2026/28

**Estimated peak MW outside firm network capacity under each scenario**

Grey font refers to additional peak MW without reinforcement delivery

	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31
CT	-	-	0.05	0.83	1.65	(2.41)	(3.23)
ST	-	-	-	-	0.04	(6.30)	(6.63)
LTW	-	0.19	0.68	1.38	2.13	(2.87)	(3.79)
FS	-	-	-	-	-	(8.05)	(8.30)

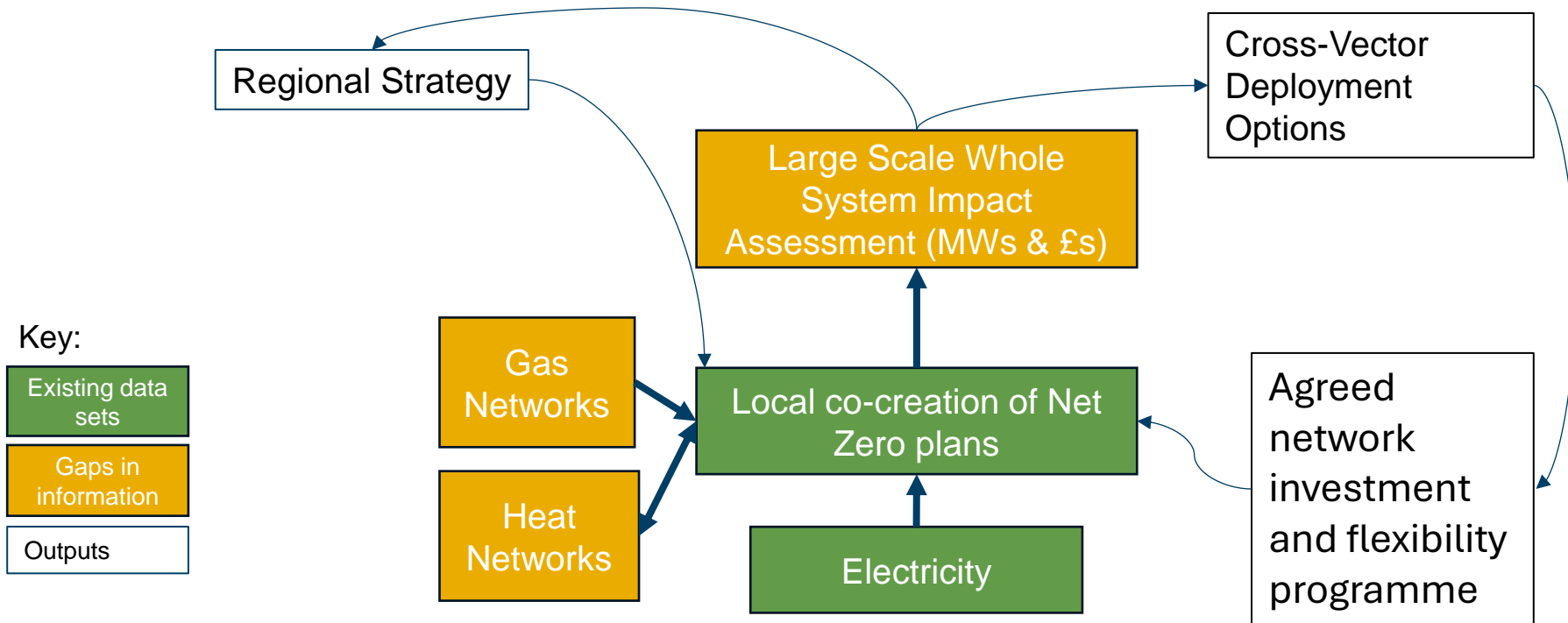
**Constraint management timeline**





# WHOLE SYSTEM DATA VISION

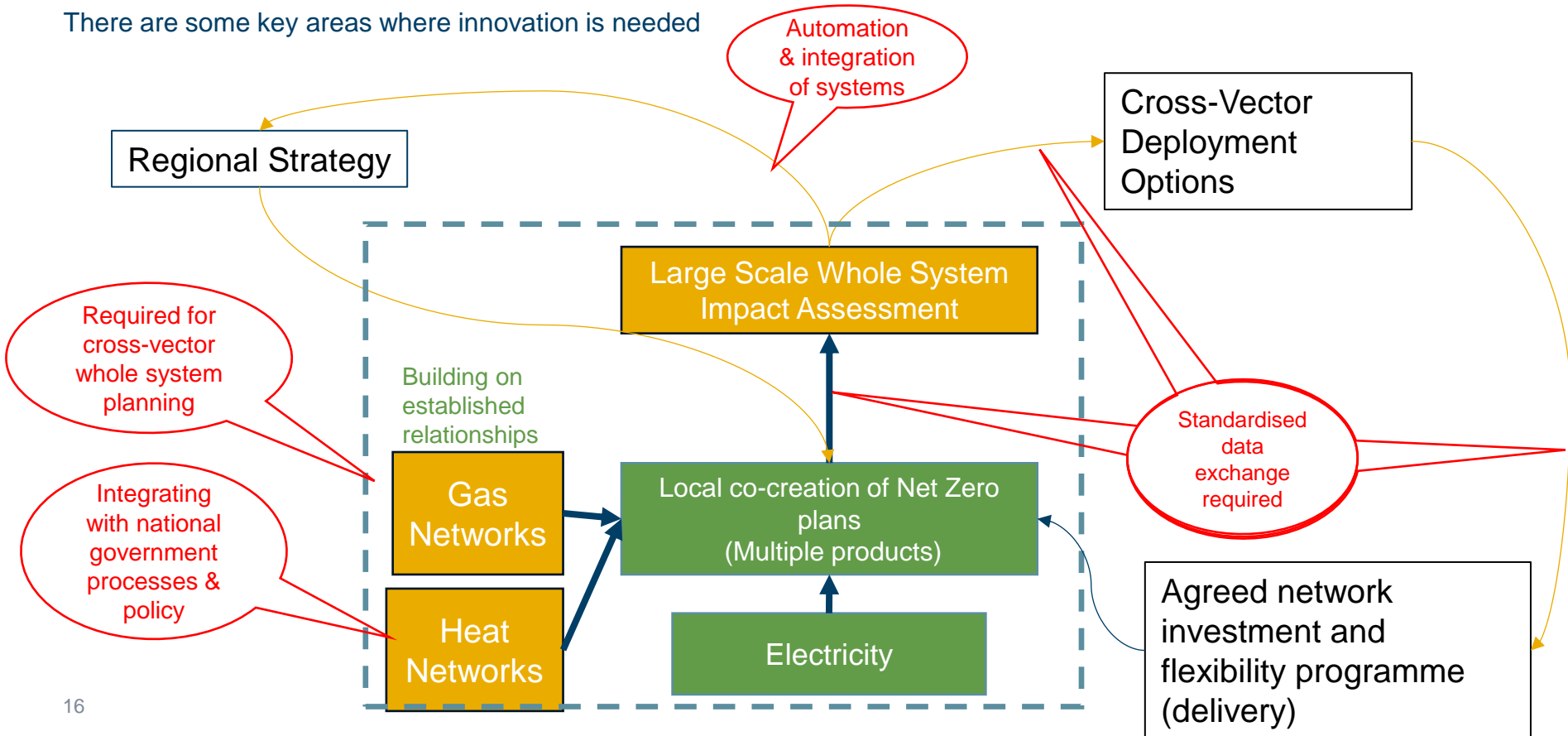
Our vision for **whole system coordination** sees network organisations (NESO, DNOs, GDNs, TOs etc) collaborating with Local Authorities to exchange standardised data for the development of local strategies and optimised plans.





# WHOLE SYSTEM PROCESS VISION GAPS

There are some key areas where innovation is needed







# THANKYOU

**STEWART REID**  
HEAD OF FUTURE NETWORKS  
SSEN (DISTRIBUTION)



**Scottish & Southern**  
Electricity Networks

DSO Powering Change

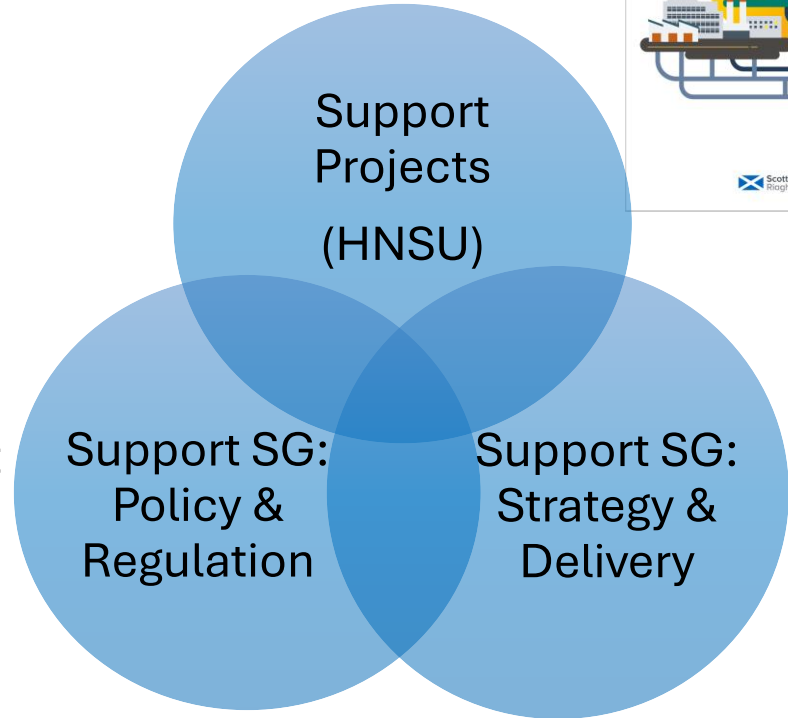
**Sheelagh MacGregor**  
Associate Director – Net Zero  
Scottish Futures Trust

# State of the Nation: the future of heat

Sheelagh MacGregor  
Associate Director  
Scottish Futures Trust  
26 February 2025

# Scottish Futures Trust & Heat Networks

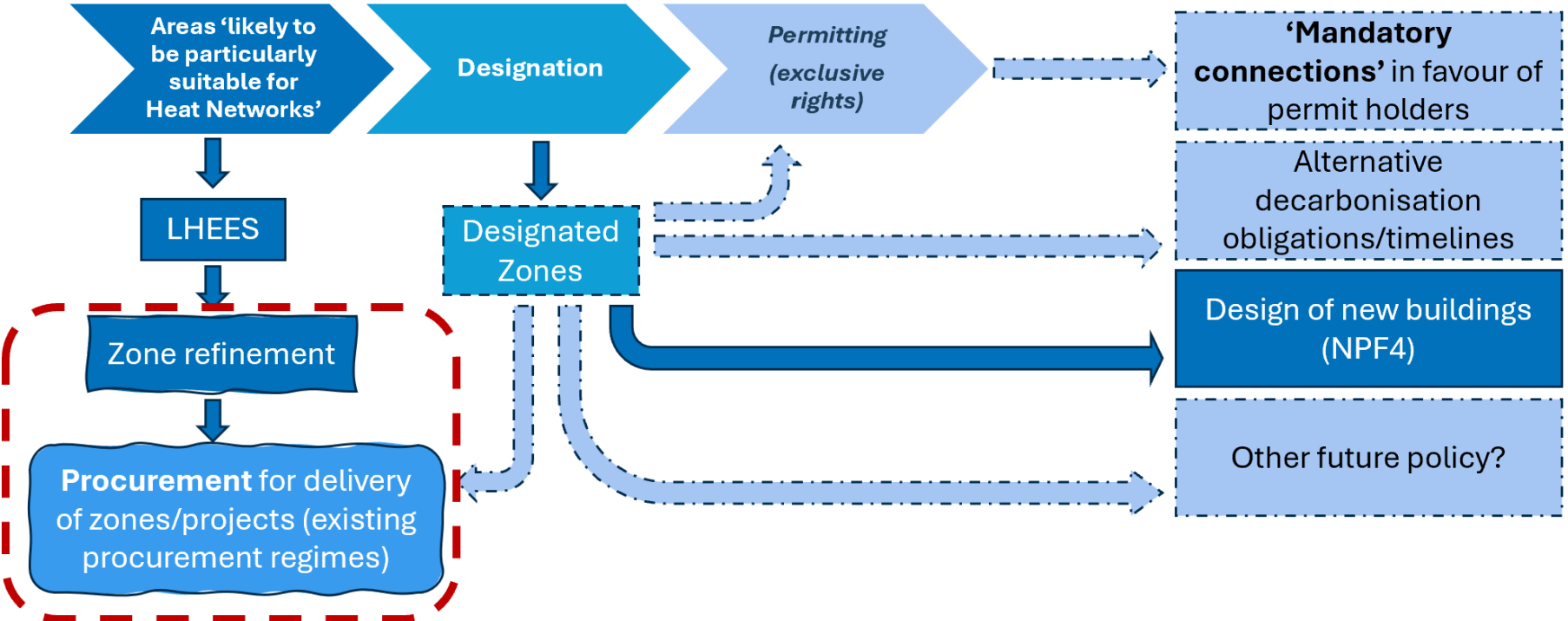
- **Scottish Futures Trust** – infrastructure ‘centre of excellence’, helping maximise the benefits from infrastructure projects
- Multi-disciplinary specialists supporting Scottish Government & the public sector with infrastructure **strategy, policy** and **delivery**
- **Net Zero Buildings team** – supporting decarbonisation of the built environment
- Part of the **Heat Network Support Unit** helping organisations create investable heat network projects



# State of play: zoning & delivery

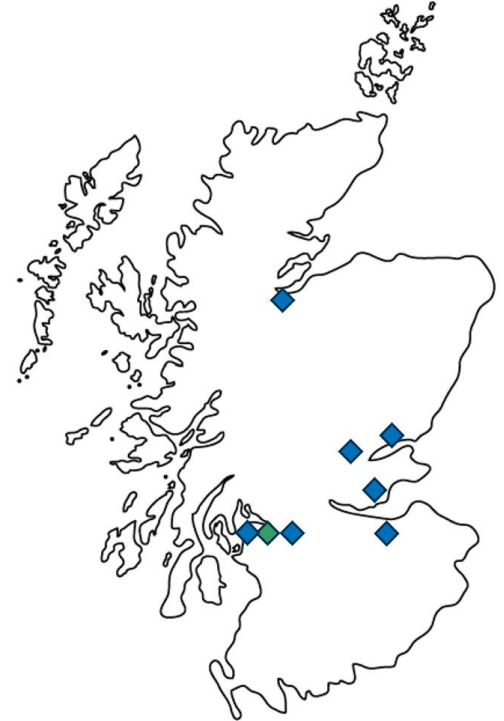
Other potential roles for **designated zones** in policy & potential future legislation

## Heat Networks (Scotland) Act 2021

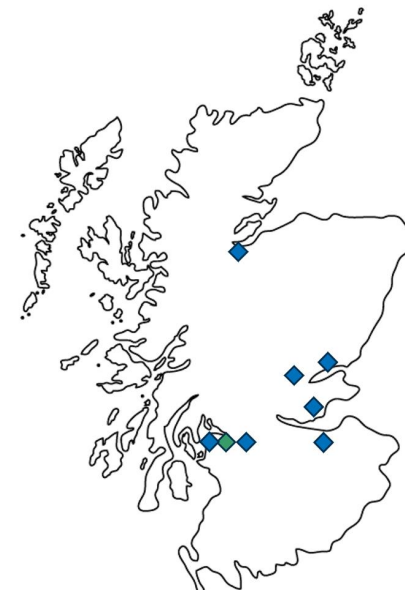


# HNSU: 'Critical friend' support & development funding

- ◇ **Technical studies:** pre-feasibility, feasibility and addendums for specific heat network opportunities. Led by Zero Waste Scotland.
- ◆ **Outline Business Case:** Specific projects which have a completed feasibility (with promising outcomes) and are ready to proceed to outline business case stage. Support led by SFT (*Renfrewshire*).
- ◆ **Strategic Support:** Supporting local authorities in developing a strategic approach to deploying large scale Heat Networks in their respective areas;
  - Technical work to refine LHEES 'areas' and to try and understand potential of entire zones and cities/towns.
  - Legal/commercial support to consider delivery models and procurement routes.
  - Multi-year projects.
  - Joint support from ZWS and SFT (Edinburgh; Glasgow; Perth & Kinross; Dundee; Fife; Inverness; Inverclyde).
  - Materials & guidance being developed to share with Local Authority Forum e.g. Route Map (publication soon).



# Some strategic questions...



How best to match heat demand & low carbon supply?

How do we determine the appropriate scope?

How can we get early private sector involvement **and** secure best value?

Procurement readiness: how much information is enough?

How can we address fuel poverty objectives?

Anchor load commitments: how far do we need to go?

Procurement: can existing routes meet the ambition?

Sheelagh MacGregor  
sheelagh.macgregor@scottishfuturestrust.org.uk



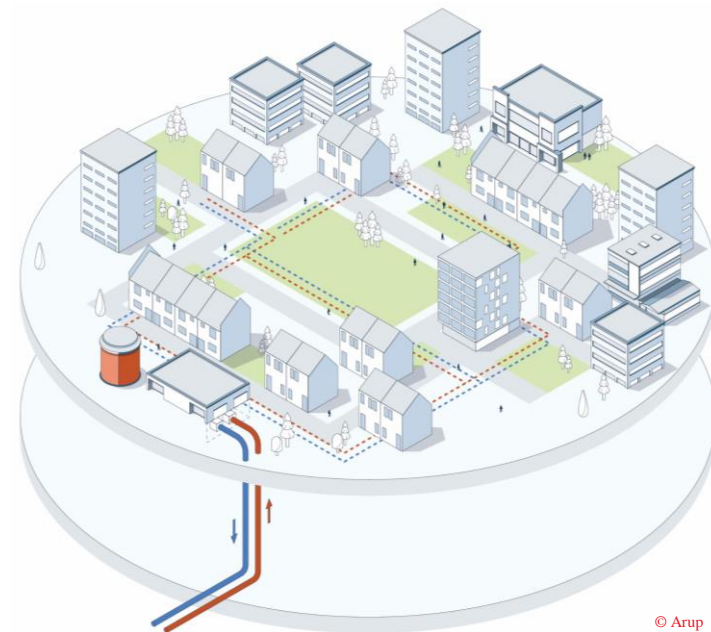
# Stuart Hallett

## Urban Energy North Lead

### Arup

# Think Bigger, Think Smaller

## The Future of Heat in Scotland



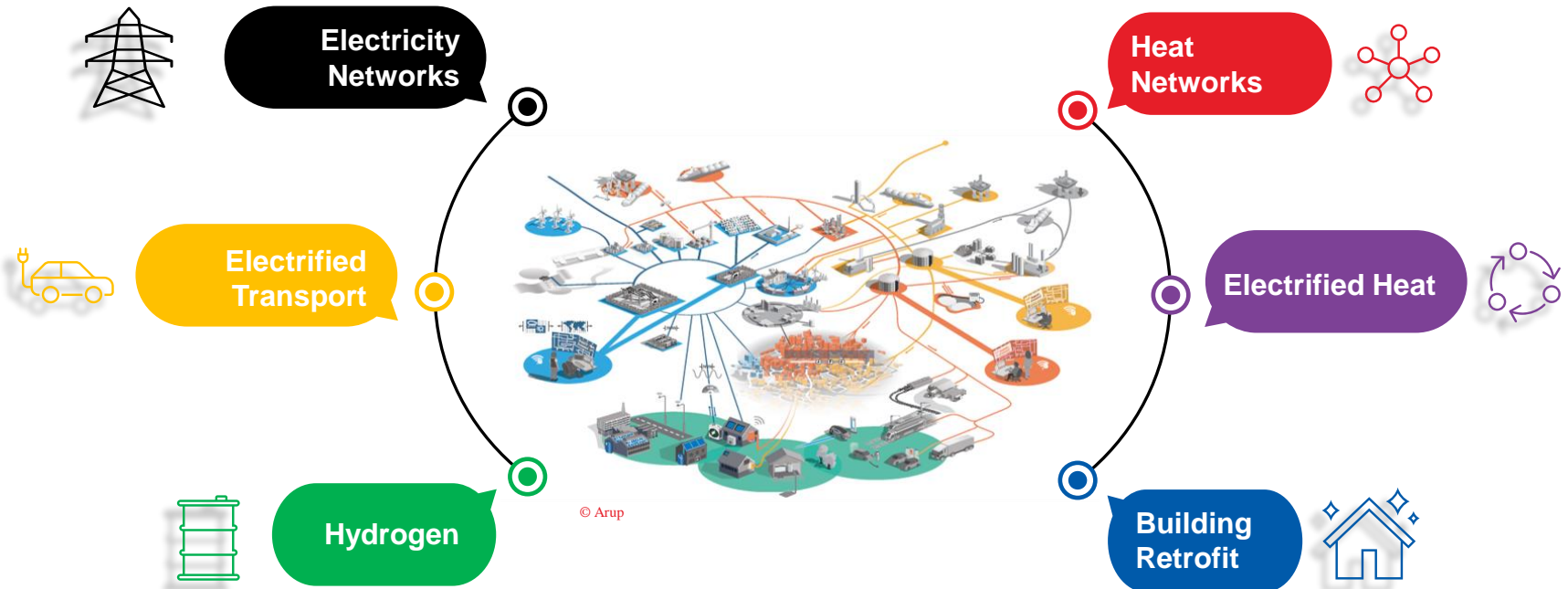
© Arup

**Stuart Hallett**

Scottish Renewables: The Future of Heat (February 2025)

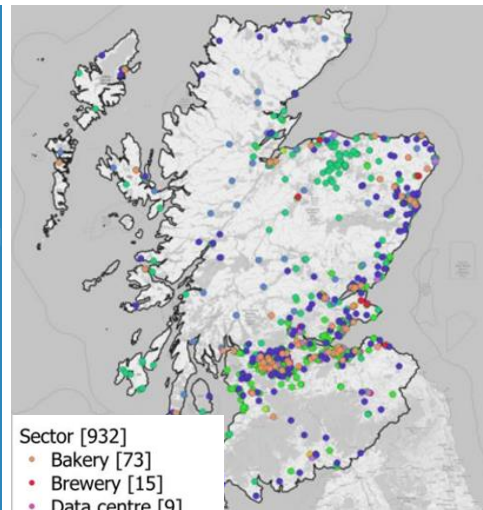
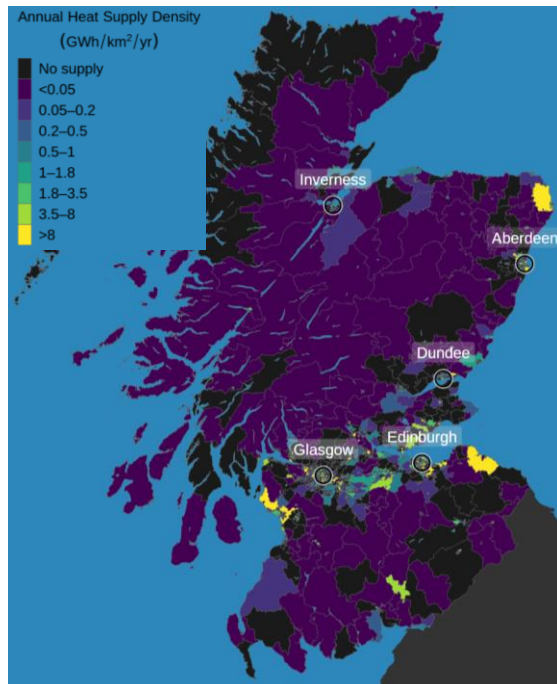
# Systems Thinking

Heat is part of a future multi-vector, complex and interdependent system



# Surplus Heat

An untapped opportunity input to the heat vector

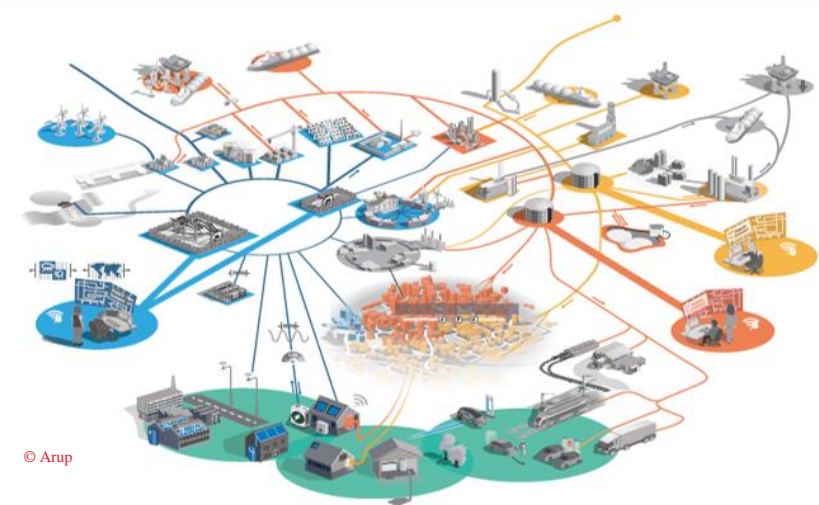


Sector	Count
Bakery	[73]
Brewery	[15]
Data centre	[9]
Distillery	[129]
Landfill	[180]
Laundry	[10]
Paper and Pulp	[6]
Substation	[55]
Supermarket	[431]
WWTP	[24]

- Heat Networks Act (Scotland) sets statutory targets for the amount of heat to be supplied by heat networks:
  - 2.6 TWh (by 2027)
  - 6 TWh (by 2030)
- Previous research\* has identified over 900 sites in Scotland with 1.7 TWh of waste heat potential.
- Can Scotland maximise the reuse of industrial waste heat as a source of relatively cheap heat for an expanding heat network market...

# System Solutions

At the heart of an integrated solution



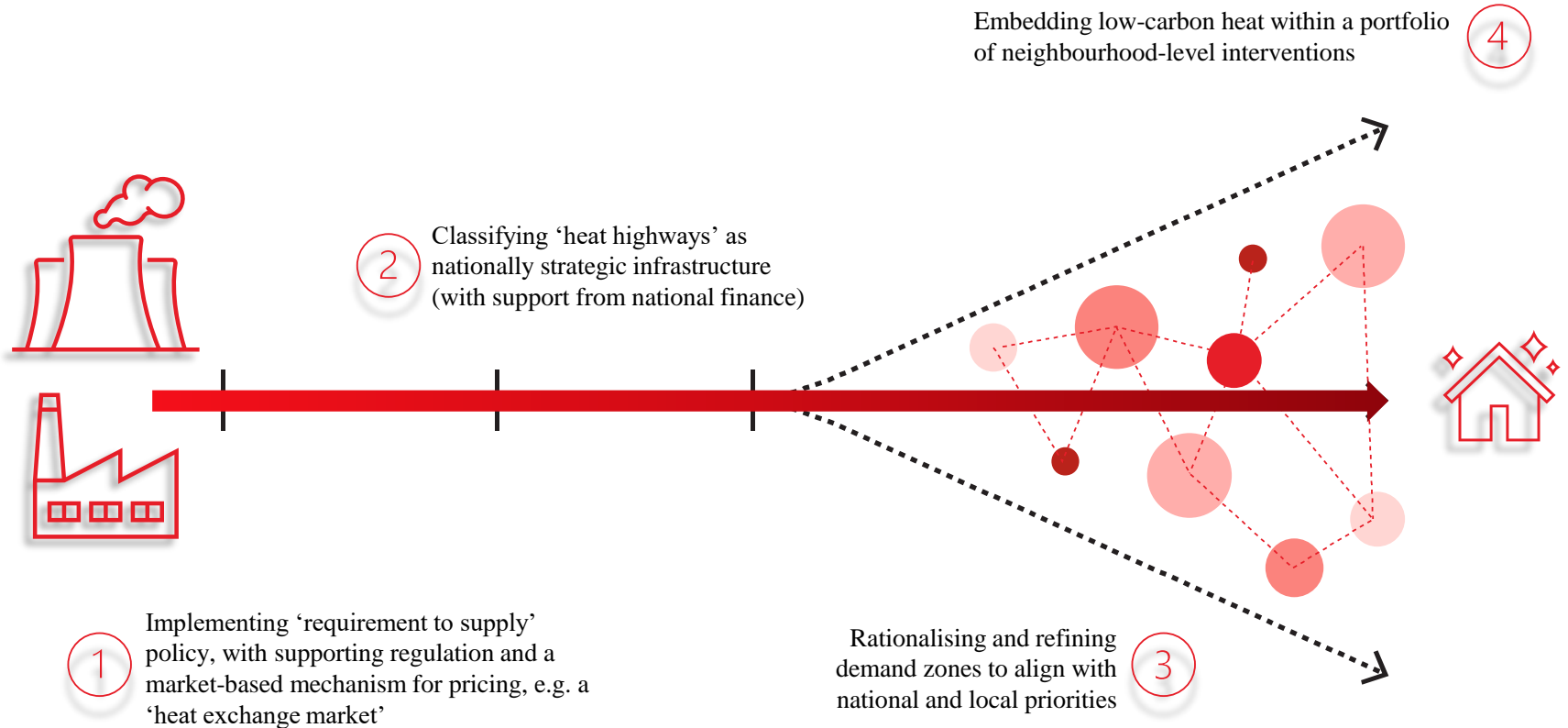
Maximising waste heat offtake, generation and storage opportunities within the wider system to...



...deliver low-carbon heat to communities as part of a suite of technical interventions with long-term human and planetary outcomes

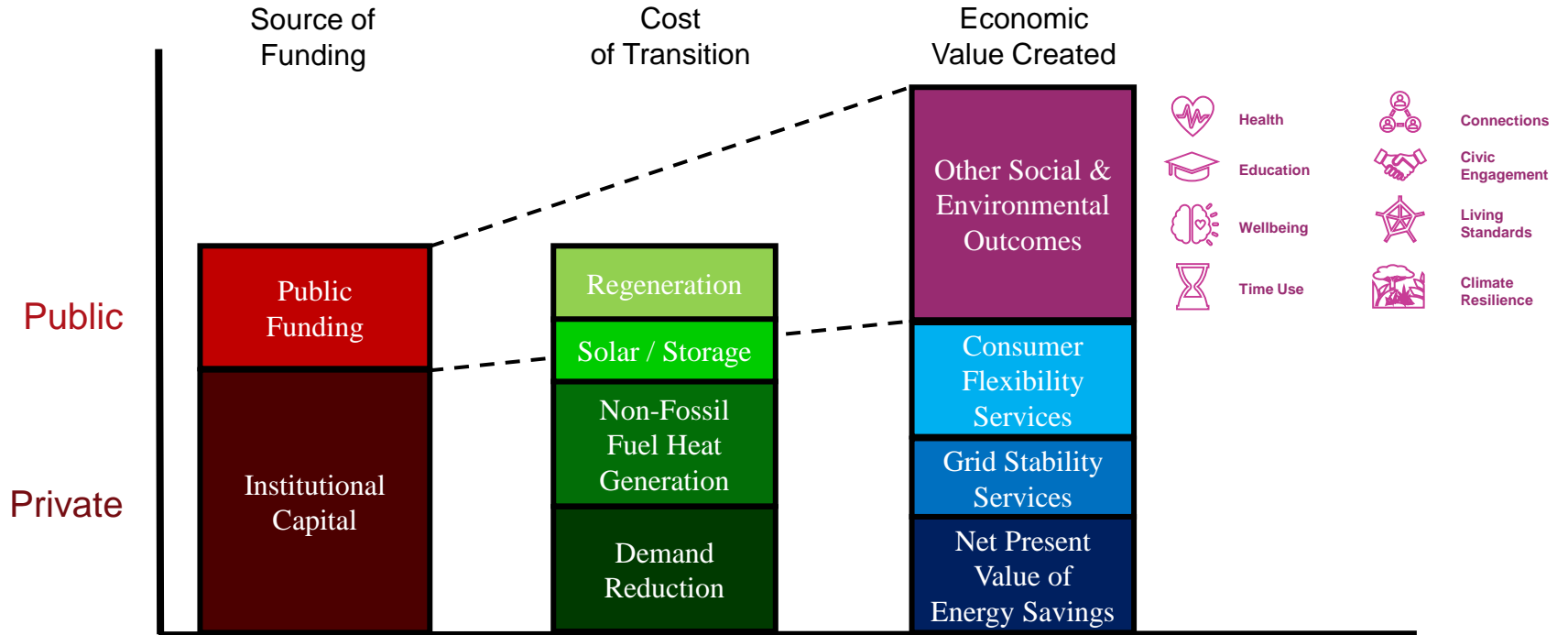
# Big Heat, Local Needs

## Four steps



# Total Value

Placing societal outcomes as the founding principle



# Think Bigger, Think Smaller

## A summary



Mandating surplus heat offtake through regulation, supported with a market-based pricing mechanism, could **lower the supplier barriers to entry and stabilise the market**



Heat ‘transmission’ systems to provide **strategic focus and appropriate financing**



Transmission scale heat to resolve the ‘piecemeal’ approach that zoning has yet to resolve and **mitigate major barriers to zonal development**



Refinement of HN zones with consistent prioritisation drivers, to **drive up confidence in customer connection and long-term viability**



**Outcomes-based approach** to urban decarbonisation



**Contact**

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Head of Future Networks, SSEN Distribution

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Associate Director – Net Zero, Scottish Futures Trust

**Stuart Hallett**

Urban Energy North Lead, Arup



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# The cost of heat in a climate emergency

Chaired by Ben Carter, Account Director,  
Vattenfall Heat UK

# Nicola Mahmood

## Head of Region (Scotland)

### Aira



The cost of heat in a climate  
emergency

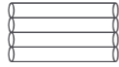
AIRA

# residential heating is Europe's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest emitting sector, and electrifying it is a gamechanger for the environment



**5.1x**

cement production



**2.5x**

iron and steel production



**0.8x**

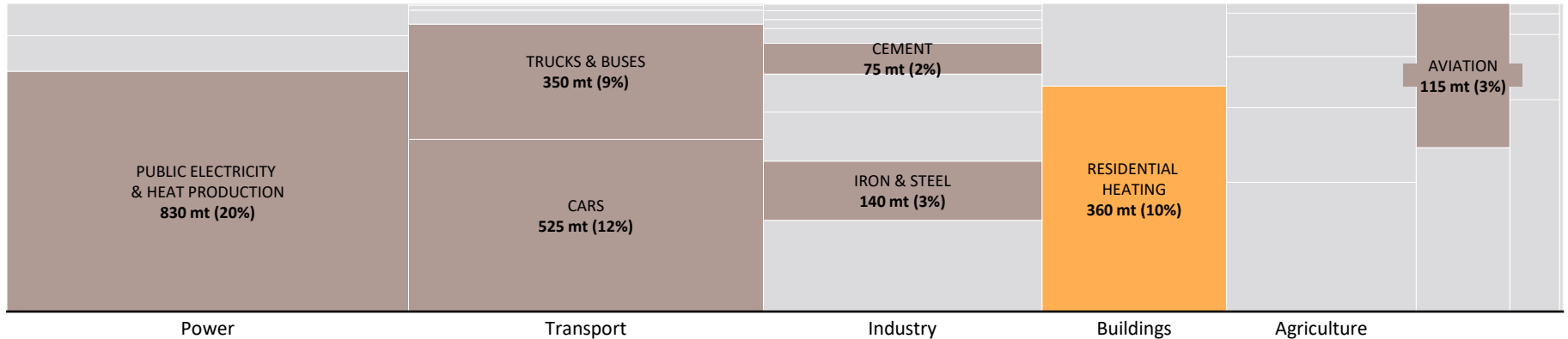
of Europe's passenger cars



**0.5x**

of Europe's public electricity & heat production

## European scope 1 emissions, megaton (Mt) CO<sub>2</sub>e and % of total emissions



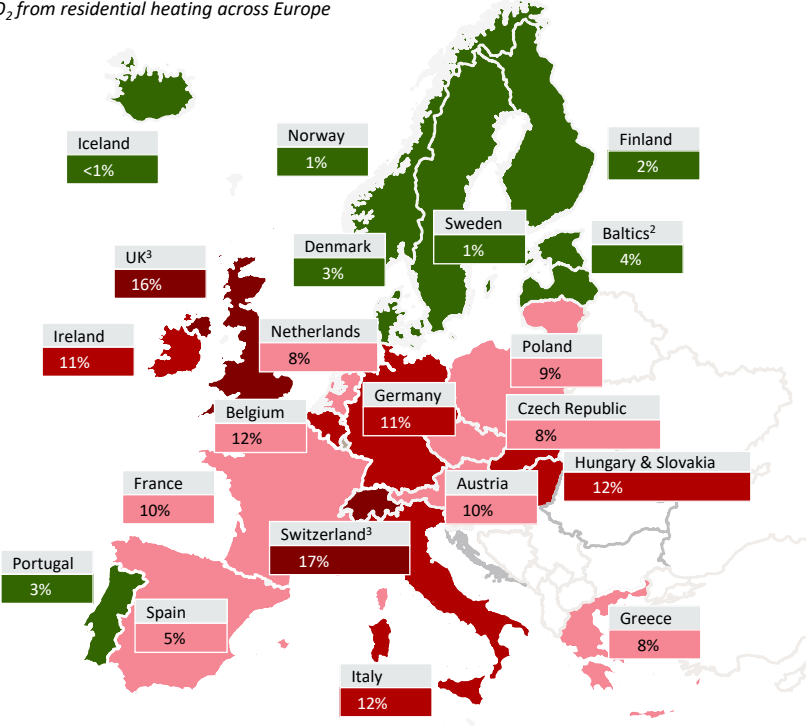
Source: Top tier consultancy firm



# Heat pumps are well proven in the Nordics while the rest of Europe is lagging behind

## Heat pump technology well proven in the Nordics since the 1990s...

CO<sub>2</sub> from residential heating across Europe



## ... with the rest of Europe lagging behind

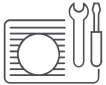
Historical inhibitors



Low consumer awareness & education



High upfront costs



Complex installation journey



Artificially low gas prices



# Aira offers an end-to-end customer journey



PRODUCT  
& SUPPLY



CUSTOMER  
ACQUISITION



INSTALLATION  
& LOGISTICS



FINANCING



CUSTOMER  
LOYALTY

# Scottish Policy Recommendations



## The spark spread

One of the major barriers to heat pump adoption in the UK is the artificially low gas prices. Levies and taxes need to be shifted from electricity to gas bills immediately.



## HES grant and loan application process

The current grant and loan process is cumbersome and complex. Aira customers are taking on average three months to navigate the process. Customers who only want the grant still need to complete loan information.



## HES grant and loan funding drawdown process

The process for drawing down the funding is long, with cashflow implications for installers.



## Stable Policy landscape

A stable policy landscape would have strong influence on investor and consumer confidence, underpinning growth in the heat pump sector with robust mechanisms to move Scotland closer to its net zero targets.

# **Adam Ben-Hamo**


## **Principal**


### **Asper Investment Management**

# Who are Asper?

>15 years of experience building platforms that build energy transition infrastructure

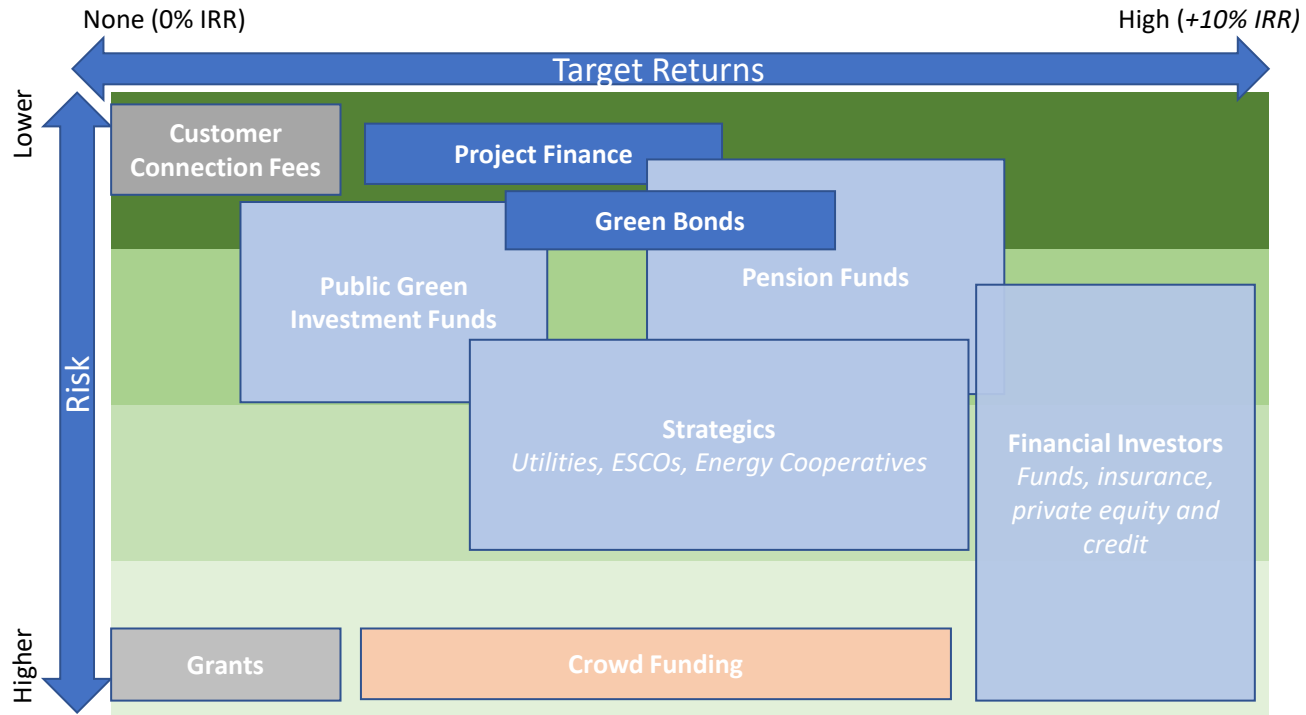
 <p>2014-2020 </p>	 <p>2013-2021 </p>	 <p>2012 - today </p>	 <p>2020 - today </p>	 <p>2022 - today </p>
 	 	 	 	 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Six district heating assets with combined heat sales of 176GWh p.a.</li> <li>• M&amp;A aggregation and brownfield turnaround + greenfield growth</li> <li>• Biomass</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small pipeline of development projects and team partnered with Asper in 2013</li> <li>• Growth to leading developer in onshore wind sector in Sweden</li> <li>• Ongoing management on behalf of pension fund investor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leading player in Irish onshore wind with 454 MW operational assets and advanced pipeline of 300MW</li> <li>• Presence in Scotland since 2020 with pipeline of ~500MW onshore wind in development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dutch greenfield district heating platform with 3 operational networks (1 in construction) delivering 190GWh p.a.</li> <li>• Target growth to 500GWh p.a. across 5 core networks in 2030</li> <li>• Biomass + DC Waste Heat</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UK greenfield district heating platform with 4 advanced development projects (1 in construction)</li> <li>• Target pipeline of 700GWh demand across 10 locations</li> <li>• Heat Pumps + Waste Heat</li> </ul>
<p>Exited</p>	<p>Under Management</p>	<p>Active investment</p>	<p>Active investment</p>	<p>Active investment</p>

 Onshore Wind

 Heat Networks

# The Cost of Heat in a Climate Emergency

*Reducing the cost of securing investment is part of the puzzle*



# **Kate Mulvany**

## **Principal Consultant**

### **Cornwall Insight**



# About Cornwall Insight

Established in 2005, Cornwall Insight is one of the most respected voices in the energy industry. We provide research, analysis, consulting and training to businesses and stakeholders in the Great British, Irish, Australian, Japanese, and German energy markets.

## Our Insight

Our independent experts work across the energy market and provide high quality and actionable insights on which to base your business decisions. We look to facilitate positive market and policy change, whilst also advising customers on how to navigate and comply with energy market dynamics, rules and regulations.

## Our Expertise

Our experts in-depth working knowledge of energy market design, including policy and regulatory changes, means we are perfectly placed to advise on changes to the future market design and help businesses achieve their net zero goals.

For more information about our services, please contact us on:

 +44 (0)1603 604400

 [enquiries@cornwall-insight.com](mailto:enquiries@cornwall-insight.com)

 [k.mulvany@cornwall-insight.com](mailto:k.mulvany@cornwall-insight.com)

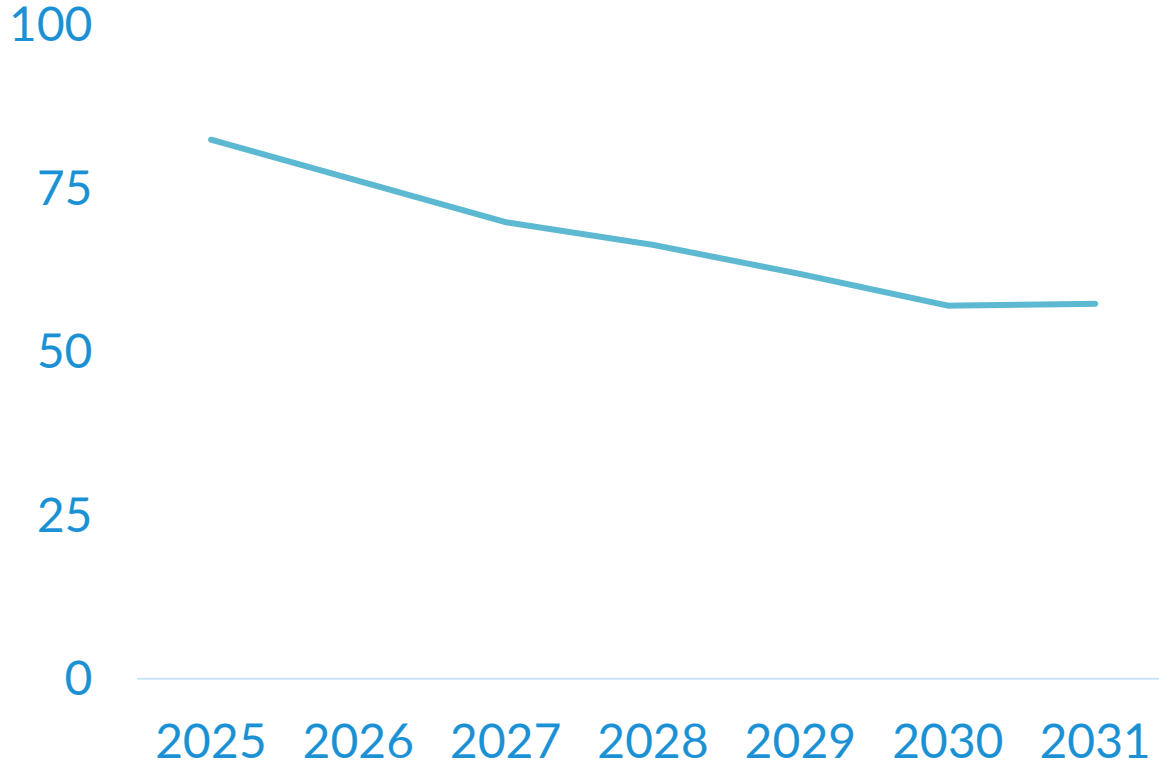
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# Baseload electricity price forecast (£/MWh)



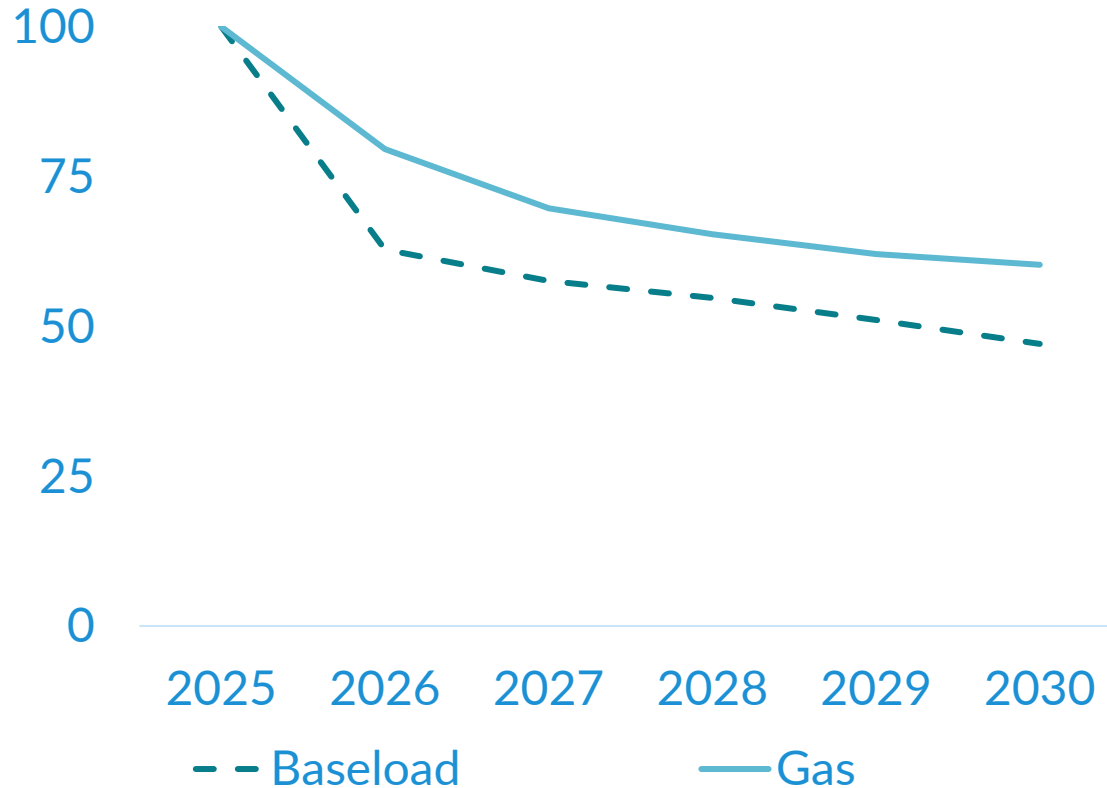
Looking ahead, electricity prices are expected to fall

Volatility will remain throughout the energy transition, with gas and power prices vulnerable to geopolitical shocks

Source: Cornwall Insight Baseload Power Curve (BPC), Central Case, annualised average



# Wholesale energy price forecast (2025=100)



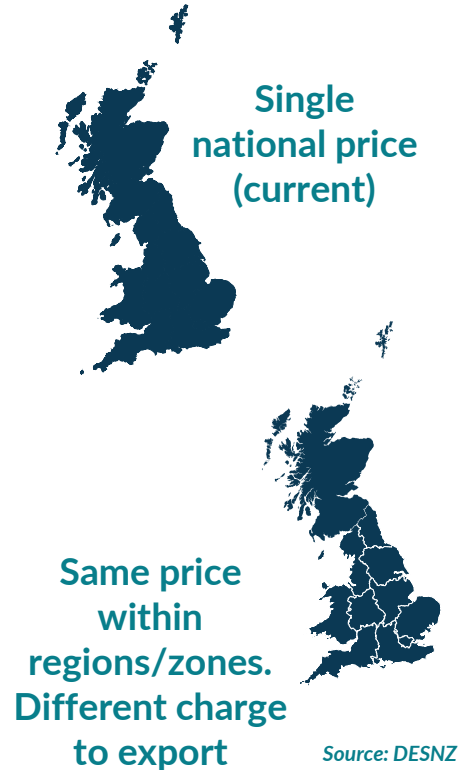
GB dual fuel domestic bill under the price cap ~

- 45% wholesale costs
- 10% policy costs
- 20% network costs
- 5% VAT
- Supplier operating costs, EBIT, other makes up remainder

Source: Cornwall Insight  
Baseload Power Curve (BPC),  
Central Case, annualised  
average

# REMA continues to dominate investment decisions

- GB has a national wholesale electricity price
  - Existing network charges don't signal costs to generators and consumers, and don't incentivise efficiencies
- Zonal pricing under consideration Review of Electricity Market Arrangements (REMA)
  - Marginal plant in each zone sets wholesale price, reducing inframarginal rent
  - Concerns about deterring CP2030
  - Scotland likely most affected with lower generation prices and potentially reduced consumer bills
  - Likely to attract political interest
- Pending policy detail: connections reform (underway), planning (expected soon), heat



# **Eddie McAvinchey**

## **Banking & Investments – Scotland**

### **National Wealth Fund**



**NATIONAL  
WEALTH  
FUND**

# National Wealth Fund

## **Scottish Renewables**

The Cost of Heat in a Climate Emergency

*26 February 2025*

National Wealth Fund © 2024





### Mission

To partner with the **private sector and local government** to increase UK infrastructure investment in pursuit of our two strategic objectives



### Objectives

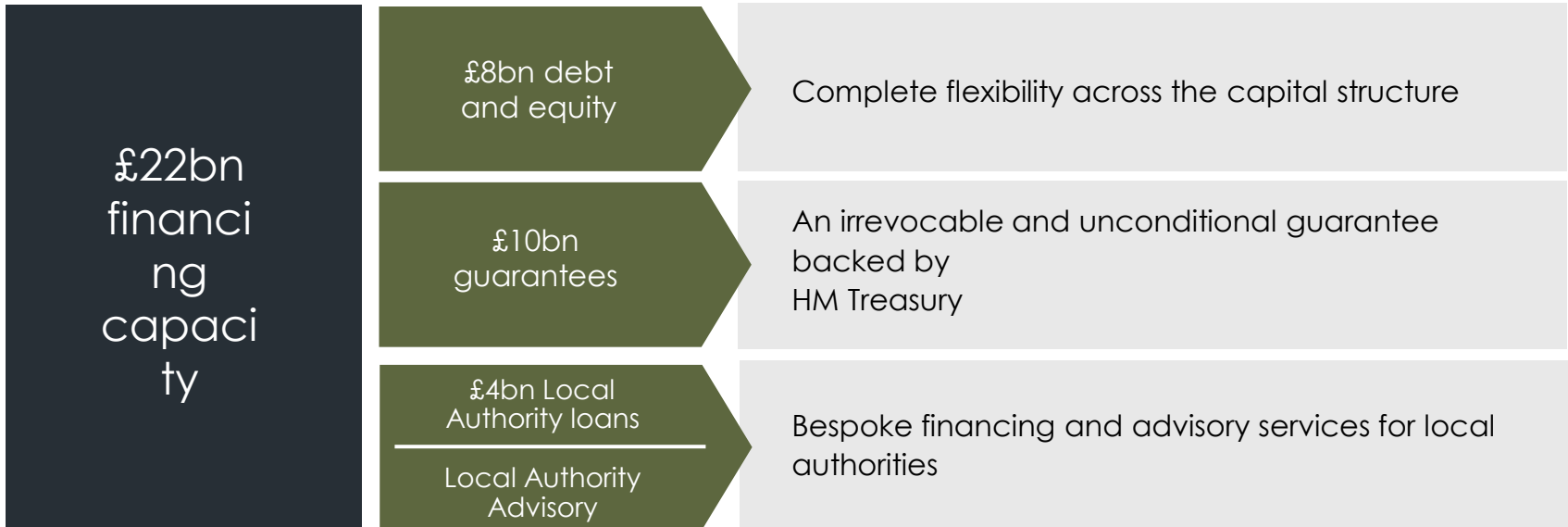
- **Tackling climate change** – helping to meet government's 2050 net zero emissions target
- **Supporting regional and local economic growth** – providing opportunities for new jobs and higher levels of productivity through better connectedness



### Principles





- Investing in **infrastructure assets or networks**, or in **new infrastructure technology**
- Delivering a **positive financial return**, in line with our financial framework
- **Crowding in significant private capital over time**

## Investing £22bn across the capital structure



A further **£5.8bn** of capital has been allocated for deployment on becoming the NWF

We focus on five priority sectors; mandate will evolve to align with industrial strategy

 <p>Clean energy</p>	 <p>Transport</p>	 <p>Waste</p>	 <p>Water</p>	 <p>Digital</p>
<p>Renewable electricity, hydrogen, CCUS, <b>heating</b>, storage and supply chain.</p>	<p>EV and hydrogen transport infrastructure, SAF and ports</p>	<p>Enhancing recycling infrastructure and decarbonising energy from waste</p>	<p>Increasing water security and resilience, and investing in nature-based solutions</p>	<p>Investment in fibre to the premises, 5G and digital economy infrastructure</p>

Steers from HM Treasury have encouraged us to explore wider sectors for which we can provide support including retrofit, nature-based solutions, semiconductor manufacturing and critical minerals

## NWF's investments have a material impact



£4.8bn

invested across the UK



15m tonnes

of CO2e emissions  
avoided



17,400

direct jobs created  
and supported



£12.3bn

of private finance  
mobilised

*Figures as at 24 October 2024*



## NWF has flexibility across the capital structure

Equity	Debt	Guarantees
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Ordinary or preferred equity and convertible loan notes</li> <li>✓ Target TRL 7 and above</li> <li>✓ Typically, Series C, D and later financing</li> <li>✗ Grants</li> <li>✗ Controlling stakes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Senior debt</li> <li>✓ Mezzanine debt</li> <li>✓ Bridge finance</li> <li>✓ Fixed or floating rate</li> <li>✓ RCFs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Loan or bond 'wrap'</li> <li>✓ Index linked</li> <li>✓ Credit enhancement</li> <li>✓ First-loss guarantees</li> <li>✓ Performance guarantees (in due course)</li> </ul>

NWF invests a minimum of £25m for UK deployment on commercial terms appropriate for risk taken

## Accelerating nascent technologies



CCUS



Hydrogen



EV Charging



Heat Networks



Zero Emission Buses



Short Duration  
Energy Storage



Port Infrastructure  
for Floating  
Offshore Wind



A selection of our strategy documents  
can be accessed using the QR code

Our involvement brings down the cost of capital and provides confidence  
for  
commercial investment in first of a kind technologies

## Heat Networks – Investment & Financing Options

Long-Life Assets  
Capital intensive in early phases  
Low Return  
Commercially Challenging

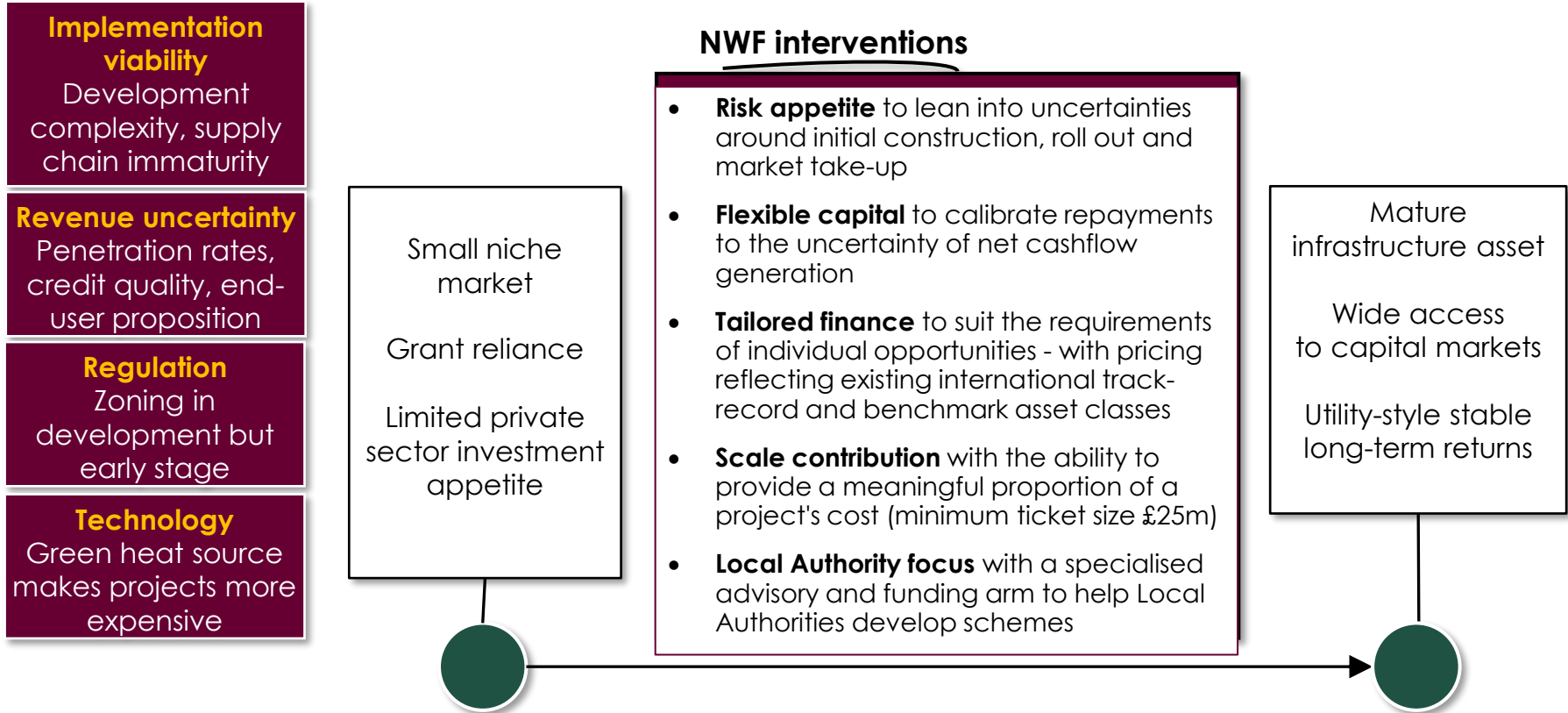
### Equity Investors

- Large Utilities, investing through corporate balance sheet
- Specialist heat investors, relatively small, relatively capital constrained
- Traditional infrastructure investors increasingly interested in the sector

### Debt Financing

- No functioning debt market in the UK
- Too much uncertainty, too much risk
- Projects require long-term, infrastructure style debt, but early phase finances cannot sustain it
- Some large funders have expressed interest, but no commitments yet...
- **NWF is the only source of long-term debt to the sector**

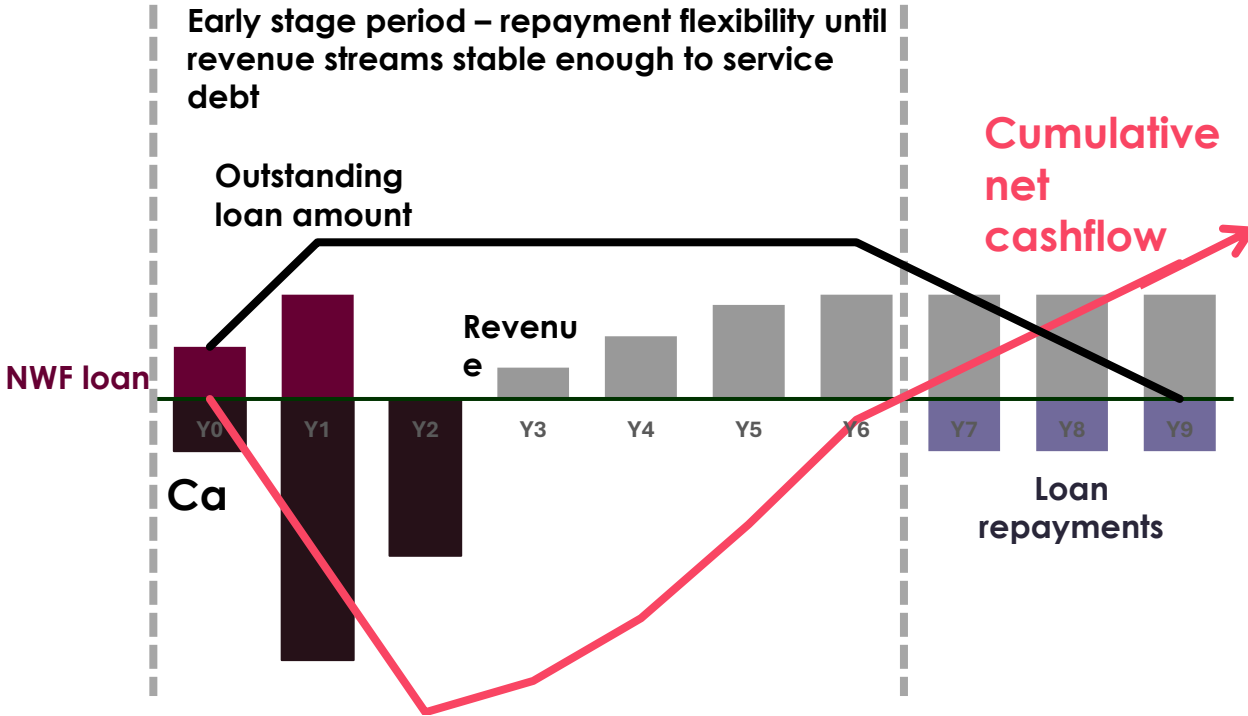
Grant – How much is available? What comes next?



**We are here**

**We want to be here**  
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Patient debt facility - *stylised example*



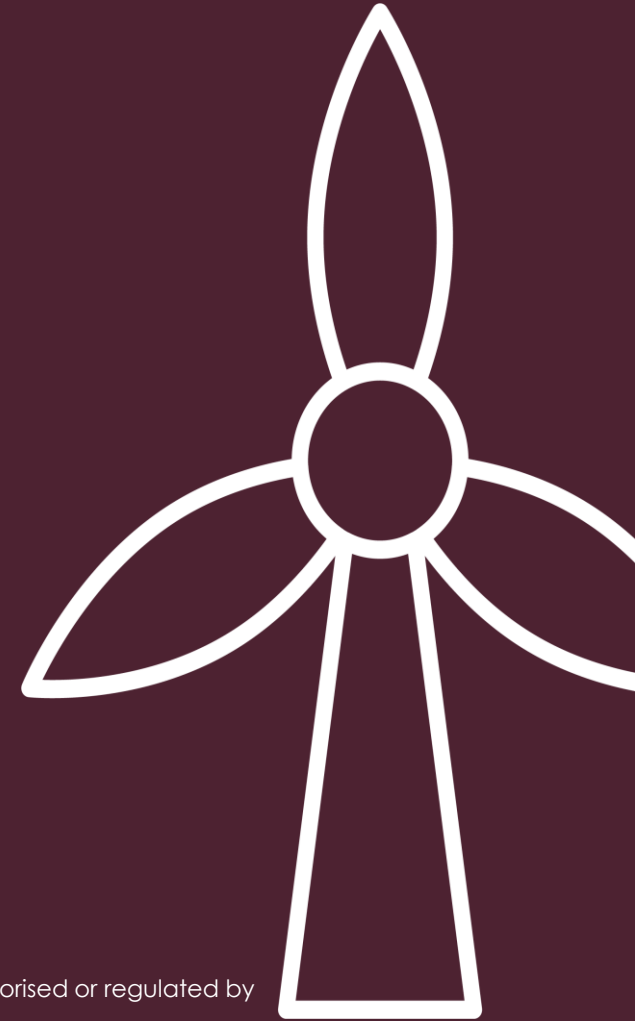
A patient debt facility could achieve its objectives in helping create a sustainable, long-term debt market for the Heat Networks asset class whilst overcoming the key barriers:

1. **Construction & ramp-up risk:** Bank facility would come in prior to revenue streams coming online
2. **Connection charges:** Provision of debt can reduce reliance on up-front connection charges to fund capex, and allow developers to offer more payment flexibility to consumers
3. **Project economics:** Senior debt is a cheaper product than equity, and therefore could help reduce the overall funding costs of the project

## The NWF Offer

- Based on sound investment principles, generate positive financial return.
- However, can take more risks that other investors are willing to take (note subsidy control).
- **Here to provide problem-solving, facilitative capital:**
  - **Patient Equity** (based on a differential dividend approach during the project's initial phase)
  - **Specific, shorter term Debt, or flexible CAPEX facilities** (accommodating construction and ramp-up periods, providing longer repayment periods, sculpted repayment profiles and/or cash sweep repayment basis)
  - **Guarantees (financial, credit enhancing/first loss, performance)** are also available.
- **Ticket Size: min £25m** proportionate to our capitalisation, sector coverage, and resourcing BUT interested in opportunities to aggregate
- **LA offer: min £5m @ gilts + 40bps** (ie 40bps lower than PWLB rate). Flexible interest payments and flexible repayment profile to match project characteristics. Up to 50 years tenor and roll up initial payments during construction phase. Supported by advisory role.

For more information about the National Wealth Fund,  
or to contact us, visit [nationalwealthfund.org.uk](https://nationalwealthfund.org.uk).



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