



British Cities and Net Zero

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Session 4: Zero Carbon Cities
LCS-RNet 13th Annual Meeting

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Net Zero – City Ambition

- Majority of UK local and regional authorities declared Climate Emergencies
- Plans **aiming** for 100% clean energy
 - sometimes integrating local heat, power, transport and storage & reducing energy use
- UK Government Net Zero Strategy
 - 82% of UK emissions within scope of influence of local authorities
- BUT new local powers, resources & technical capacities needed

<https://www.climateemergency.uk/blog/list-of-councils/>

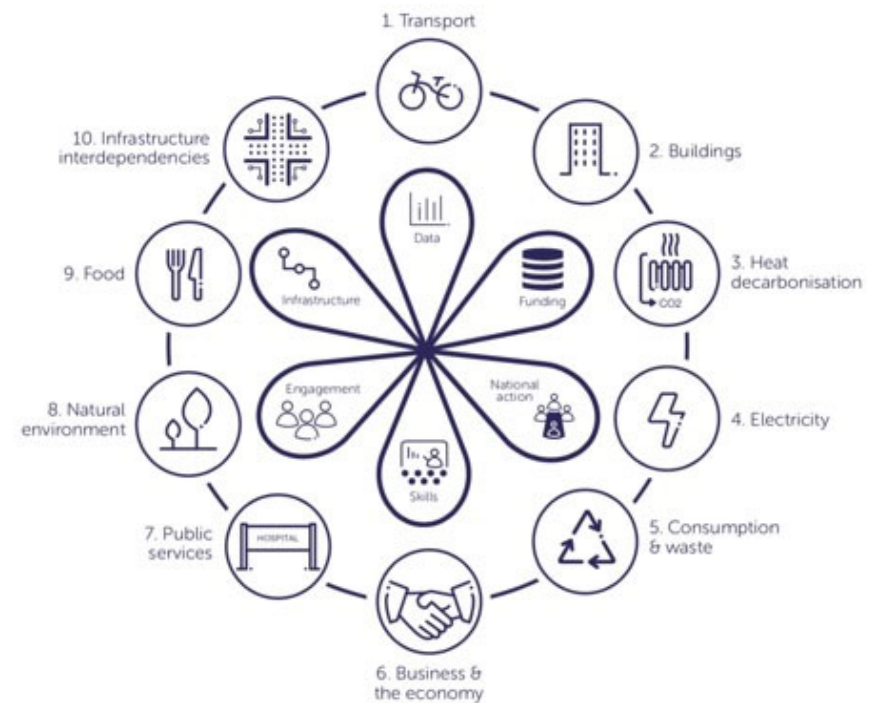
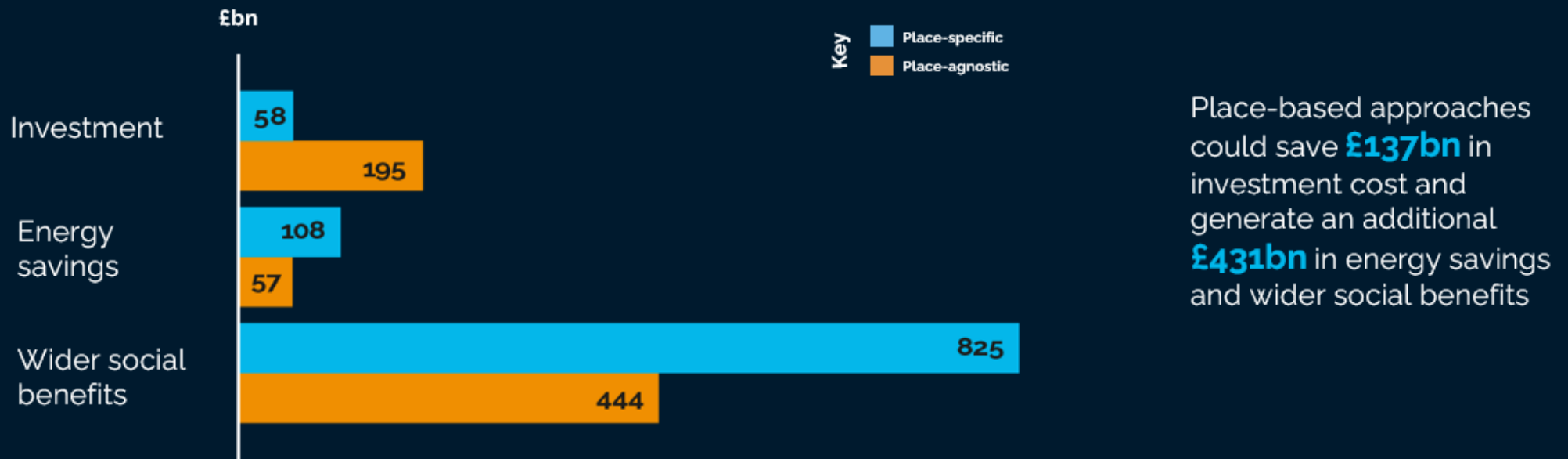


Image: Bristol City Council

City Region Strategy = 'more than carbon reduction'

Adopting a place-specific approach could generate more than double the benefit and at significantly lower cost



Source: IUK with PWC, Otley Energy and University of Leeds, 2022 *Accelerating Net Zero Delivery: Unlocking the Benefits of Climate Action in UK City Regions*

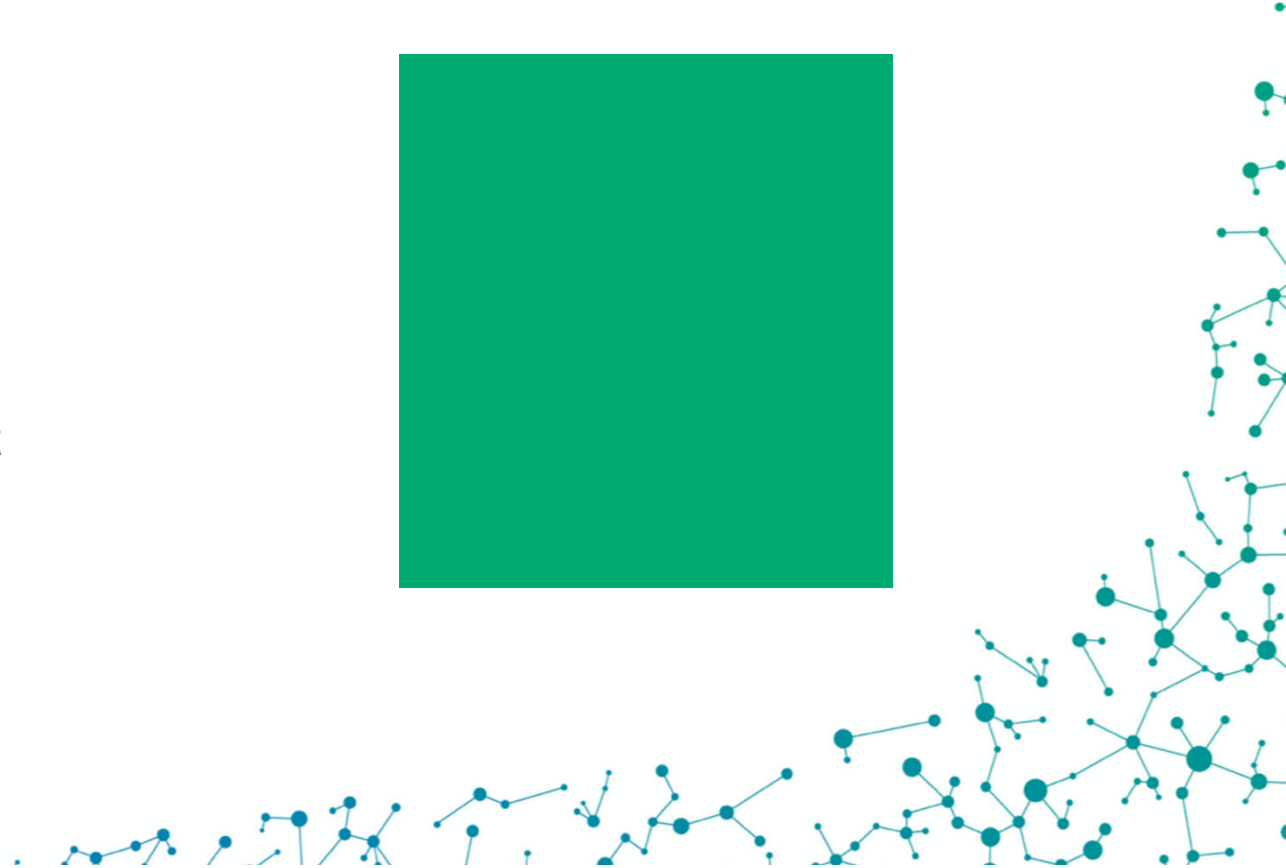
Investment potential from Local Authority technical support

€23 million UK grants from EU ELENA
Prog - invested in people, skills, expertise

Delivering €859 million in local low carbon
investment

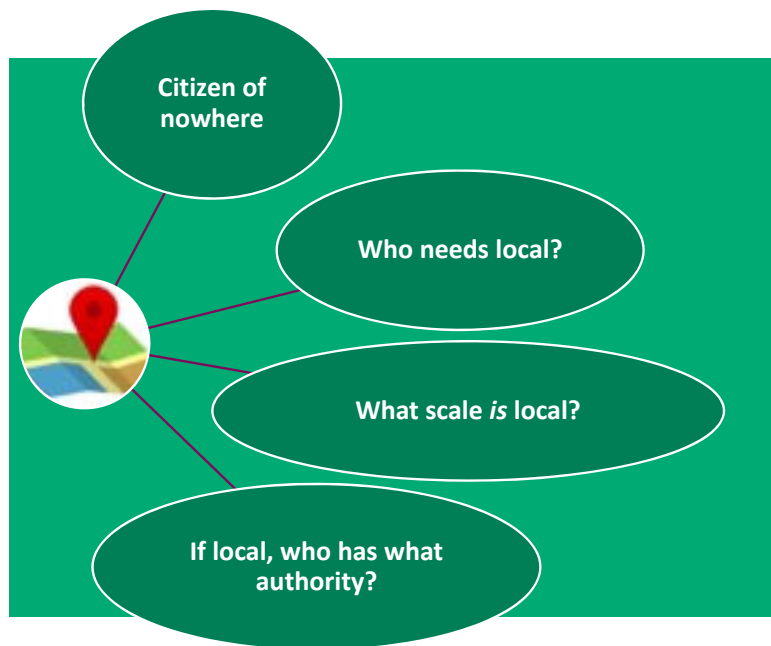


Every €1 led to about €37 investment



Where are we now? – Enterprise and Uncertainty

In principle commitment to integrated local energy for whole systems value
BUT



- **In practice**
 - Project sponsors “awash with feasibility studies”
 - GB centralised market
 - Gas grid future?
 - Local energy planning?
 - Future Energy System scenarios - electric future ‘one consumer choice’ at a time?
- Multi-dimensional value of locally-integrated systems not yet translated into case for users
- Will heat regulation, zoning and (in England) mandated DHN connection make a difference?

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