



Delivered by
Innovate UK and EPSRC

Energy Revolution Integration Service Programme Summary

Part of Prospering from the Energy Revolution
Programme funded by Innovate UK

April 2023

CATAPULT
Energy Systems

Programme Summary

Aim and objectives

The aim of the Energy Revolution Integration Service (ERIS) programme, delivered by Energy Systems Catapult (ESC), was to support the objectives of Innovate UK's (IUK) Prospering from the Energy Revolution (Pfer) programme. It sought to deliver a legacy of insights, tools, learning and thought leadership that industry, government and regulators would find of significant value while enabling collaborations to help drive successful outcomes across the [smart local energy system](#) (SLES) projects in the Pfer portfolio. The shared vision for the Pfer programme and ERIS was to establish SLES as playing a key role in transforming local communities to achieve net zero and to inform similar projects across the UK.

To deliver net zero will require local energy innovations such as flexibility and demand management. It will also require digital technologies that help empower local actors, such as UK local authorities, to deliver actions that benefit their communities. ERIS was able to draw on the in-depth expertise, knowledge and capability of ESC to deliver significant value to Pfer throughout the programme and provide impacts and benefits to the projects and their communities. The ERIS programme was funded by IUK and began in 2018. It was originally planned to take four years but was extended by a year due to the impact of Covid and ended in March 2023.

Outputs and Achievements



Support to Pfer projects to overcome common barriers and provide tools and guidance. ERIS provided cross-project engagement activities, knowledge and data-sharing platforms and tools, for example the delivery of 27 local energy asset representations (LEARs) to help to optimise project locations within an area and over 10 electives (providing targeted guidance and insights).



Insights were developed on themes with respect to the needs of UK local authorities and their partners. ERIS published reports, webinars, workshops, blogs and articles on the following topics: [About SLES](#), [digital and data](#), [people and skills](#), [social housing](#), [finance and investment](#), [procurement](#) and [business models for SLES](#).

The finance and investment report had over 240 downloads and provided a media reach of 1m+ viewers.



Working Groups: 'Policy and regulation' and 'innovating with users and communities' working groups were established by ERIS to support the Pfer projects. The groups connected Pfer projects to one another and to wider sector stakeholders that they may not otherwise have been able to access (e.g. Ofgem, BEIS, Smart DCC, BSI).

The policy and regulation working groups provided support and evidence for the electricity system operator to use when engaging with Ofgem and BEIS on the targeted charging review.



Net Zero Go: As part of Pfer, ERIS developed the [Net Zero Go digital platform](#) to support local authorities in developing plans and projects for their local area that support net zero ambitions. Net Zero Go includes tools and features needed by a local authority to start their first energy project, build a successful business case and deliver a portfolio of smart, successful local energy projects. The platform provides:



Net Zero Knowledge Library: Over 650 articles, 30 case studies and six tools and guides.



Net Zero Projects: A guided process along the seven stages of a net zero project, from initial concept through to funding and procurement and on to build and operation.



Net Zero Forum & Support: A collaboration and capacity-building programme.

Purpose and benefits



One stop shop
Start, save time and resources



Guided journey
Take projects further, faster



Simplify and de-risk projects
Consistent approach and templates



Build skills
Ask experts and learn from experience

The success of the Net Zero Go platform can be demonstrated by the high engagement figures and positive feedback from over **300** users.

Engagement	Number
Direct stakeholder engagement (including receiving invitation to events and Net Zero Go newsletter reach)	2,600 +
Total number of Net Zero Go users (Feb 23)	318
Number of organisations registered (requesting access – Feb 23)	389
Number of local authorities with users (unique organisations – Feb 23)	128
Number of strategic partners with users (unique organisations – Feb 23)	33



Engagement: The achievements above have been supported by comprehensive stakeholder engagement and communications work throughout the ERIS programme including webinars and workshops. This included monthly newsletters, LinkedIn and YouTube channels. All activities were well coordinated with other parts of the PFER programme (ESC, Innovate UK, PFER and EnergyREV). This reach has been further expanded through developing wider communications and affiliations with organisations such as the Knowledge Transfer Network, UK100, BEIS and the Net Zero Hubs as well as the Local Government Association and Local Partnerships.



Energy outcomes evaluation: ERIS evaluated the energy outcomes of the PFER projects (three demonstration and 10 detailed design) in terms of the impact on bills and carbon emissions, user acceptance of SLES design and commercial viability. The insights gained from these outcomes have been published in three portfolio reports. The reports prove that the PFER projects demonstrated greenhouse gas savings from 2% to 108% and user bill savings ranging from 0% to 57% with evidence and examples of effective community engagement and that “investable, scalable local business models” are achievable by the SLES projects.

- [Bills and carbon impact of smart local energy systems.](#)
- [Public awareness and appeal of smart local energy systems.](#)
- [Why smart local energy systems?](#)

Digital innovators that ESC supported are already starting to win commercial contracts for digital products and services that they have developed.

Innovators such as Icebreaker One, Advanced Infrastructure Technology Ltd and Open Climate Fix have won commercial-focused contracts for their products and services which have been supported through the funded projects.



Local Area Energy Plans (LAEPs): Costed, spatial plans that identify the changes required, when and by whom. LAEPs serve as a single reference point to align stakeholders at the local level, including energy networks and private investors, local government and citizens. The data-driven, evidence-based, whole-systems approach of local area energy planning is rapidly becoming recognised as a crucial enabler of the energy transition to net zero which maximises local benefits.

ERIS delivered three LAEPs for [Peterborough](#), [Pembrokeshire](#) and Stafford, Cannock Chase and Lichfield UK local authorities as part of PFER. One was supplied by ESC and the others by Arup and Buro Happold with ESC oversight. This stimulated the supply chain and enabled cross-organisational learning. ESC also delivered [‘Building a governance framework for coordinated Local Area Energy Planning’](#) and [‘Guidance on creating a local area energy plan’](#); the guidance is now being adopted as the industry standard. This guidance builds on [‘Local area energy planning: The method’](#) produced by the Centre for Sustainable Energy and ESC for Ofgem, leveraging lessons from ESC’s experience in producing LEARs and LAEPs for local areas. Three annexes were also provided as part of the ‘Guidance on creating a local area energy plan’, providing useful LAEP templates, information regarding data, assumptions and socio-economic analysis. [‘Annex 1: Template, checklist and examples of LAEP’](#), [‘Annex 2: Standard Data Inputs and Assumptions for Local Area Energy Planning’](#), [Annex 3: Guidance for Socio-Economic Analysis in LAEP.](#)

The ‘Building a Governance Framework for coordinated Local Area Energy Planning’ report used a combination of stakeholder interviews, market research and whole system modelling to explore how coordinated local area energy planning could deliver significant financial benefits on the road to net zero. It also explored in detail the future policy, regulatory and governance reform that is needed to deliver it.



Digital Support and Research: Digitalisation is an essential part of creating SLES projects. ESC helped the sector in their creation of tools for the digitalisation of energy by supporting [modernising energy data access \(MEDA\)](#) including data use cases, glossary, data interfaces and a stakeholder landscape and integration roadmap. [Modernising energy data application \(MEDApps\)](#) provided a common service across the programme to ensure consistency, with [Open Digital Solutions’](#) support in setting up the competition and collaboration with industry.

Introduction

The Energy Revolution Integration Service (ERIS) programme was delivered by Energy Systems Catapult (ESC) to support the objectives of Innovate UK’s Prospering from the Energy Revolution (Pfer) programme. ERIS has provided support to Pfer since the start of the programme in 2018, with an initial focus on supporting the programme objectives and needs of individual projects. This progressed to informing wider stakeholders about the opportunities, benefits and risks of SLES, with a specific focus on UK local authorities and their partners. This summary report shows the key outputs, achievements and impacts across seven workstreams outlined below. These outputs were all underpinned by extensive stakeholder engagement, leadership and governance provided by ESC across the ERIS and Pfer programmes.

Support to Pfer projects	Tools, data sharing, systems and guidance to projects
Insights and adoption	Insight reports and webinars on SLES topics
Working groups and policy	Communities and policy working groups and policy articles published
Net Zero Go	Digital platform aimed at supporting local authorities and partners
Energy outcomes evaluation	Independent evaluation of detailed design and demonstration Pfer projects
Digital support and research	Creation of tools that will support the digitalisation of energy and support to Pfer participants on digital innovation
Local area energy plans	Guidance to the sector and delivery of plans that identify the most effective route for the local area to contribute towards meeting the national and local net zero targets

Support to Pfer projects

The support provided to the Pfer projects in their early set-up stages assisted them in successful development by overcoming collective challenges and barriers that they would not have been able to do individually with the time and resources available. The key outputs included:

- Knowledge sharing and data platforms: ERIS hub website, local area data management (LEADM and data platform).
- Tools, reports, guidance: **Aspects of integration**, Identified risks for integrated smart local energy systems, Systems thinking in the energy system: A primer to a complex world.
- Common datasets and services (CDaS): Datasets collated for Pfer projects with a guide and report. These datasets are now in Net Zero Go’s data and tool library.

- Local energy asset representation (LEAR): LEAR is a fully commoditised, repeatable and affordable approach to collating and generating information about current and potential energy assets in an area. ERIS delivered 27 LEARs to the Pfer projects.
- Electives (specific guidance to projects): Examples include **Report on policy and regulatory context for new local energy markets**; **How to increase consumer confidence in gas boiler alternatives report**; **Fuel poverty in a smart energy world report**; **Smarter consumer protection manual**; **Consumer vehicle energy integration (CVEI) data analysis report**.

These platforms, tools, assets data and associated reports evolved into or were migrated to the ESC website, Net Zero Go and USmart data repository, so are still available and used today by multiple stakeholders. The learning and experience gained from delivering the LEARs for the Pfer projects was also helpful to speed up, enhance and make delivery of LAEPs more efficient.

Insights and adoption

ERIS delivered insights on topics prioritised through extensive engagement and feedback from PFER stakeholders, wider energy sector stakeholders and local authorities. The key reports, articles and webinars were published. Most workshops and webinars had more than 90 people attending with over 240 downloads of the finance and investment report.

■ About SLES:

- Report: [Portfolio review of PFER concept designs](#)
- Article/Blog: [Prospering from the energy revolution can be greater than the sum of its parts](#)
- Webinar: [What are SLES and how can they support the UK's transition to net zero?](#)

■ Social housing:

- Report: [Enabling smart local energy systems: Social housing opportunities](#)
- Article: [Social housing opportunities: enabling smart local energy systems \(unlock net zero\)](#)
- Webinar: [The importance of SLES to help social landlords get to net zero](#)

■ Finance and investment:

- Report: [Enabling smart local energy systems: Finance and investment](#)
- Webinar: [Finance and investment for smart local energy systems](#)

■ Digital and data:

- Report: [Enabling smart local energy systems: The value of digitalisation and data best practice](#)

■ People and skills:

- Webinar: [People and skills for SLES](#)
- Article: [Digital skills in UK Councils \(Gov. business magazine\)](#).

■ Procurement:

- Report: [Procurement for net zero: Unleashing the opportunity](#);
- Webinar: [Procurement for net zero](#)

■ Business models:

- Report: [Emerging business models for smart local energy systems \(SLES\)](#)

Working groups and policy

'Innovating with users and communities' working groups and 13 'policy and regulation' working groups (PRWG) were set up to support the PFER projects. The PRWG provided support to the EnergyRev Strategic Engagement with Regulation and Policy (SERP) group (consisting of senior policy stakeholders including Ofgem, Distribution Network Operators (DNO) and BEIS). This meant ERIS input was able to directly influence those most able to affect policy.

The policy reports and articles are available to view from the following links:

- [Report on policy and regulatory context for new local energy markets](#)
- [Energy white paper: What it means for smart local energy systems](#)
- [Place-based innovation: How can smart local energy projects and innovative planning support net zero?](#)
- [Smart systems and flexibility plan \(2021\): What it means for smart local energy systems](#)
- [Active network management \(ANM\): Opportunities and risks for smart local energy systems](#)
- [Local energy markets and fairness: Insights for smart local energy systems](#)

The impacts of the policy and regulation working group and the associated reports they produced included:

- Thorough discussion with the PRWG; two PFER projects provided evidence for relevant consultation responses.
- The PRWG provided support and facilitation for the electricity system operator (ESO) to directly engage with Ofgem and BEIS representatives on the Targeted Charging Review.
- The active network management report presented some of the benefits and risks that have been highlighted by stakeholders around current deployment approaches by different DNOs. The report was well received by Ofgem and the issue is being explored in other ESC projects such as the Unlocking Clean Energy in Greater Manchester project.



Net Zero Go

Insights gathered from across the PfER projects demonstrated several areas where UK local authorities were struggling to make progress when designing or delivering net zero energy projects. This highlighted the opportunity to provide a platform with a single source of project level information, tools and guidance for UK local authorities, and so Net Zero Go was developed and launched on 23 March 2022.

The platform is targeted at local authority officers and the organisations that assist them in designing and delivering local net zero projects e.g. the net zero hubs.

It has three main modules:



Net zero knowledge library is an interactive resource of articles, tools, case studies and 'how to' guides developed by ESC and partners. It includes material both specifically created for Net Zero Go and links to existing external resources, organised by subject topics.



Net zero projects walks the user through all the stages of designing and delivering a local net zero project, with tools and templates to speed up their process, incorporating best practice from others and creating consistency across the user base. The principles of smart local energy systems are embedded, so even if a local authority is not yet at that stage, the projects can be made 'SLES ready'.



Net zero forums and support allows users to pose questions, learn from peers and collaborate. Further support is provided through a programme of onboarding sessions, webinars and innovator workshops, giving users the opportunity to learn from their peers. Forums are created or utilised to support the webinar, onboarding and workshop programme topics. The Net Zero Hubs are also users of Net Zero Go, developing relevant content and helping and supporting their work with regional local authorities.

Much of the knowledge library is publicly accessible; however, the detailed content such as case studies or project functionality is behind a login to ensure data protection and cyber security. This protects commercial information as well as being compliant with the requirements for public bodies. Following the launch, the release of new content and features continues, driven by the hurdles that local authority officers are facing in their daily roles to deliver net zero projects.

Outcomes and impact

In its first year, over 300 officers from 128 local authorities have become users of Net Zero Go. The breadth of content and tools ensures that whatever the type of project or technology being delivered, the information is provided that can support the local authority officer or other user through the journey towards investment.

Example feedback from potential private sector investors on the **Business Case** tool "I was particularly taken with the business case guidance, which provided links to a variety of templates, tools and research that would enable council team members to put together a robust report based upon the green book guidance for their colleagues without it taking them months to prepare. Many I speak to at the moment seem weighed down with trying to put together relevant information, with project times for research of 12/18 months, and to my mind we need to be moving quicker".

Stakeholder Engagement and Communications: Over the past three years the Net Zero Go team have built and engaged a stakeholder group of 2,600+ stakeholders from scratch. The team engaged directly with a broad set of stakeholders to understand their needs and delivered a platform to address these with input, oversight and validation from UK local authorities.



Get started with confidence

Start with ideas, knowhow and guidance. Signposted, every step of the way



Save time and resources

Create, plan, and manage your project all in one powerful, easy-to-use platform



Build robust business cases

Simplify the process with evidence and tools that help you communicate your ideas to decision makers



Avoid common pitfalls

A guided journey navigates you through each stage to take your project from high-risk to success



Create investable projects

Plans, templates and investorvalidated features help you develop viable projects and pipelines



Learn from peers and local energy leaders

Benefit from direct access to those with experience in a vibrant, secure community



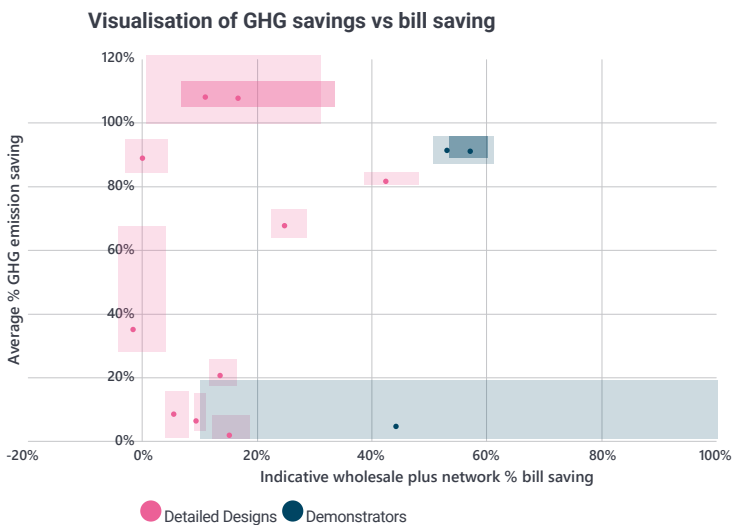
Meet net zero targets and maximise benefits for local people

Net Zero Go bakes co-benefits and consistency into your planning to help you deliver high employment, high benefit, low carbon initiatives for your area

Energy outcomes evaluation

ERIS evaluated the 10 detailed designs and three demonstrator SLES projects funded by Innovate UK's PfER programme. It delivered a confidential evaluation dashboard for each project and three public portfolio reports which highlight the results. These results give independent, referenced and objective evidence of how PfER projects met the aims and objectives of the PfER programme. Information on each project was provided to Innovate UK and key insights published for the energy community. Lessons learned from the evaluation have been shared to support future government-funded energy programmes.

Bills and carbon impact: A forecast of differences in annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and annual usage and network bill costs for the year 2032. A calculator tool was developed which took common forecast data combined with project inputs. This tool has been used on other projects and could be developed for evaluation of future programmes.



Portfolio report: Bills and carbon impact of SLES.

Key findings:

- Savings on both GHG emissions and consumer bills are feasible in a SLES.
- Implementing full ambition of smart operation remains challenging in the current environment.
- SLES facilitation of low carbon technology substitution is a key benefit with GHG and energy usage savings typically attributable to technology substitution.

Public awareness and appeal of SLES: Two national surveys were conducted in January 2021 (n=3,019) and October 2022 (n=3,009) that explored public awareness and attitudes towards SLES. The published results for the first survey supported PfER projects with their engagement strategies. The full portfolio report below (following the second survey) also included a review of the PfER projects' user engagement and their own research into user experiences.

Portfolio report: Public awareness and appeal of SLES.

Key findings:

- The public wants to see more action from the government on supporting greener, more secure and affordable energy supplies.
- SLES are appealing to consumers because they address concerns about energy security, costs and carbon. Propositions that focus on energy generation and storage are most appealing.
- However, trust in the energy sector has deteriorated significantly due to the current economic background. This trust must be rebuilt to unlock support for net zero innovations.

Lessons to support the success of future SLES:

- A range of citizen engagement activities should be used to build awareness and appeal of SLES projects, such as surveys, citizens' juries or workshops. Support this with information from impartial organisations that are trusted by consumers, such as Citizens Advice.
- Use simple, non-technical language to ensure understanding of the SLES concept. This is important as higher understanding is linked to greater appeal.
- Services that are appealing to the public typically entail energy generation or using low carbon power locally.

Commercial viability of SLES: A detailed assessment of scalability, replicability and investability of the projects. The benefits of SLES including key commercial findings are presented in the report below and make the case for such a systematic approach.

Portfolio report: Why SLES?



Technical benefits

- alleviate grid constraints
- optimise local energy usage
- enable deployment of low carbon technologies
- decarbonise challenging local sectors (transport and buildings)
- harness potential of local resources
- improve energy security and resilience



Financial benefits

- lower energy bills
- new revenue streams for both operators and participants
- payments for providing flexibility
- avoided network reinforcement costs
- reduction in healthcare costs
- unlock external investment



Social benefits

- reduced greenhouse gas emissions
- improved air quality
- safer, quieter roads
- better health and wellbeing
- lower levels of fuel poverty
- fairer access to local energy resources
- greater community engagement
- local jobs and skills

to enable local government organisations to lead on the production of LAEPs in a consistent way. Three individual LAEPs were produced in addition to the guidance, two of which were delivered by external suppliers Arup and Buro Happold. They set out the actions, decisions and investments on a pathway to reach each local area's net zero targets. Starting from an understanding of each area in the present day, the LAEPs incorporate existing plans and objectives in their pathways to net zero, building on rather than duplicating previous and ongoing projects. Contracting a portion of the delivery to external organisations helped to seed the future marketplace for LAEP services, stimulating supply chain capacity to deliver LAEPs to guidance specification.

Outcomes and Impact

Guidance document: By aligning the supply chain to deliver LAEPs according to a standard set of requirements, the guidance document drives consistency in quality, assumptions, methods and outputs across LAEPs, covering diverse geographical areas. This will promote investor confidence, scale and speed of the production and implementation of LAEPs and allow like-for-like comparison as well as aggregation of LAEPs to understand their collective impact at wider geographical scales. The defined process will enable local authorities to produce or procure their LAEPs as informed customers, and on the supply side it will promote delivery capacity, scale and efficiency.

The influence of the guidance on stimulating and shaping the market for LAEPs has begun to emerge, with recent LAEP procurement activity by local authorities making reference to the guidance, and a variety of new players now offering to produce LAEPs.

LAEP outputs

Guidance on Creating a Local Area Energy Plan.

Delivered by ESC.

Peterborough Local Area Energy Plan (linked to the Peterborough Integrated Renewable Infrastructure PFER project). Delivered by ESC.

Pembrokeshire Local Area Energy Plan (linked to Milford Haven Energy Kingdom PFER project). Delivered by Arup.

Stafford, Cannock Chase and Lichfield Local Area Energy Plan (linked to Zero Carbon Rugeley PFER project). Delivered by Buro Happold.



Local area energy plans (LAEPs)

Local area energy planning is a data-driven, whole-system, evidence-based approach that sets out to identify the most effective route for the local area to contribute towards meeting the national net zero target, as well as meeting its local net zero target.

LAEPs can promote confidence in the solutions required and the long-term direction of travel. They also identify key uncertainties, decision points and enabling actions at points in time, such as the investment required in network capacity. This all helps to minimise the risk of missing targets.

The guidance on creating a local area energy plan, delivered by ESC, synthesises the inputs from a broad range of stakeholders across local and national government, energy regulators, networks, community energy organisations and others. It sets out a standard process for producing LAEPs, with specified data sources, modelling requirements and output deliverables,

Feedback on the three LAEPs:

Peterborough City Council's Executive Director of Place and Economy, Adrian Chapman, said of their LAEP:

"It will act as a blueprint for positive and real change in our city that directly benefits existing residents and businesses, as well as future generations, and will direct the strategy to secure the volume of inward investment we will need to deliver to this."

Steve Keating, Energy and Sustainability Team Manager of Pembrokeshire County Council, said of their LAEP:

"We are confident that due to the wide ranging engagement across multiple stakeholders we have developed a focussed LAEP that establishes the direction and steps that we now need to take in order to address the decarbonisation of Pembrokeshire. The LAEP has established a really clear evidence base to allow us to drive implementation forwards."

Mark Parkinson, Head of Planning Policy and Enabling Economy, Infrastructure and Skills at Staffordshire County Council, said of their LAEP:

"The Local Area Energy Plan (LAEP) gives valuable insight into the scale of the challenge for moving towards net zero in the context of this area of Staffordshire. It also illustrates that the aspiration is possible and it will help as an evidence base for future decisions and strategy. By highlighting initial and realistic opportunities this will help shift the plan from purely an evidencing role, to helping support actual deployment."



Digital support and research

ESC has participated in and supported the PfER-funded digital competitions focused on digitalisation and data: Modernising Energy Data Access, Modernising Energy Data Applications with Open Digital Solutions for Net Zero. Across each of these competitions, ESC provided innovators with access to a range of energy system experts, developed shared resources that support industry to address challenging issues and ensured that the competition projects were supporting the delivery of the energy data taskforce and energy digitalisation taskforce recommendations. A list of specific deliverables is included in the table below.

Modernising Energy Data Access: (MEDA):

Glossary, data use cases, data interface, stakeholder landscape and integration roadmap

Modernising Energy Data Applications (MEDApps):

Tailored project support scoping, kick-off webinar, show and tells, webpage, learnings and recommendations, GIS data relevant to the UK's energy sector

Open Digital Solutions: Competition and innovator application support, tailored project support, stakeholder engagement and external communications, digital support and research final report

Outcomes and impact



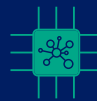
Improving digital maturity: Much of the work ESC has undertaken has been focused on helping to raise the level of digital literacy and understanding across the sector. Through our work on the glossary of terms, data use cases and various public engagement activities, ESC created a greater understanding of the value of energy data and digitalisation. This has led to an increased focus on the digitalisation and data space and enabled innovators to have more fruitful conversations with incumbent data custodians in the energy sector. In practice, innovators and incumbent energy organisations are better able to understand each other's needs, which has resulted in innovators accessing new data sources, increased quality of data shared by incumbents and investment into digital and data innovations.



Funding opportunities for innovators: Many of the innovators that have been supported by ESC have gone on to secure additional funding to pursue energy digitalisation or data opportunities. For example, Icebreaker One have secured multiple funding streams from both industry and innovation funding sources to continue to develop Open Energy and Open Net Zero. Advanced Infrastructure Technology Limited have successfully secured funding from local authorities, distribution networks and BEIS innovation funding to continue to develop their LAEP+ product.



Business model maturity: ESC has supported multiple organisations to develop more coherent business models for their technical innovations. This has included support provided directly by ESC's internal business model innovation team but also through partners such as OpenUK, leading to organisations pivoting their products and services towards more promising markets and potential clients, and opening new opportunities for revenue.



Open and shared data: ESC's continued championing of open data has resulted in an increasing number of incumbent energy sector organisations publishing open data which has supported the development of innovative products and services. Prominent examples include National Grid Electricity Distribution's Connected Data Portal and UKPN's Open Data Portal. Icebreaker One's Open Energy Data Search now lists 373 open data sets from 48 organisations.

In addition, we have seen an increasing number of organisations engaging with the Open Energy project and starting to share data across their network with 126 shared datasets on the energy data search portal. Finally, ESC has worked with many organisations to broker bespoke data-sharing arrangements for key datasets which are not yet publicly available (open or shared).



Next steps

Through the ERIS programme, the PFER programme participants, the wider energy sector, local authorities and strategic partners have gained knowledge and expertise and have benefited from innovative ideas and input from ESC's capabilities.

The learnings, knowledge and expertise that were created all combined to support the wider goal of transitioning to net zero. For example, the LEAR, LAEP, Net Zero Go and Evaluation initiatives together present a set of tools that will support local authorities and other local actors through their transition to net zero. It will help them develop a plan of what needs to happen and support the delivery of low carbon energy projects, including SLES.

ESC's work on the transition to net zero with the capability, knowledge and expertise generated by ERIS within the energy landscape does not stop here. The next steps include:

- LAEP: The influence of the guidance on stimulating and shaping the market for LAEPs has begun to emerge, with recent local authorities' procurement activities making reference to the guidance, and a variety of new players now offering to produce LAEPs. ESC will continue to influence the market to ensure best practice is being followed, evolve and refine its methods and look to speed up, automate and replicate this approach across the UK to build robustness and consistency locally alongside a national view of net zero plans and actions.
- Net Zero Go will continue to help UK local authorities develop their knowledge and maturity with the aim to align the enhanced experience and capability developed with building scale in net zero action in support of local plans and SLES.
- The energy outcomes and evaluation experience and tools developed will continue to be used by ESC to measure future complex projects and programmes and to help prove delivery on their objectives.
- The digital and data innovations are already proving their worth. ESC has new offers in development to support the speed of access, quality and consistency required by local actors to make informed decisions for the benefit of their communities in meeting net zero.
- The innovations nurtured and developed through the modernising energy work are already proving they are viable for today's and future market needs. These innovations have helped start-up organisations develop their ideas into market propositions.





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OUR MISSION

TO UNLEASH INNOVATION
AND OPEN NEW MARKETS
TO CAPTURE THE CLEAN
GROWTH OPPORTUNITY.

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