

21.10.20

# Bridging the Gap to Net Zero: Introduction

Louise Schmitz  
Senior Manager, ESO Strategy

**nationalgrid**ESO

# Bridging the Gap recommends what *needs to happen* to achieve net zero emissions

## Future Energy Scenarios (FES):

- Explore what *could* happen in the next 30 years.
- Used by thousands across the energy industry from energy investors to academics and policy makers.

## FES Bridging the Gap to Net Zero:

- Considers what *needs* to happen next if we are to meet net zero.
- Explores key areas of uncertainty, gathers evidence and works collaboratively with stakeholders to build consensus.
- Recommends actions for policymakers and industry to move towards net zero.
- Informs FES modelling and analysis



# Bridging the Gap 2020: Peaks and troughs: how markets, technology and digitalisation can help meet the new challenges of a decarbonised energy system.

## PART 1

The energy system has been designed to meet one definition of peak. However, we're now in a world where there are new challenges – not just peak demand but also things like peak supply or peak EV demand. **What are these challenges and associated risks and opportunities?**

### PART 2a: Technology

What kinds of technology, in terms of appliances and assets, can assist in decarbonising our energy system?

### PART 2b: Markets

How will markets need to evolve in order to maximise the use of low carbon energy?

### PART 2c: Data & Digitalisation

Data and digitalisation are a fundamental part of the solution but how can we make the most of their potential?

The consumer's needs and behaviour are fundamental to all three – any solution needs to be designed to serve consumers, at least cost, with greatest stability and security.

# Agenda

Time	Agenda item	Speaker
10.00 – 10.05	Introduction to Bridging the Gap to Net Zero	Louise Schmitz, ESO Strategy
10.05 – 10.20	The energy system: then, now and in future	Julian Leslie, Head of ESO Networks
10.20 – 10.45	Audience discussion: What are the new peaks and troughs that we could see in our energy system between now and 2030? What are the challenges associated with these?	Laura Sandys, Independent Chair and Facilitator
10.45 – 10.50	Break	
10.50 – 10.55	Introduction to the Bridging the Gap's three workstreams of: markets, technology and data and digitalisation	Laura Sandys, Independent Chair and Facilitator
10.55 – 11.10	Markets presentation	David Sykes, Data Scientist, Octopus
11.10 – 11.25	Technology presentation	Teodora Kaneva, Programme Manager, Tech UK
11.25 – 11.40	Data and digitalisation presentation	Richard Dobson, Practice Manager, Energy Systems Catapult
11.40 – 11.55	Audience discussion: How can markets, technology and data and digitalisation help decarbonisation over the next 10 years?	Laura Sandys, Independent Chair and Facilitator
11.55 - 12.00	Next steps	Becky Hart, ESO Strategy



# Peaks and troughs; then, now and in future

Julian Leslie

Head of Networks, ESO

The background features several decorative yellow lines. In the top-left corner, there are several thin, curved lines that sweep upwards and to the right. In the bottom-right corner, there are several thick, parallel diagonal lines that sweep downwards and to the right. The text is centered in the white space between these line groups.

# The electricity system: then and now

# We've seen huge change in the last decade...

10 years ago



- Our electricity came from:
- 7% renewable generation
  - 16% nuclear
  - 47% natural gas
  - 28% coal
  - 1% imports

**Main challenge for system operation:** peak demand, when we might need all installed generation operating at the same time.

**Solution:** Security of supply standard written to ensure sufficient capacity during a typical cold spell.

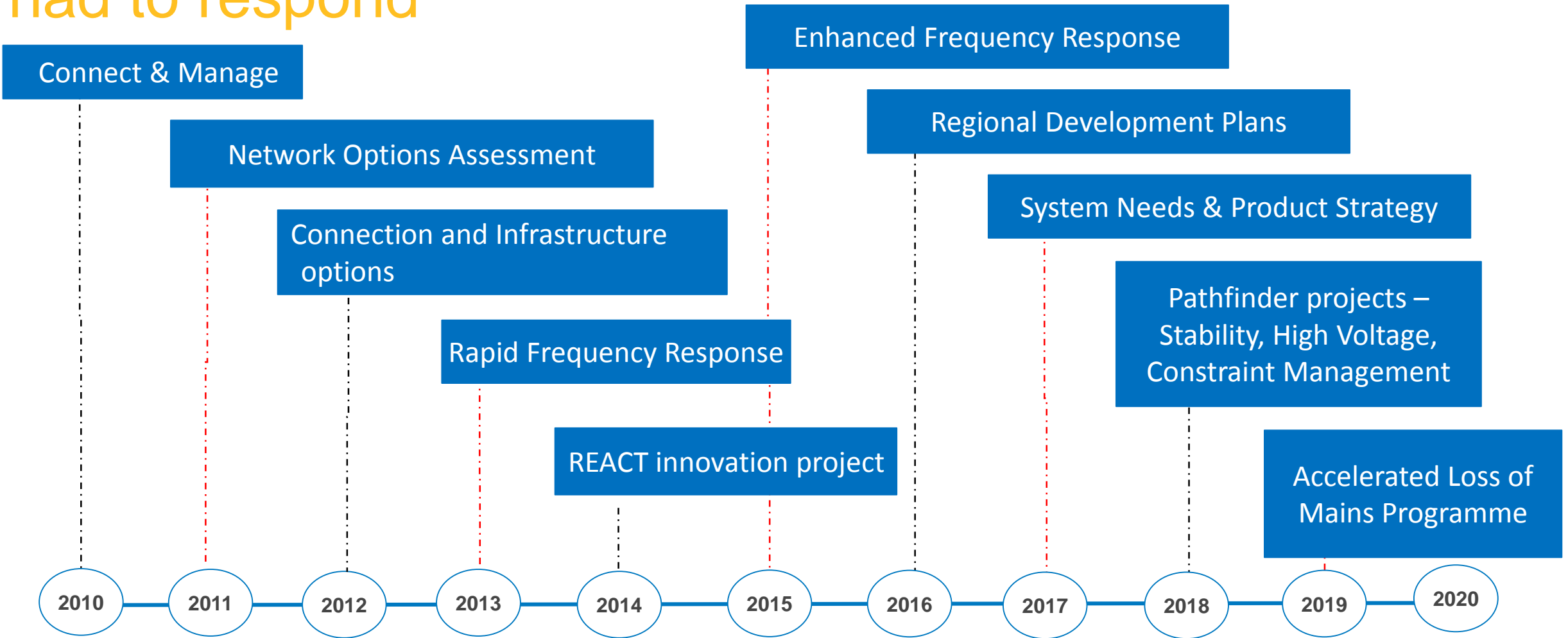
Today




- Our electricity comes from:
- 38% renewable generation
  - 20% nuclear
  - 34% natural gas
  - 2% coal
  - 6% imports

**Main challenge for system operation:** A variety of peaks and troughs relating to supply as well as demand  
**Solution:** In fact, many different solutions have been introduced by the energy industry to meet these new challenges.

# Changing system dynamics has meant the ESO has had to respond







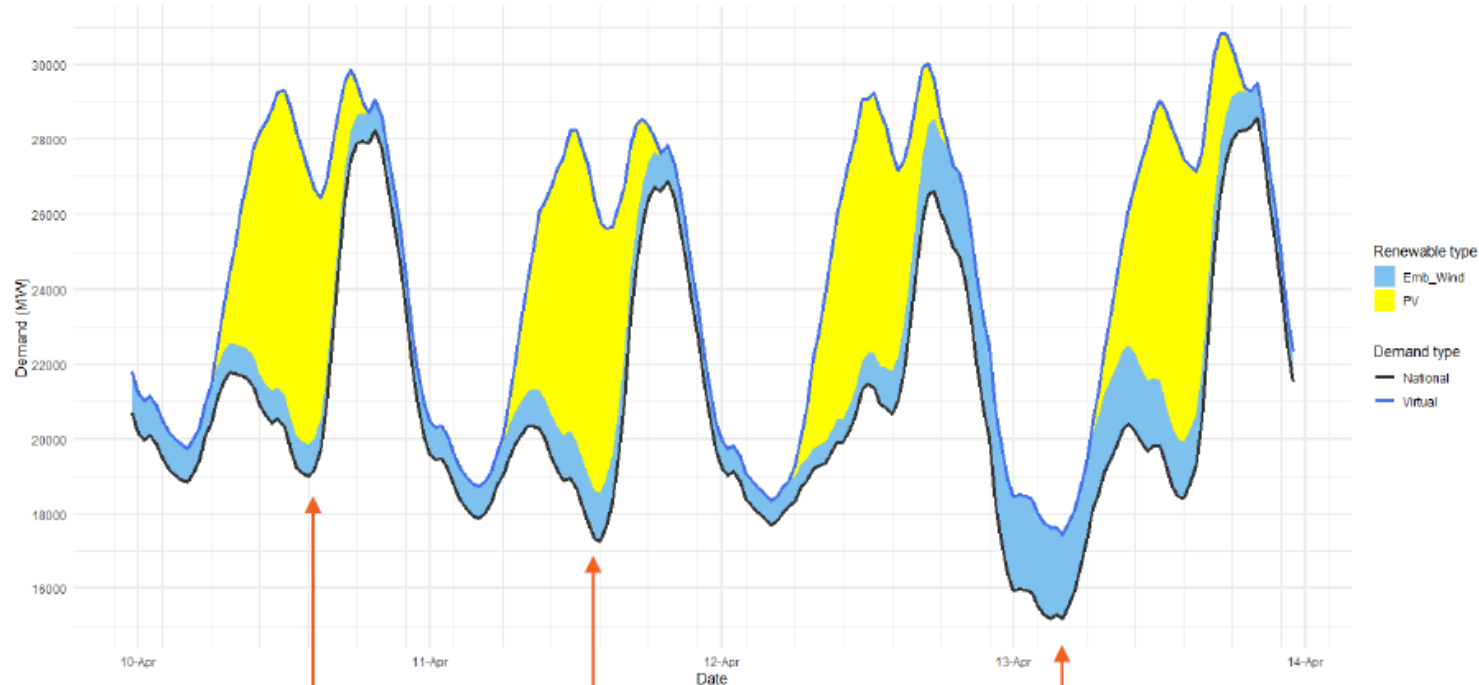
We've already seen, and adapted to, significant change in our energy system.

What could the future look like?



# Lockdown provided a glimpse into future operating conditions

## The control room perspective: National Demand from Good Friday to Easter Monday 2020



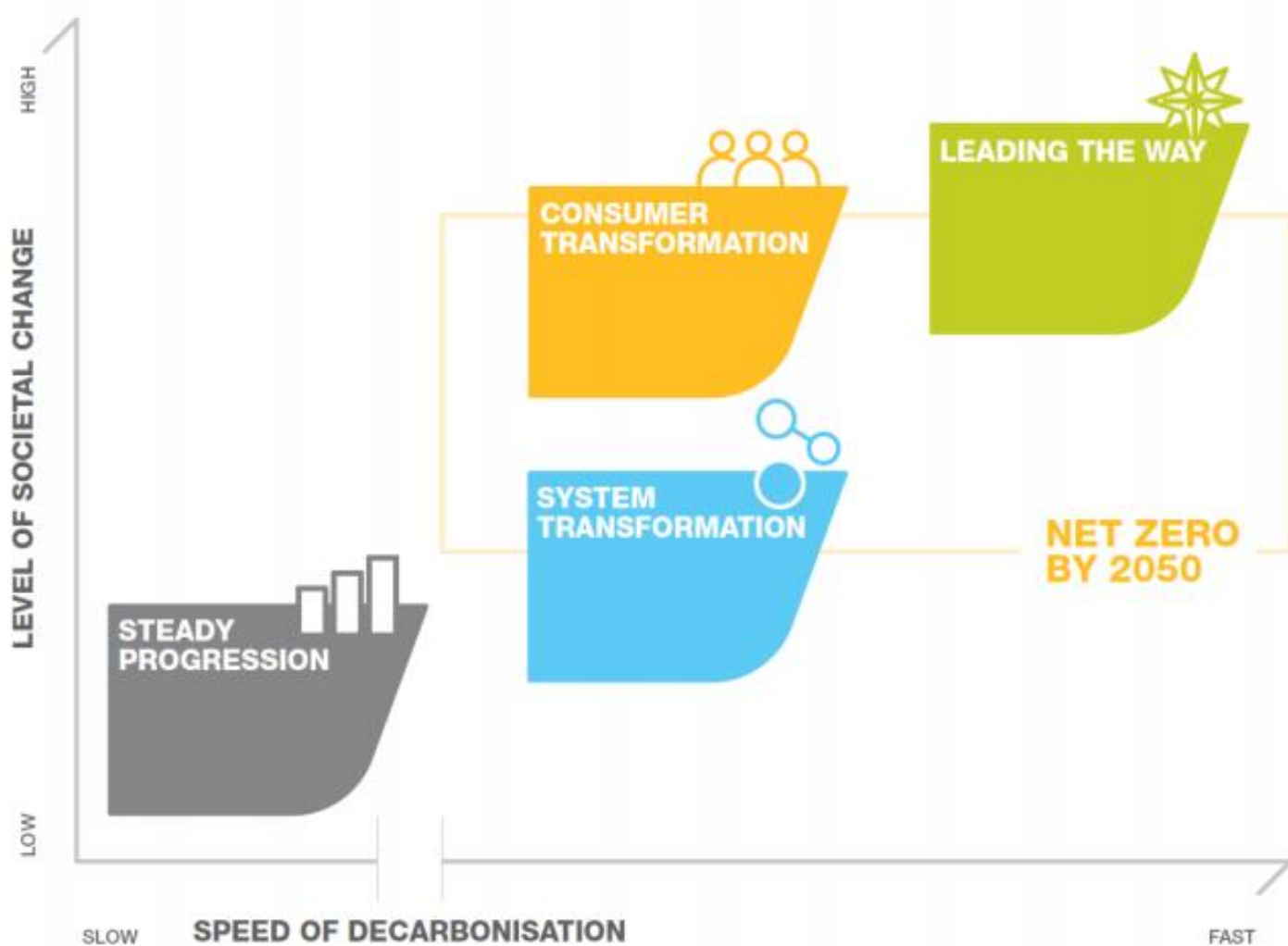
To manage this low demand, the control room:

1. Exported power to France, the Netherlands and Belgium

2. Instructed pumped storage and hydro power to pump

There was an estimated 2.3 GW of embedded wind generating over this time (blue ribbon)

# Our Future Energy Scenarios look further into the future



## Consumer Transformation

- Electrified heating
- High energy efficiency
- Demand side flexibility

## System Transformation

- Hydrogen for heating
- Lower energy efficiency
- Supply side flexibility

## Leading the Way

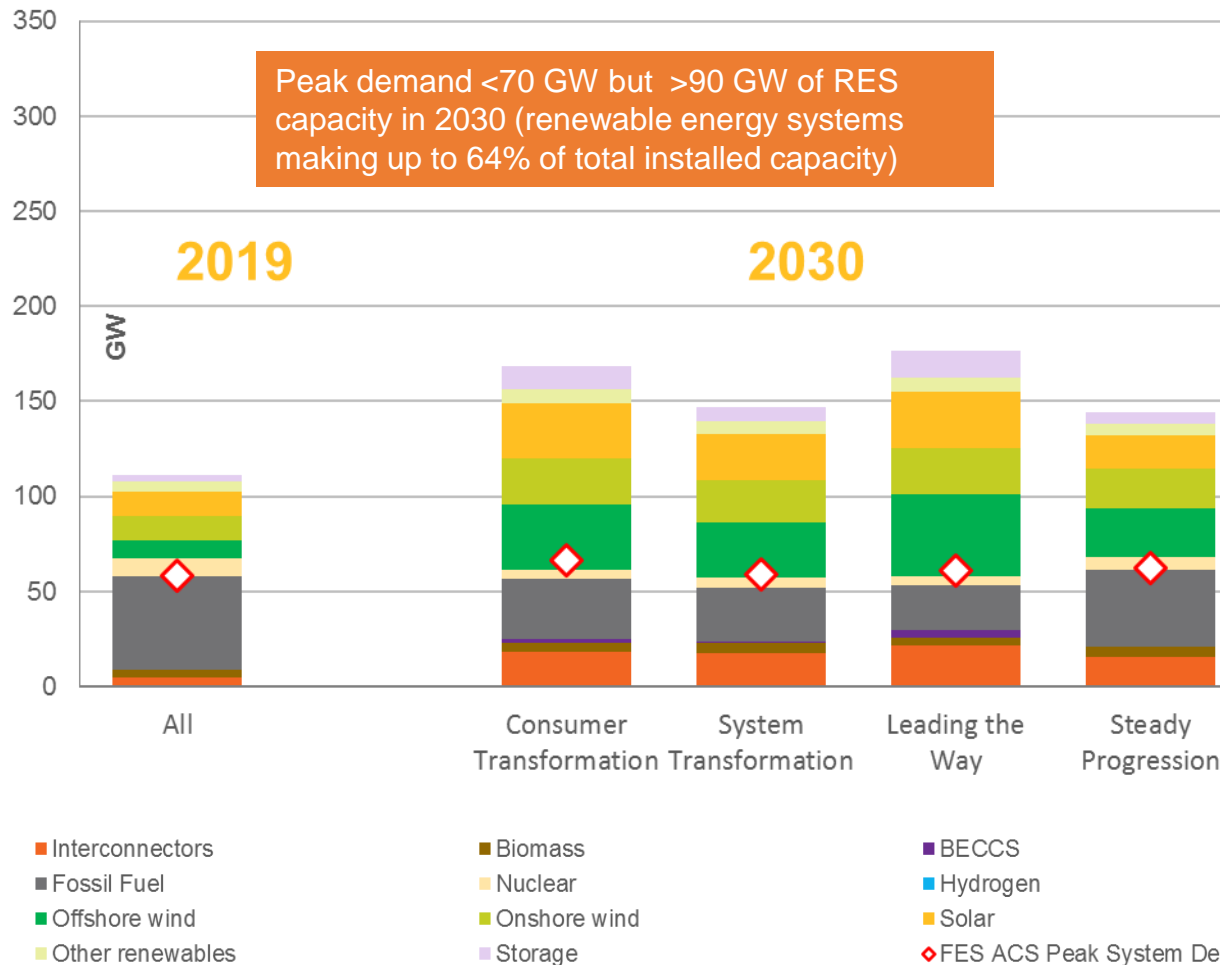
- Significant lifestyle change
- Mix of hydrogen and electrification for heat

## Steady Progression

- Minimal behaviour change
- Decarbonisation in power and transport but not heat

# FES analysis shows that net zero means significant change to the energy system in the next 10 years

*Installed electricity generation capacity in 2030, plus storage and interconnection (no vehicle-to-grid or non-networked offshore wind)*



What could our energy system look like by 2030? (in one or all of the net zero scenarios)

- 17% reduction in amount of dispatchable capacity available
- Over 10 million Battery Electric Vehicles on the road
- Lower nuclear baseload electricity supply
- Electricity demand for home heating exceeding 40 TWh
- Installed electricity storage capacity above 10 GW
- Carbon emissions reduced by up to 37%
- Negative emissions in the power sector
- Increased number of energy system participants.



# The challenges associated with our decarbonised energy future

*What are the new peaks and troughs that we could see between now and 2030, and how can markets, technology and data and digitalisation help to mitigate these?*

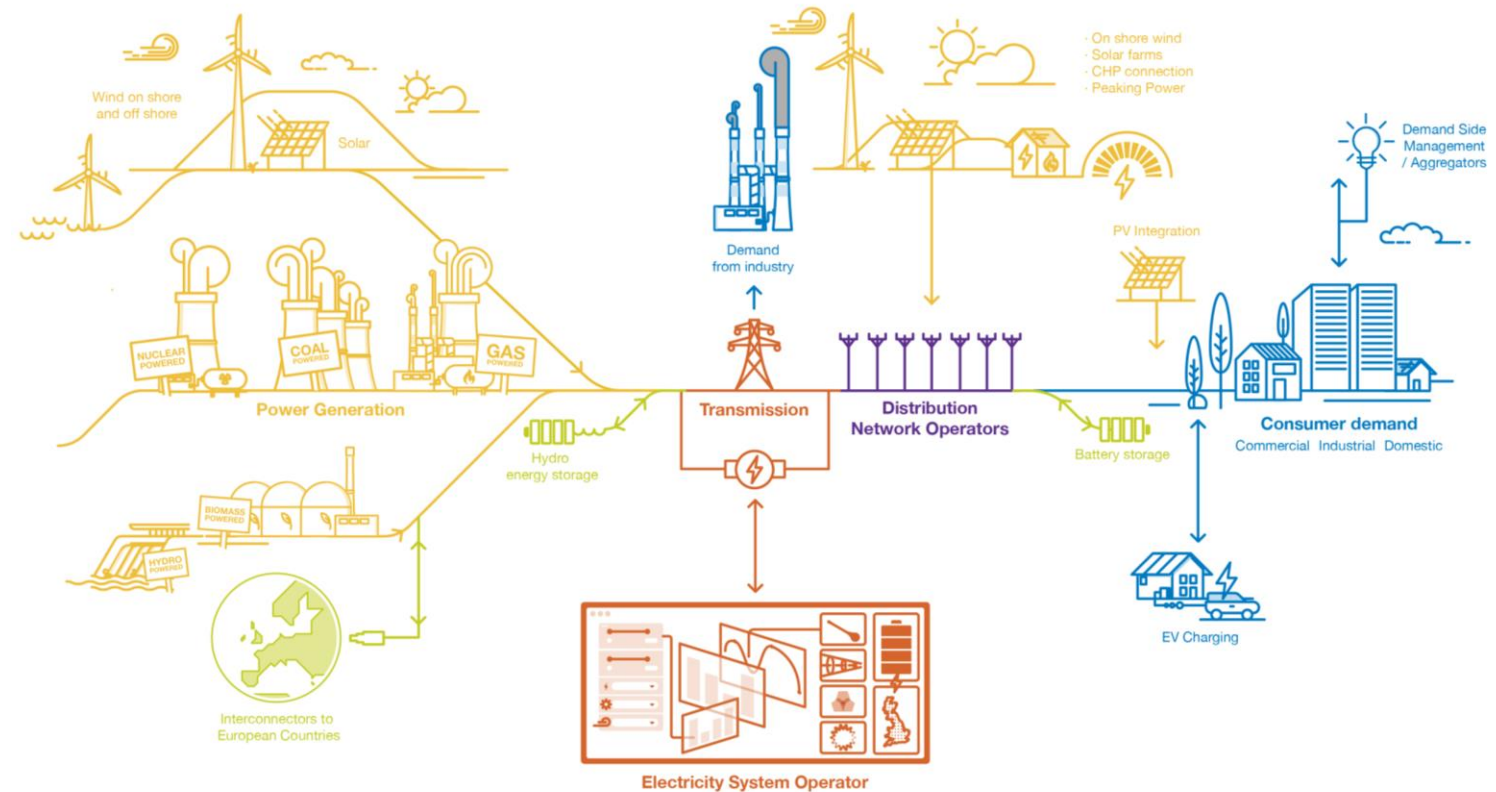
Laura Sandys



# In future, we will need our system to cope with more than just winter peak demand

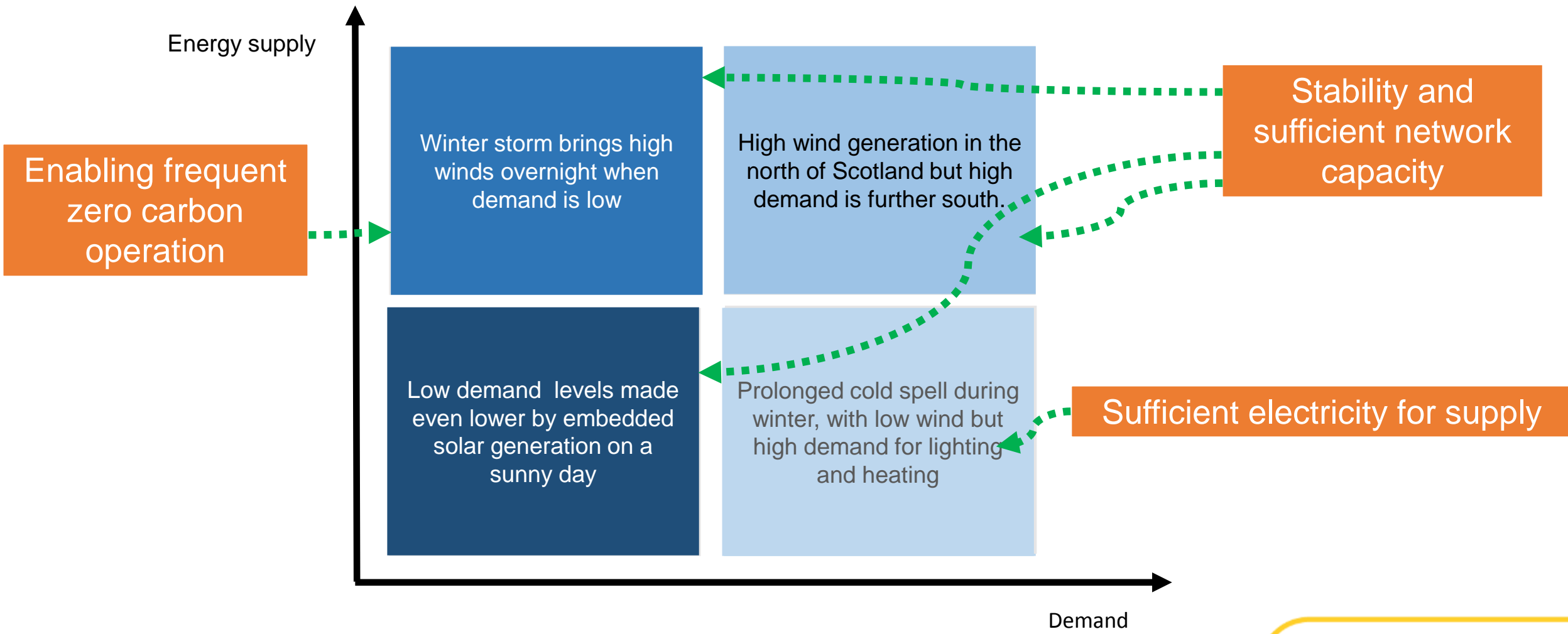
These peaks and troughs will become increasingly dynamic, variable and unpredictable with changing characteristics in terms of:

- **Quantity:** quantity and intensity of actions throughout the system
- **Diversity:** diversity of assets and actions throughout the system
- **Interaction:** cumulative impacts of each action
- **Different:** different nature of products and services
- **Devolution:** acting with new partners and actors and requiring a supportive, complementary environment



The system will need to be flexible to manage more dynamic and variable peaks and troughs, as we continue to decarbonise our energy system.

# Some examples of the new peaks and troughs presenting challenges to electricity system operation



# Have we captured the new peaks, troughs and challenges for the future?

## Peaks

- Maximum requirement for **dispatchable power**
- Maximum **flow** on the network
- Maximum requirement for **dispatchable demand**

## Troughs

- Minimum **supply of renewable electricity**
- Minimum **flow** on the network
- No **interconnector supply** available

## Characteristic

- **Speed** of events emerging
- **Frequency** of events
- **Dynamic** nature of events
- **Interaction** of events

## When thinking about how to address these, we need to consider the following:

- Roles and responsibilities
- Whole system
- Consumer behaviour
- Visibility and transparency
- Decentralisation
- System standards and resilience
- Cost
- Policy changes



We have discussed and agreed the peaks, troughs and challenges of decarbonisation. How can we address these?

Our Bridging the Gap workstreams will look at the following key areas:

### Markets



### Technology



### Data & Digitalisation



During the upcoming presentations, you will be asked via slido to vote on which aspect the workstream we should explore further after this workshop.

If you would like to take part in the workstream please let us know on [FESbtg@nationalgrideso.com](mailto:FESbtg@nationalgrideso.com)

# A closer look at the workstreams

Laura Sandys

# Where are we now, and where do we need to get to in order to meet the challenges associated with the new peaks and troughs?

*Today:*

## Markets

- Wholesale market
- Balancing mechanism
- Capacity market
- CFDs and other renewable support mechanisms

## Technology

- Gas and steam turbines
- Internal combustion engine
- Some early adoption of smart goods, appliances and EVs

## Data & Digitalisation

- Small numbers of smart:
  - Meters
  - Heating devices
- Little interoperability
- Little use of data available

*Where do we need to be by 2030?*

## Markets

Markets supporting diverse technologies to meet the new system challenges.

## Technology

New technologies (physical assets) allowing the stable and secure operation of an increasingly dynamic energy system.

## Data & Digitalisation

Data and digitalisation are underpinning an efficient and cost-effective whole system response to decarbonisation.

*Presenting their views about these topics:*

**David Sykes**  
**Octopus Energy**

**Teodora Kaneva**  
**Tech UK**

**Richard Dobson**  
**Energy System Catapult**

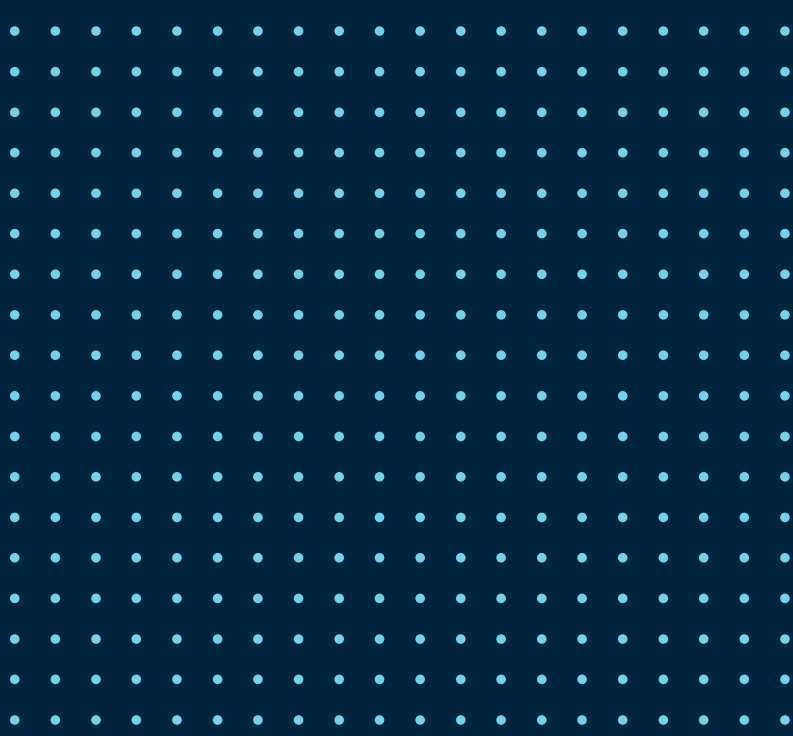
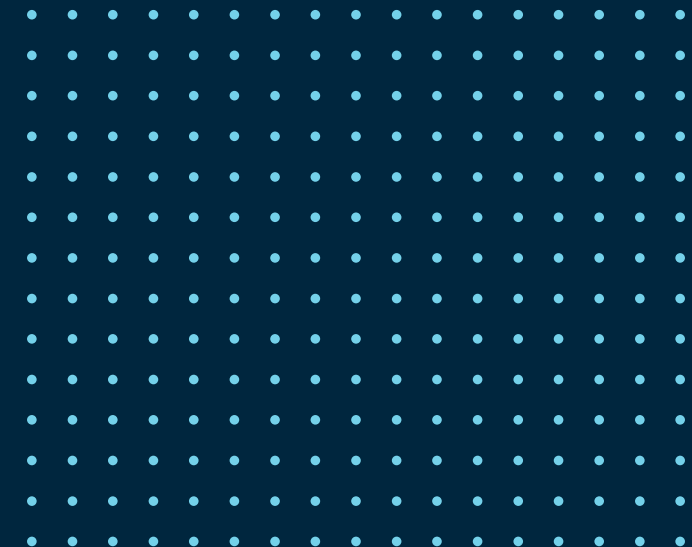
# FES Bridging the Gap

Markets

David Sykes | Octopus Energy

[david.sykes@octoenergy.com](mailto:david.sykes@octoenergy.com)

If you have any questions about David's presentation, please get in touch with him directly using the contact details above.



# Bridging the Gap 2020: Peaks and troughs: how technology can help meet the new challenges of a decarbonised energy system

Teodora Kaneva

Programme manager Smart Energy and Utilities

21 October 2020

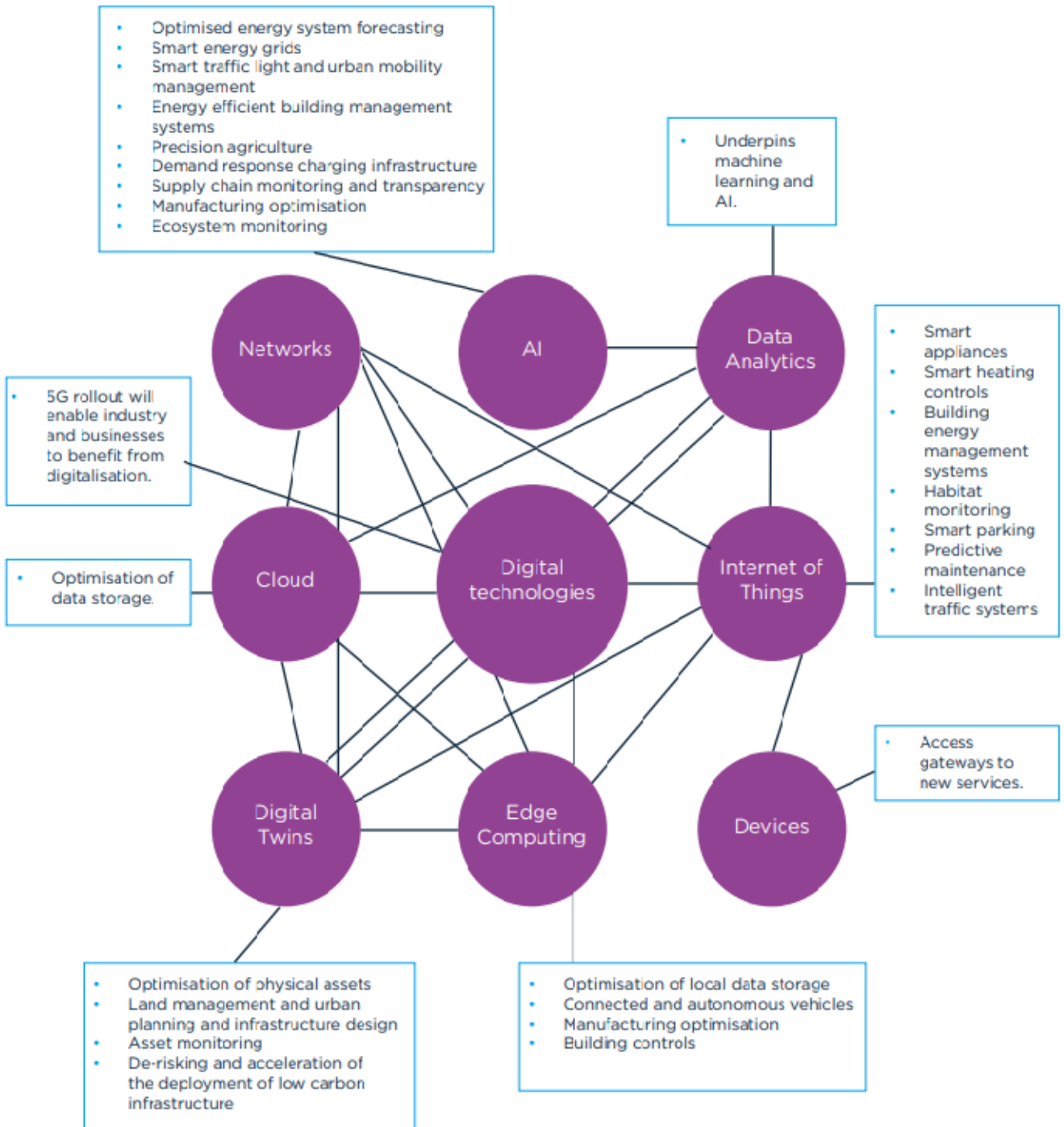


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**techUK is a membership organisation that brings together people, companies and organisations to realise the positive outcomes that digital technology can achieve.**

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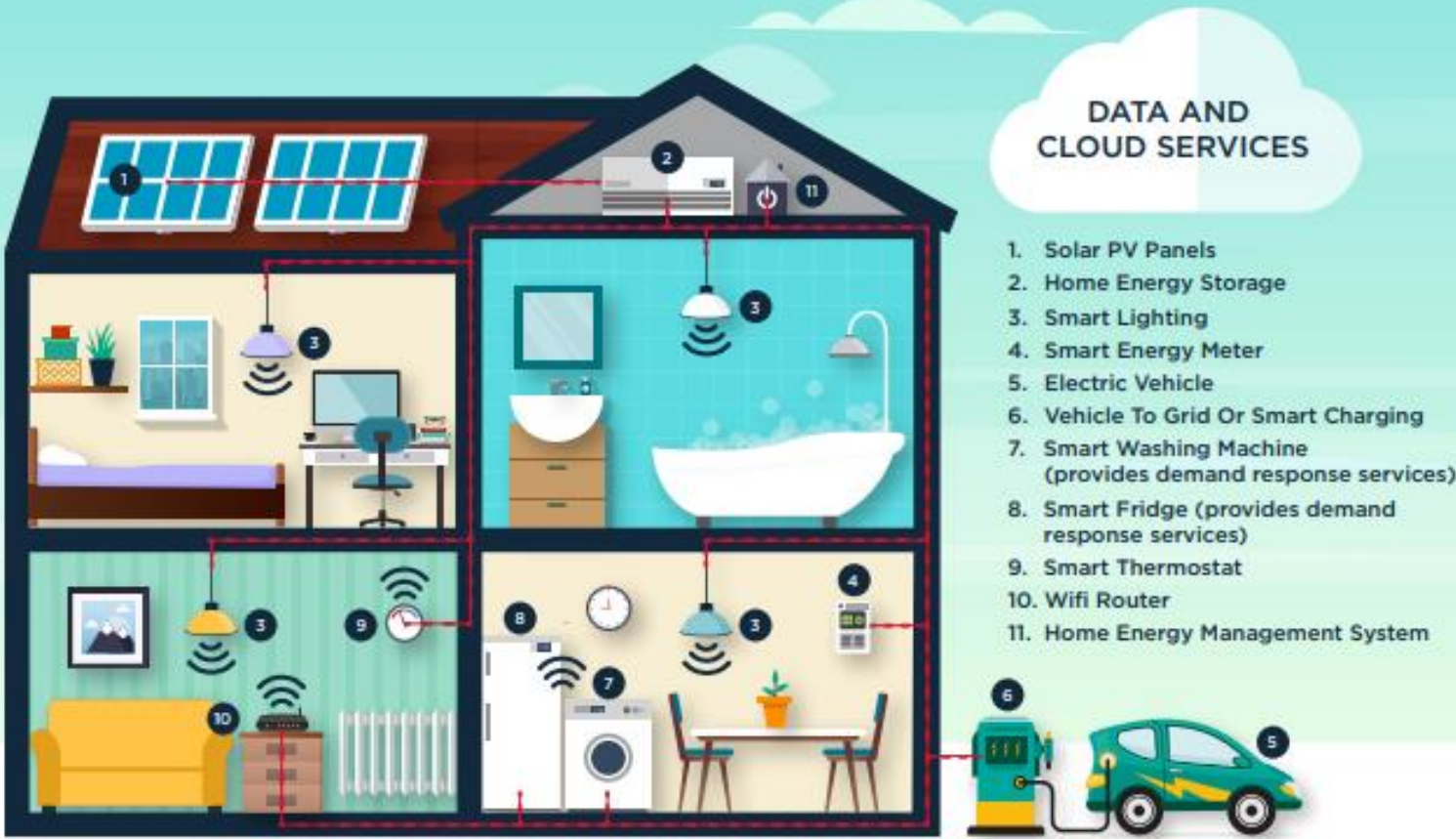
With more than 830 members (including 550 SMEs) spread across the UK, techUK is a network that enables our members to learn from each other and grow in a way which contributes to the country both socially and economically.



Technologies already in the field can deliver:

- Annual reductions in consumer bills by 2030: £354m
- Reduction in energy intensity of the energy system: 2%
- Carbon savings by 2030: 4 million tonnes

The Connected Home



- DATA AND CLOUD SERVICES**
1. Solar PV Panels
  2. Home Energy Storage
  3. Smart Lighting
  4. Smart Energy Meter
  5. Electric Vehicle
  6. Vehicle To Grid Or Smart Charging
  7. Smart Washing Machine (provides demand response services)
  8. Smart Fridge (provides demand response services)
  9. Smart Thermostat
  10. Wifi Router
  11. Home Energy Management System

Technologies already in the field can deliver:

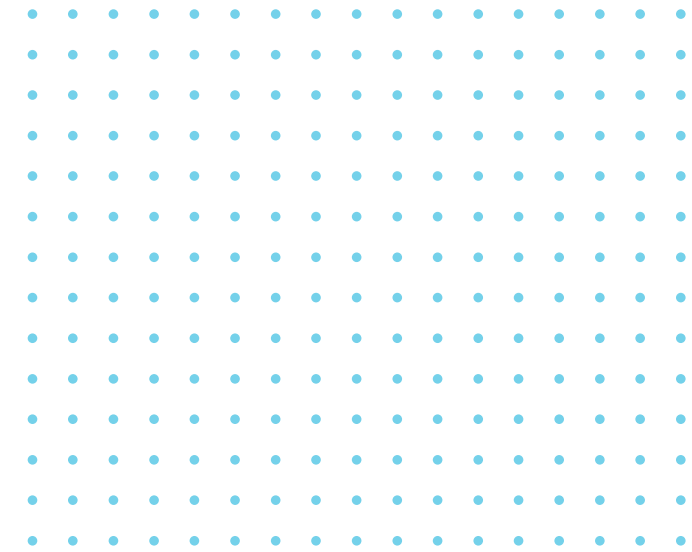
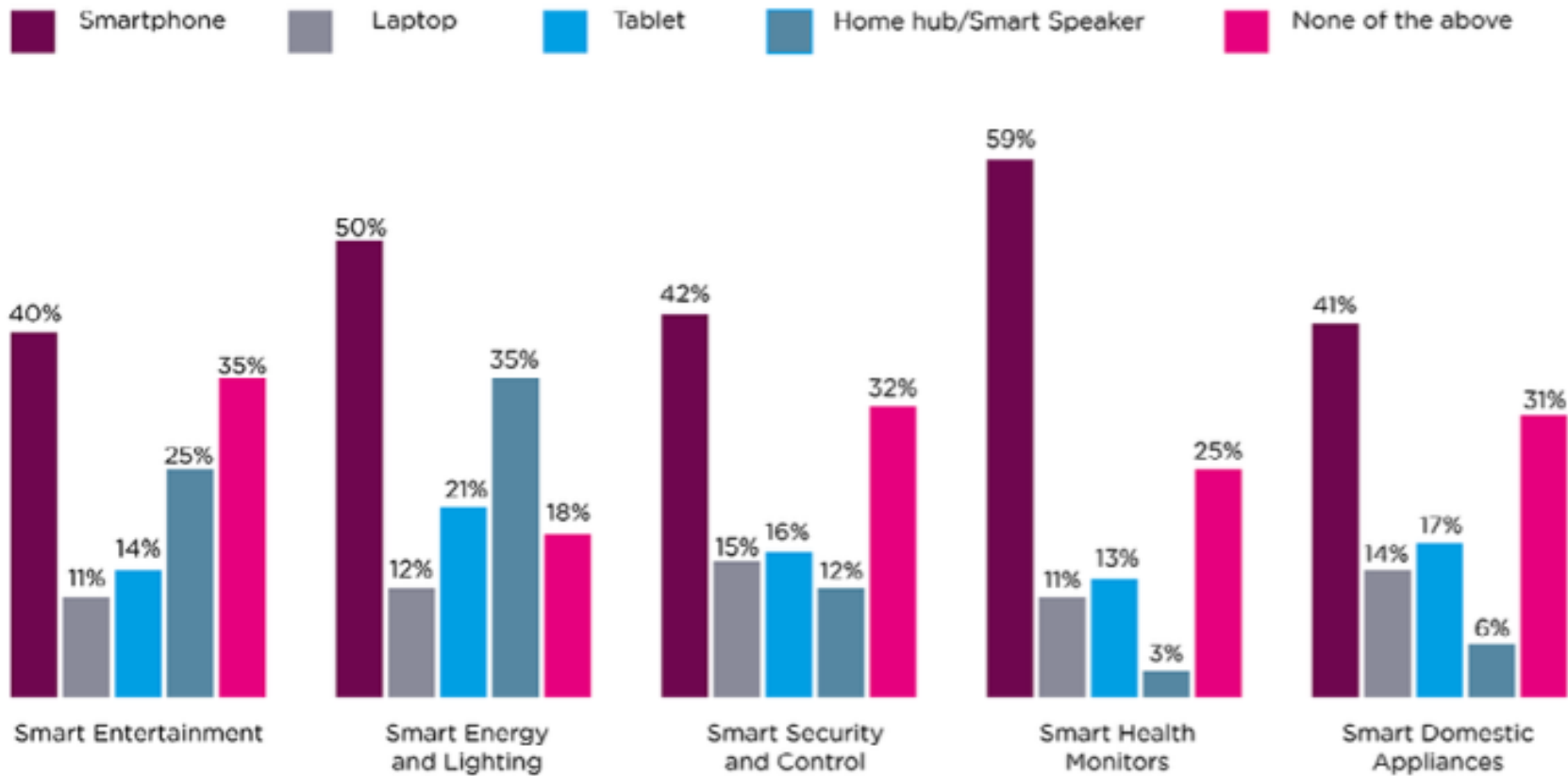
Annual carbon savings by 2030: 223,000 tonnes

Annual UK productivity gain in 2030: 1%

Annual UK GVA savings by 2030: £289m



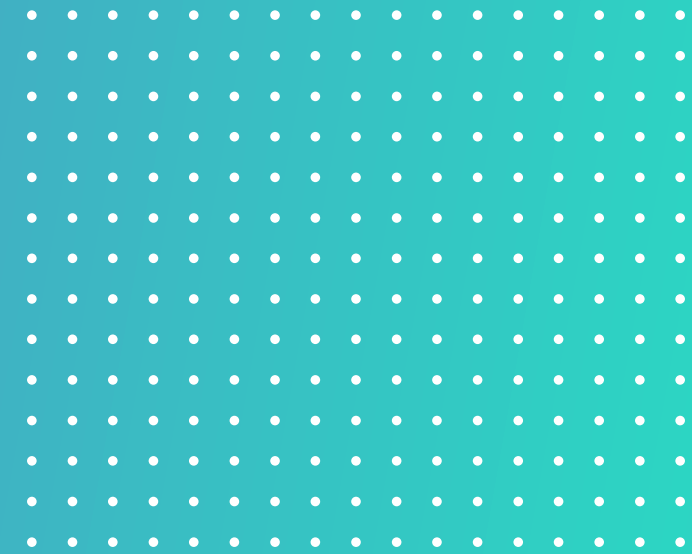
# The Connected Home – Connectivity



## Beyond data: how to unlock investment in digital energy technologies

- Clarity of destination on the policy white paper, on the framework, and specifically the central market landscape.
- Deepen innovation funding to support a whole systems approach.
- Commit to trialling in-market innovation by testing with a small number of citizens at first, then expand out.
- Conduct cross-sector sandboxing to stimulate cross sector innovation.
- Review the opportunities provided by digital twin technology.
- Be bolder in using government's own procurement processes.
- Unlock flexibility by committing to wholesale regulatory change and reform.
- Commit to review network and policy costs in the context of flexibility.
- Reduce taxes on green energy and rebalance by taxing fossil fuels more heavily.
- Recognise the benefits for vulnerable people through flexibility markets through lower systems costs and the ability to "bargain hunt".
- Provide firmer requirements for organisations to publish data.

# Assessment of the Ecosystem & Recommendations



## ➤ How it acts as a barrier to clean tech adoption

- Pilots run too shortly and focus on tech, not the underlying business models.
- Industry and academic collaboration needs to be more strategic and coordinated
- The UK R&D ecosystem needs to pivot to net zero.

## ➤ Recommendations

- BEIS' R&D Roadmap should review of the innovation system to assess if it allows for net zero.
- Trials and pilots should run for longer to prove the business model and value propositions, as well as the technology.
- Departments should run outcome- and problem-based innovation challenges to crowd-source innovative solutions.
- Innovation bodies should consider platforms to share both successes and failures in a more transparent way so companies can glean better insights from funded projects.

## ➤ How it acts as a barrier to clean tech adoption

- High level support for net-zero is not matched by day-to-day policies or regulatory decisions to pivot to net zero.
- Policy and regulation needs to move into ‘systems thinking’ – the idea of regulating transport, buildings and energy separately is holding back the clean tech sector

## ➤ Recommendations

- We need a roadmap to net zero: an updated Clean Growth Strategy, Energy White Paper and Infrastructure strategy needs to be published rapidly.
- BEIS should establish a net zero delivery office to ensure enhanced collaboration and support regulatory alignment across Government.
- The Regulatory Horizons Council should establish a net zero tech taskforce to work with the tech sector to work through regulatory bottlenecks and legislative barriers.
- Regulators should deepen regulatory sandboxing by extending it into other sectors. Extend the funding available to regulators through channels such as the Regulator’s Pioneer Fund.
- Government departments should apply digital tech innovation impact assessments to new legislation to prevent any stifling of future innovation.
- Sponsoring departments should create a statutory duty on regulators to have a due regard to decarbonisation.

## ➤ How they act as a barrier to clean tech adoption

- Scaling up is hard for clean-tech start ups. The UK has too many exits and promising start ups are not becoming mid-sized companies.
- Launching new climate products remains hard for large businesses.
- Business culture and skills is not there yet in many sectors.

## ➤ Recommendations

- Government should launch a call for evidence to explore incentive schemes to stimulate low-carbon investment in businesses, homes and the public sector.
- Departments and regulators should ensure measures are rolled out to overcome access to finance barriers – such as grants, low-interest loans, equity loans or green mortgages. Government should consider options for VAT reductions, tax offsetting and the entire suite of indirect tax measures that make energy reducing technologies more investable.
- Public financial support mechanisms, like loan guarantees, should be dedicated to new low-carbon technologies to de-risk and lower the cost of capital for early deployment.

Teodora Kaneva

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Making the UK a digital  
clean tech leader

ch<sup>UK</sup>

# The State of the Connected Home

September 2020



The State of the Connected  
Home Report 2020



# Digitalisation of the Energy System

**Dr Richard Dobson**

21<sup>st</sup> October 2020

 @EnergySysCat 



# About Energy Systems Catapult



**Mission:** Unleash innovation and open new markets to capture the clean growth opportunity

**200** Innovation experts



Hubs in Birmingham and Derby



Established, overseen and part-funded by Innovate UK. Independent from Government. Not for profit



Bridge the gap between stakeholders in the sector



Supporting innovators



Research



Trials



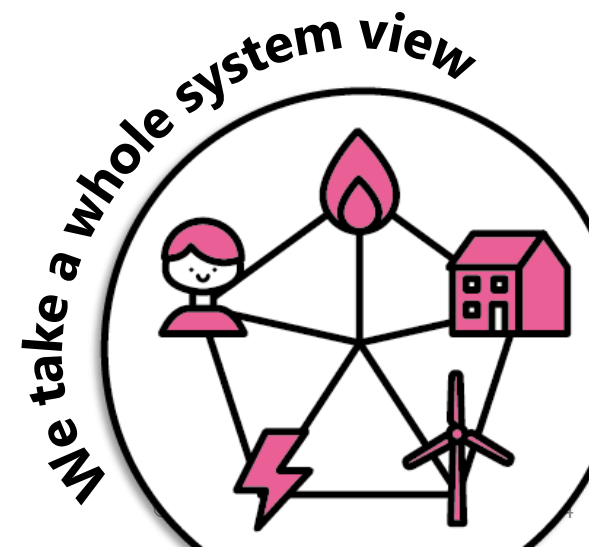
Systems engineering



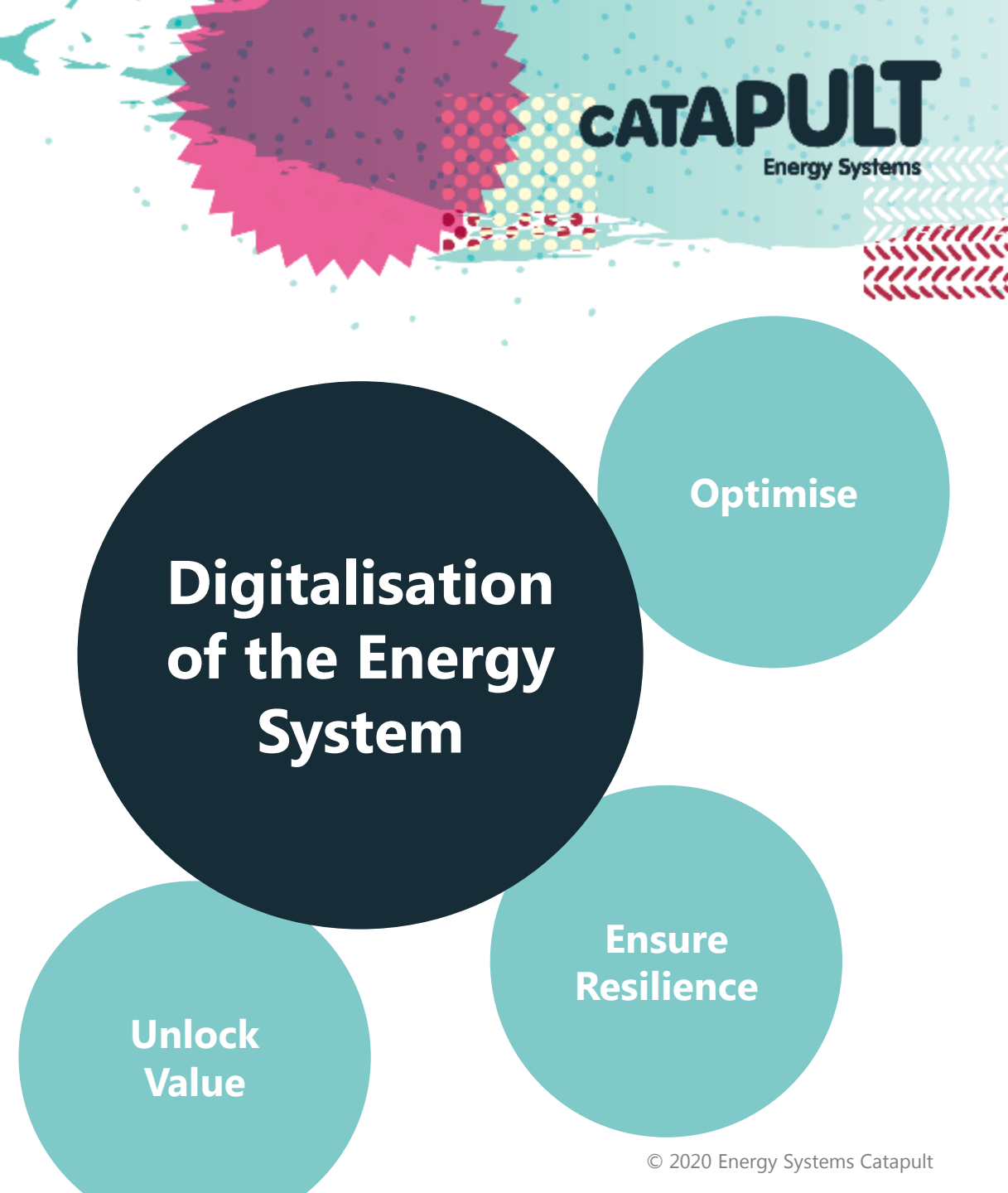
Digital



Modelling and simulation



# A Modern Digitalised Energy System



# Digitalisation

**Digitalisation** is the use of digital technologies to change a business model and provide new revenue and value-producing opportunities;  
**it is the process of moving to a digital Industry**

*(Gartner IT Glossary)*

## Technology



## People



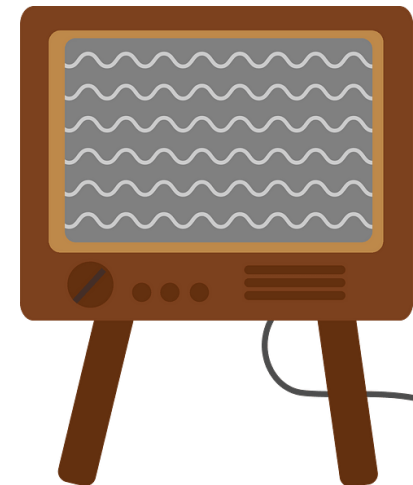
We can learn from other sectors...

## Telecoms

- Much of the infrastructure for fixed line telecommunications was built by the early 1990s and was inherently analogue. Digitalisation offered greater efficiency and the ability to enhance services

### *Challenges*

- Initially, support systems and culture did not keep up with network developments.
  - Digital islands created inefficiency in the sector
  - Large scale **digital transformation programmes** were initiated to address inequalities a number of which are still being implemented today
- Competing standards slowed innovation and increased costs
  - Industry collaboration resulted in global standards and widespread interoperability



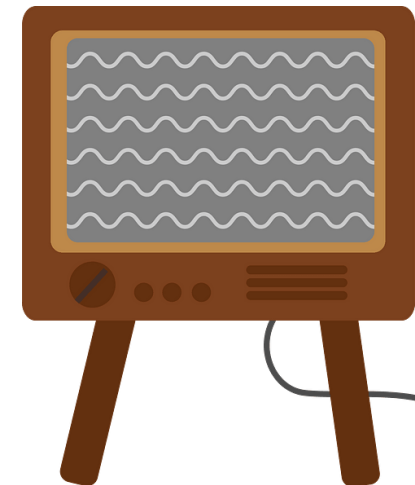
We can learn from other sectors...

## Telecoms

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### *Benefits*

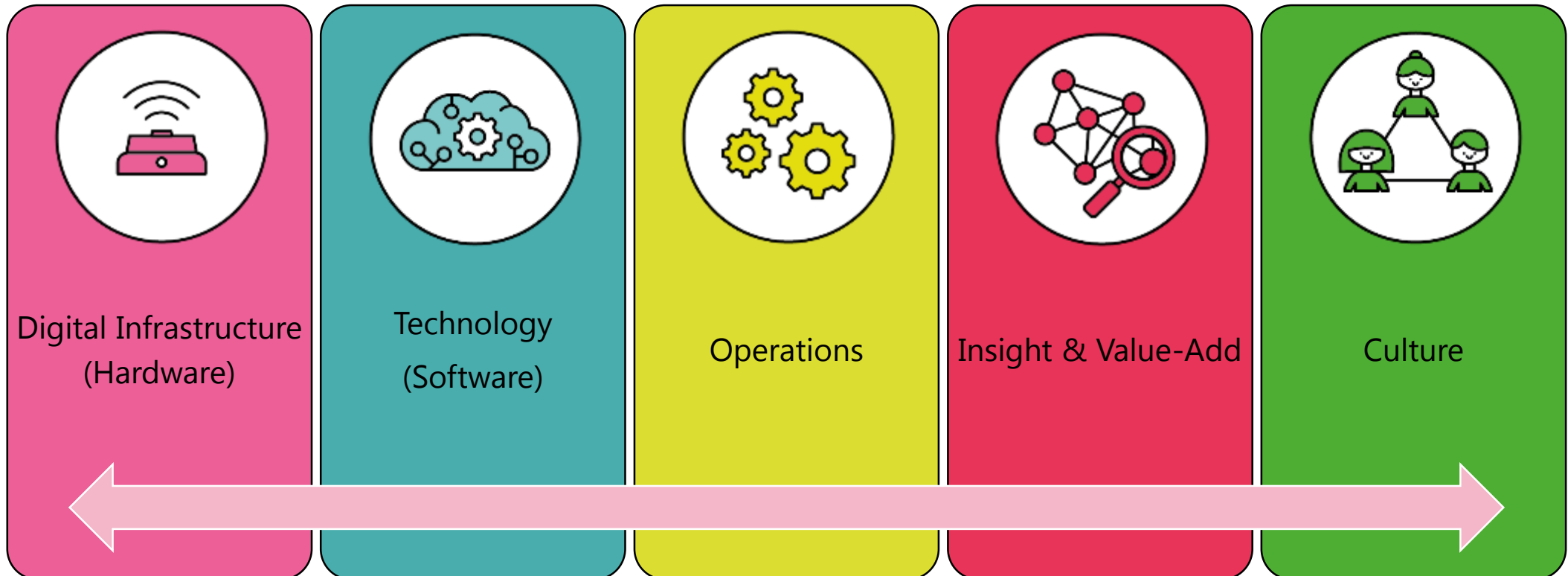
- Digitalisation revolutionised operations
  - Remote monitoring and control enabled greater levels of **automation and efficiency**
  - Data informs **risk based maintenance and rapid fault identification & diagnosis**
- Innovative new products and services were delivered
  - **Consumer centric, converged services** improved customer experience



# Digital Energy Fitness

## Technology

## People



**Thank You**



Dr Richard Dobson

[Richard.Dobson@es.catapult.org.uk](mailto:Richard.Dobson@es.catapult.org.uk)





## Discussion:

How can markets, technology and digitalisation help meet the new challenges of a decarbonised energy system?

What are your thoughts? What are the gaps we've missed? What else should be considered?

# Next steps

- Workstreams on markets, technology and data and digitalisation launched NOW!
- Working groups will meet over course of November.
- Online presentation of results at the end of November (details tbc but dates will be 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> November)
- If you'd like to be involved, please email the address below, stating the workstream you'd like to work on with us: [FESbtg@nationalgrideso.com](mailto:FESbtg@nationalgrideso.com)



For any other questions or comments, please email:  
[FESbtg@nationalgrid.eso.com](mailto:FESbtg@nationalgrid.eso.com)

Thank you for your time and contributions today