



Welcome





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# Net zero living: Fast Followers

Applicant briefing

Date: 26 January 2023

**The webinar will start at 15:00.**

- We are currently on mute, whilst waiting for more people to join
- We will conduct a sound check before the briefing starts
- Please ensure that you are dialled in, either by computer or phone, so that you can hear the briefing.
- If you have any audio issues, please dial in from a fixed line.
- The briefing will be recorded and available for you

# Agenda

- **Welcome and introductions**

- **Part 1**

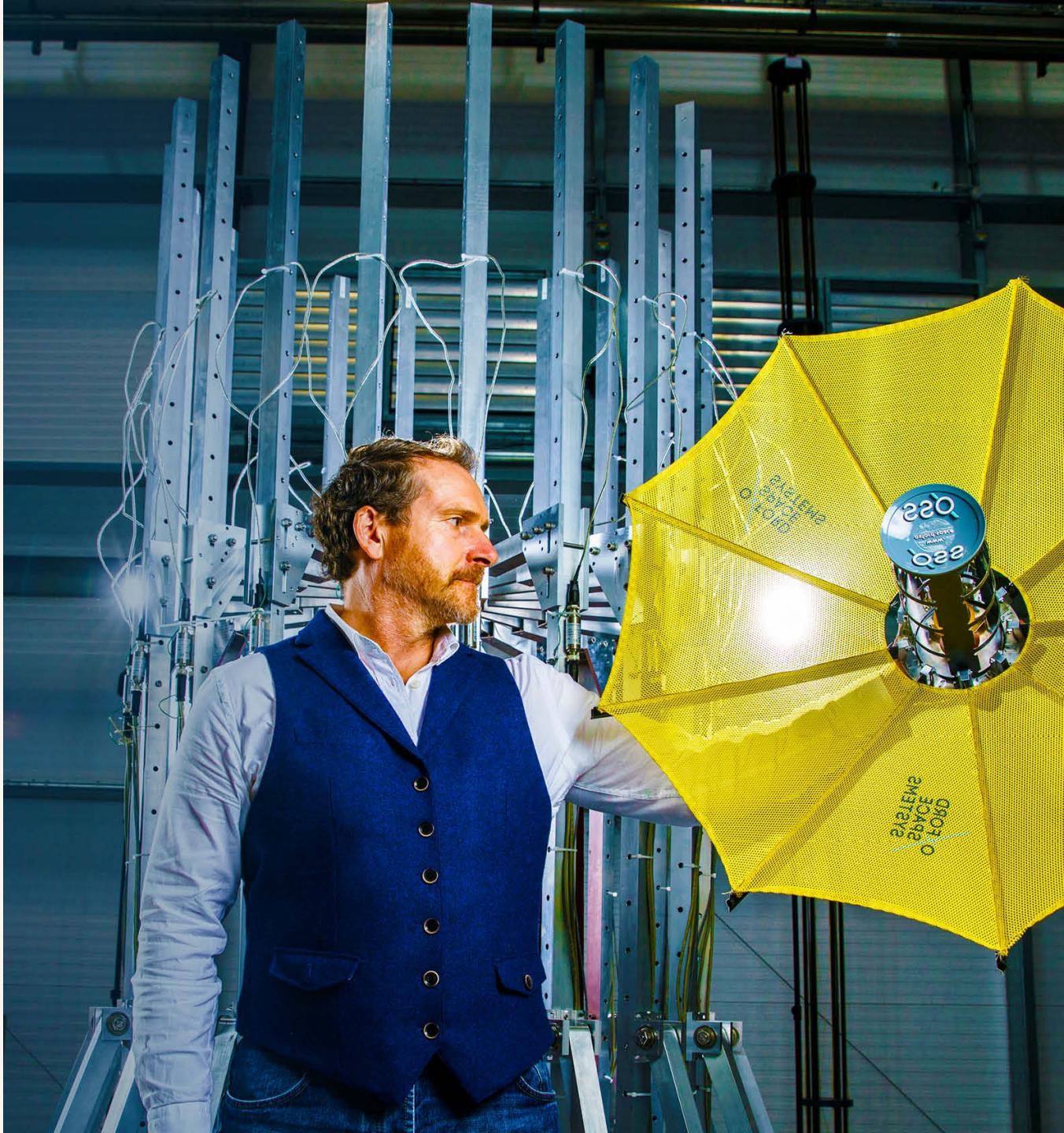
Scope, eligibility criteria

- **Part 2**

The Innovation Funding Service, application finances, academic partners

- **Part 3**

Submitting your application, assessment, project setup for successful applicants and reasonable adjustments



# Welcome and Introductions

Yvette Willis -

Portfolio Manager, Competitions Team

Kara Cartwright -

Innovation Lead, Clean Growth



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# Introduction to Innovate UK and UKRI



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# UK Research and Innovation

We work with the government to invest over £7 billion a year in research and innovation by partnering with academia and industry to make the impossible, possible. Through the UK's nine leading academic and industrial funding councils, we create **knowledge with impact**.



**UK Research  
and Innovation**

# Innovate UK

- We are the UK's innovation agency
- We support business-led innovation in all sectors, technologies and UK regions
- A key delivery body of the Government's Innovation Strategy

## Our Mission

To help UK businesses grow through the development and commercialisation of new products, processes, and services, supported by an outstanding innovation ecosystem that is agile, inclusive, and easy to navigate.



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# UK ranks 4th in Global Innovation Index

- Innovation accounts for up to 50% of labour productivity growth
- Firms that persistently invest in R&D have higher productivity
- Innovating companies are more likely to export and generate growth



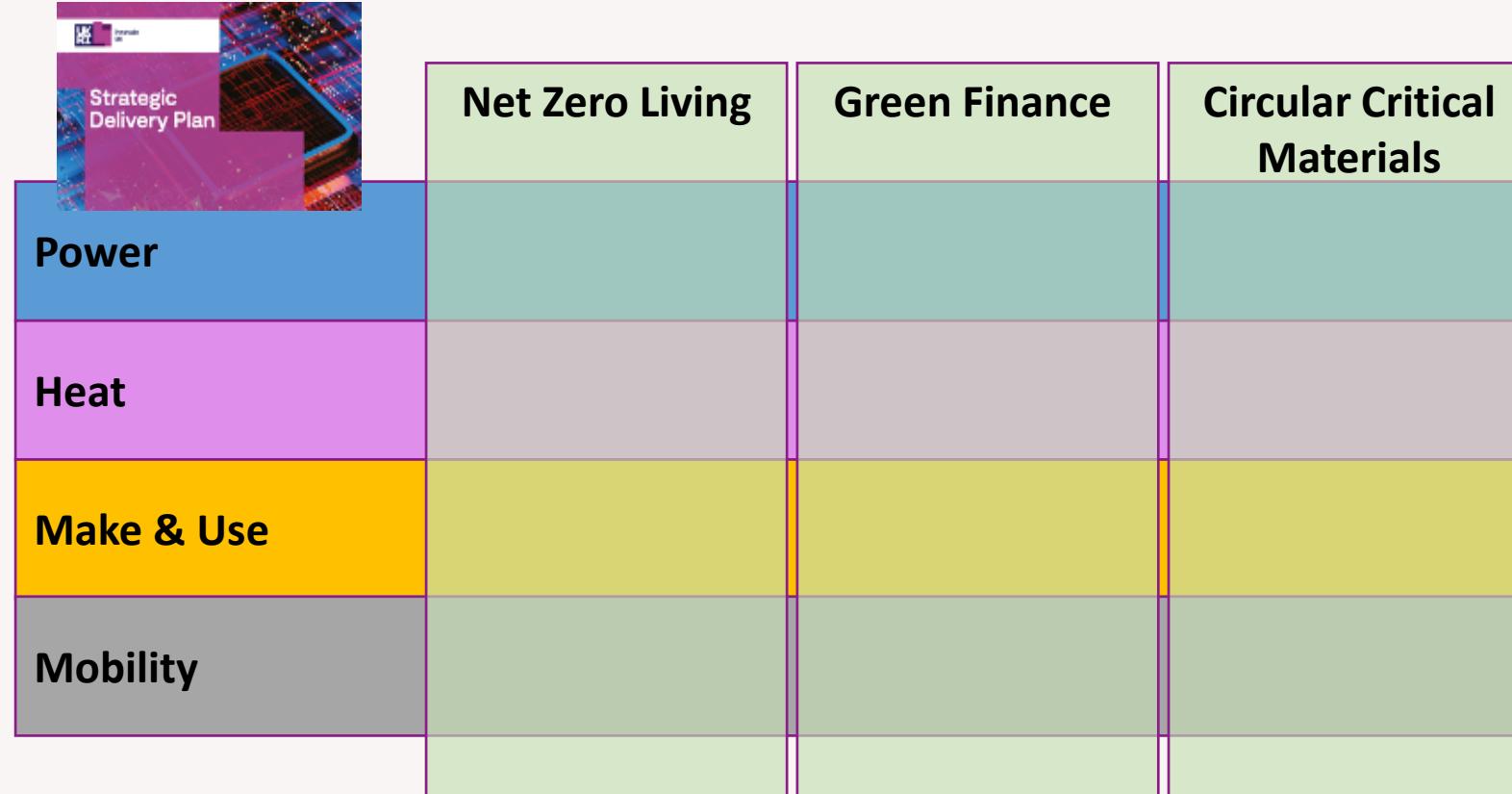
# Scope



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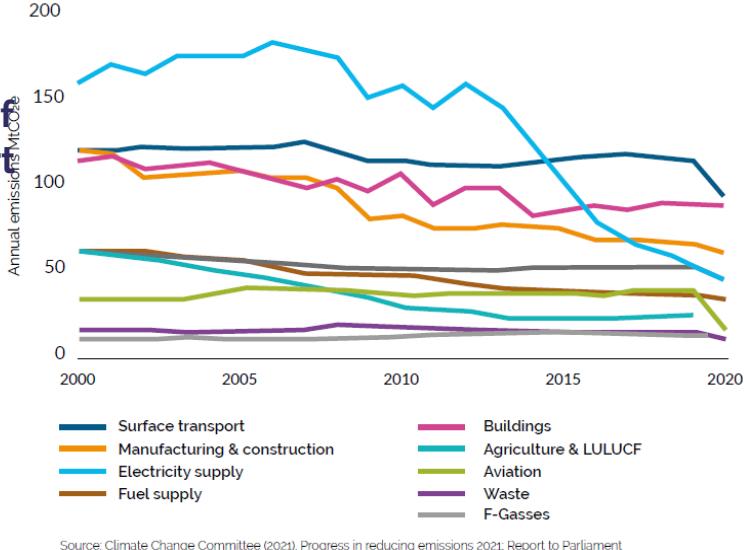
# Net Zero Domain Vision: *For the UK to prosper from being the fastest transitioning economy to net zero*



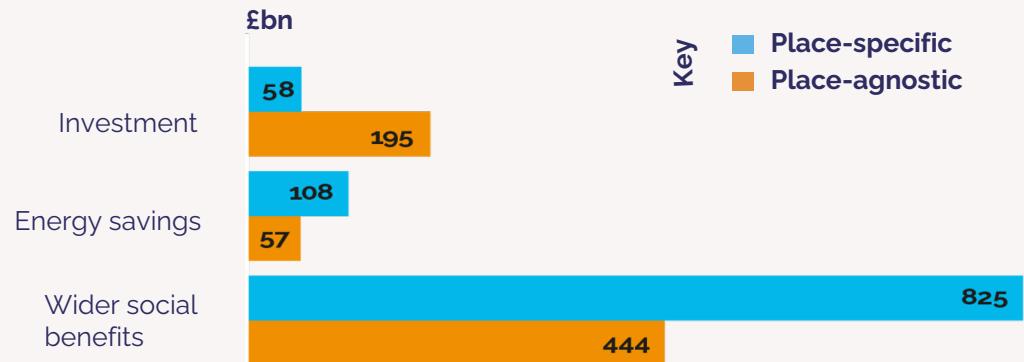
# Net Zero Living

Opportunity: UK businesses to supply £100bn markets for new products and services that transform where we live and work into fantastic net zero places.

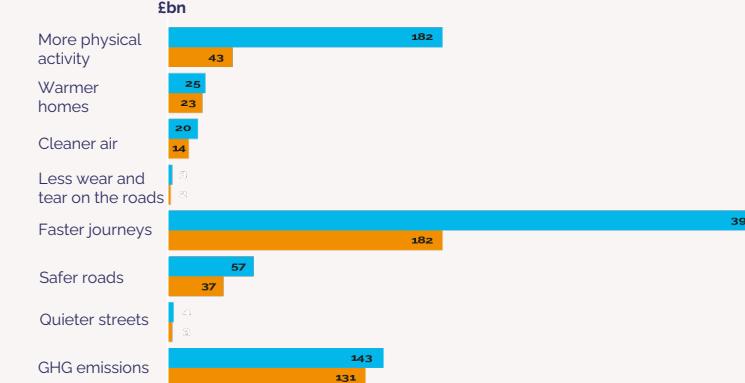
Place-based solutions target key policy problems of heating of buildings and transport – the two sectors that have flat-lined over the past decade in decarbonisation progress, and now largest contributors to emissions.



Recent research shows £100bn's of market opportunity to decarbonise where we live. And that it is much better value to do that tailored for each place's needs and resources. (PWC'22)



UK leadership will translate to global export opportunities through multiple existing city networks. First mover advantage is key to realising these international opportunities for UK businesses.



And effective action will create huge societal benefits across the UK that level-up life-experience across the country through productivity, health and pollution benefits.. (PWC, 22)

# Net Zero Living Programme Vision:

## *For UK places and communities to thrive through their transition to net zero*



**We will design and deliver a net zero living programme that addresses key barriers, helping innovative businesses to prosper and communities to thrive.**

This means working to enable markets on the ‘demand’ side and step-change ‘supply’ of great products

### THRIVING PLACES:

- show how market barriers can be broken down in practice, and for businesses to access the market opportunity available
- Build capacity & capability in places to address the net zero transition challenge
- Enable knowledge exchange between places to learn, adapt and accelerate their own plans

### USER-FOCUSSED PRODUCTS:

- Enable businesses to develop products designed for us
- Incorporate the needs and wants of diverse populations
- Understand and build on the global opportunity for innovative data-driven solutions in places

WE CAN'T CAPTURE THE VALUE FROM PLACES  
TRANSITIONING TO NET ZERO WITHOUT UNLOCKING  
THE NON-TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO DELIVERY

That's what this innovation programme is about!

# Net Zero Living: Thriving Places

## Thriving Places Workstreams

### Pioneer Places (Competition Closed)

Delivering up to 6 demonstrators overcoming barriers to net zero delivery

### Fast Followers

£6m; upto £300k per place; supporting up to 20 places over 2 years to accelerate delivery of net zero

### Future Ready

Specialist support eg citizen engagement, procurement, digital



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# Future Ready Programme Support

## Anticipated Fast Follower Training Modules

- Diagnosis
  - net zero challenge definition and net zero vision for your place
  - citizen engagement to understand the needs of all communities within their place and the development of a citizen challenge group
  - re-development of your plans for delivering net zero
- Development
  - a general understanding of relevant emerging innovative technologies related to the delivery of net zero to increase confidence in decision making
  - basic training about net zero and carbon literacy for a specified number of employees
  - attendance at engagement events with net zero innovators including SMEs, communities and academics
  - energy efficiency and retrofit training, getting inspiration from advanced local authority led projects, as well as detailed models for delivery
- Delivery
  - critical system interactions and dependencies – e.g. in mobility, or energy
  - procurement training for net zero
  - financial training for potential investment activities
  - data standards and practices training

## Future Ready

- Services procured by Innovate UK
- Formal coordinator role to deliver peer to peer cohort events; facilitate learning and communications; provide mentoring opportunities
- Links to partners such as KTN who will assist in triage of challenges and link to stakeholders and businesses
- Access and support from specialist organisations tailored to each participants needs

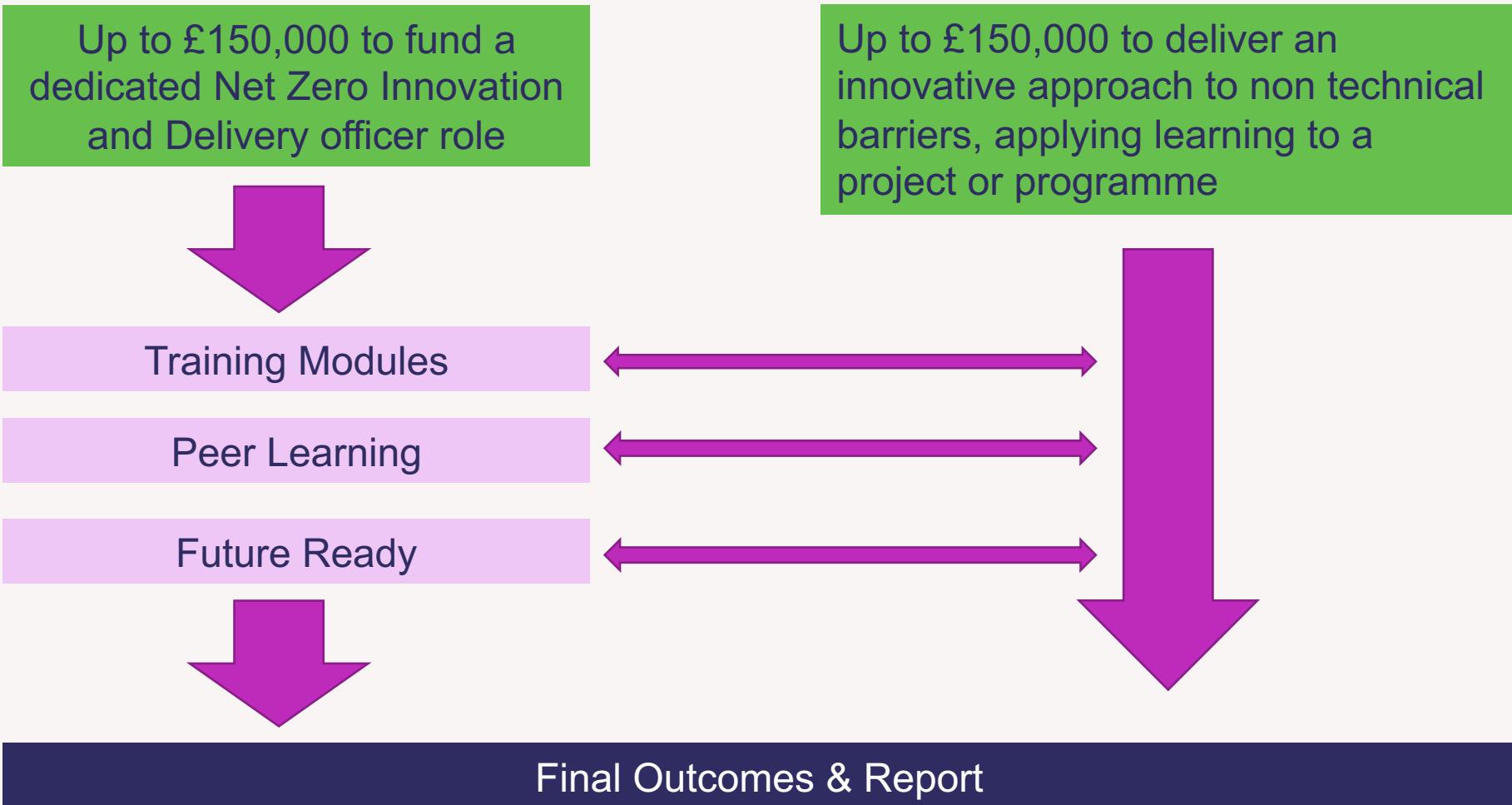


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# Fast Followers Competition – who can apply?

- To lead a project or work alone your organisation must be a UK Local Authority
- Eligible local authorities can work alone or in collaboration, including collaborations of local authorities
- A local authority can only lead on one application, but can be included as a collaborator in one further application
- We will not award Fast Follower funding if the local authority has been offered funding in the Net Zero Living: Pioneer Places competition
- Non local authority organisations are able to be a collaborative partner or a subcontractor to a local authority

# Fast Followers Competition



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# Two year programme

## Learning

- Series of hybrid activity modules managed by Innovate UK
- Expertise made available by Innovate UK to improve net zero delivery
- Participate in online monthly Fast Follower peer network cohort activities
- Participate in quarterly face to face cohort events
- Participate in mentoring activities

## Planning Capability

- Provide better definition to your net zero plans
- At least one project to demonstrate the impact of the funding
- Produce a clearly defined net zero delivery plan
- Develop a long-term plan demonstrating how the programme activities will support net zero delivery using a whole systems approach, including financing, beyond the funding period

## Engagement & Communications

- Community engagement approach
- Dissemination of future findings as a result of funding (with the cohort and publicly, contributing to communications within your own organisation and other agencies)
- Monitor impacts and sharing insights
- Identify which stakeholders to work with and how you will engage

# What are we looking for?

- Read the brief fully before answering the questions
- Evidence that you are committed to and have ambition to deliver net zero
- An openness to delivering innovation and a willingness to change
- A strong plan for recruiting your officer role
- Clear rationale for the position of the officer in your organisation
- A role that is able to influence and drive innovative approaches to overcoming non technical barriers
- A clear understanding of your project proposal that addresses non technical barriers and considers impact, replicability and innovation

# Some key applications points

Application Form		Some key points
Q3	Track record	A previous project that you have delivered Demonstrate commitment to learning and innovating
Q4	Net Zero Innovation and Delivery Officer requirements	A deliverable recruitment plan Good justification for the role Senior support
Q5	Your net zero project and programme development	Your suggestion for a project or programme approach linked to your challenges Demonstrating innovative thinking Must be deliverable
Q6	Team and project management	You may have project partners – it is OK if you don't The team involved in recruiting, onboarding, supporting the new officer role The team involved in delivering your potential project

We reserve the right to take a portfolio approach (regions, geographies and place types)

# Fast Followers: Out of Scope

- We are not funding projects that are:
  - not in scope for this competition
  - net zero infrastructure or new technology projects
  - unable to commit to the resource requirements and participation
  - not committed to addressing non-technical barriers to delivering net zero in the UK
  - Any local authorities who have been offered funding by the Net Zero Living: Pioneer Places competition

# Scope Q&A