







# Local energy data innovation **Discovery findings**

September 2020

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### Introduction



#### Local energy data innovation opportunities

Regen worked with UKRI and the Energy System Catapult to think about how data could play a greater role in solving local energy-related problems.

We explored the opportunities for using data for local energy systems and identified the challenges that stakeholders had, which could be met through data solutions. In doing so we hoped to support innovation for net zero and investment in the green recovery.

#### Why engage?

The project began with a desktop study of work done to date in this space. This process identified potential use cases for local energy data, but this needed to be sense checked with stakeholders. We also wanted to go out to a wide range of local energy system stakeholders to identify and capture additional user stories and needs.

#### What did we do?

- Online survey ran from 24 August to 4 September and asked respondents to review some ideas of how we could use data to solve local problems and to add their own. It was promoted through Regen, ESC and UKRI networks, as well as through umbrella organisations such as Tech UK, Renewables UK, EIC and the Knowledge Transfer Network
- Two workshops were held to present the survey findings and ask participants to give their views on which use cases should be prioritised, which had the potential to create economic value, and what design principles should be considered.

### Outline methodology WP1: Desktop phase WP2: Discovery phase Review of current situation Stakeholder engagement 1.1 Identifying existing methods and 2.1 Stakeholder mapping tools for local energy planning 2.2 Online questionnaire, advertised 1.2 Identifying active organisations widely to capture use cases and Users contacts Providers 2.3 Service design workshops for 1.3 Reviewing existing and different stakeholder groups complimentary data sources 2.4 Interviews with harder to reach/categorise groups 1.4 Identify a range of use cases to be tested in discovery Working report: Summary of Working report: Summary of current uses of local energy data discovery findings WP3: Report and virtual show and tell

#### The findings

This report summarises the findings of the discovery phase of this project.

## Summary of findings



### Desktop

Approx. 40 stakeholders identified

Identified 45 problem statements relevant to stakeholders

Problem statements categorised into 11 themes

### Stakeholder engagement

Cross-checked survey respondents with stakeholder map to identify any missing ones

Tested 33 problem statements in the survey and asked for additional ones (+341 ideas)

Discussed further in workshops and interviews

### Reporting

Landed on 13 user groups and 11 themes

Selected the top 5 problem statements per user group and per theme based on a combined quantitative and qualitative analysis of the engagement findings

Resulted in 70 problem statements in total, as there was cross-over between themes and users

- We engaged a wide range of organisations, but the greatest number of responses were from consultancies, community groups and local authorities
- The themes that received the most interest in the survey were: achieving net zero; electric vehicles; and energy generation
- The most popular themes identified in the workshops were: achieving net zero; energy network operation; and flexibility services
- The themes that received the highest number of additional problem statements in the survey were: achieving net zero; electric vehicles; joining up utilities; and domestic energy and bills. Responses in the workshop were similar, although energy network operation received the same number of suggestions as achieving net zero.

# STAKEHOLDER MAPPING



## Initial stakeholder mapping



#### **Public services**

- Local authorities:
  - Sustainability
  - Economic development
  - Planning
  - Energy/climate
  - Housing
  - Waste (household)
- Regional bodies:
  - Combined authorities
  - Local Enterprise Partnerships
  - Regional Economic Partnerships
  - Local Energy Hubs
- Housing Associations
- Public health

This map demonstrates the difficulties in categorising stakeholders (shown by the interlinking lines). E.g. local authorities are linked to developers by a blue line, as they invest in generation and energy efficiency projects.

#### **Consumers**

- Domestic
  - Prosumers
  - Vulnerable
  - Fuel poor
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Public sector

### **Grassroots organisations**

- Community energy groups
- Citizen activists
- Campaigning organisations

### Transport

- Public transport
- EV charging infrastructure
- EV manufacturers

# Developers/installers/operators

- Renewables developers
- Housing and built environment
- Heat networks
- Flexibility/storage
- Smart appliances
- Heating
- Energy efficiency

### **Energy service providers**

- Energy Management
   Systems
- Aggregators
- Flexibility platforms
- ESCos

# Regulated energy industry

- DNOs
- GDNs
- IDNOs
- Generators
- Suppliers
- Smart meter communications

### **Research and support**

- Universities
- Research centres
- Consultancies
- Innovation support programmes
- Tech companies

#### Other utilities

- Waste
- Water
- Telecoms

### List of users



We cross-checked the stakeholder mapping with the survey findings to come up with the following list of 13 user groups:

# Community or campaigning organisation

- Community energy groups
- Citizen activists
- Campaigning organisations

#### Consultancy

- Research and advice
- Financial
- Legal
- Engineering

## Energy efficiency or heating provider

- Heat networks
- Energy efficiency installers
- Heating installers

## Energy network operator

- DNOs
- GDNs
- IDNOs
- System operator

## Energy supplier or service provider

- Suppliers
- Aggregators
- Flexibility platforms
- ESCos

#### EV or storage provider

- EV manufacturers and charge points
- Battery manufacturers, installers, operators

# Generation developer

- Private
- Public
- Community

# Healthcare provider

- NHS
- Social care

# Housing provider

- Housing associations
- Built environment professionals

### Large energy user

- Commercial
- Industrial
- Public sector

### Local authority

- Upper-tier, district and unitary
- Combined
- Regional bodies

### Non-energy utility

- Waste
- Water
- Telecoms

### Researcher

- Universities
- Research centres

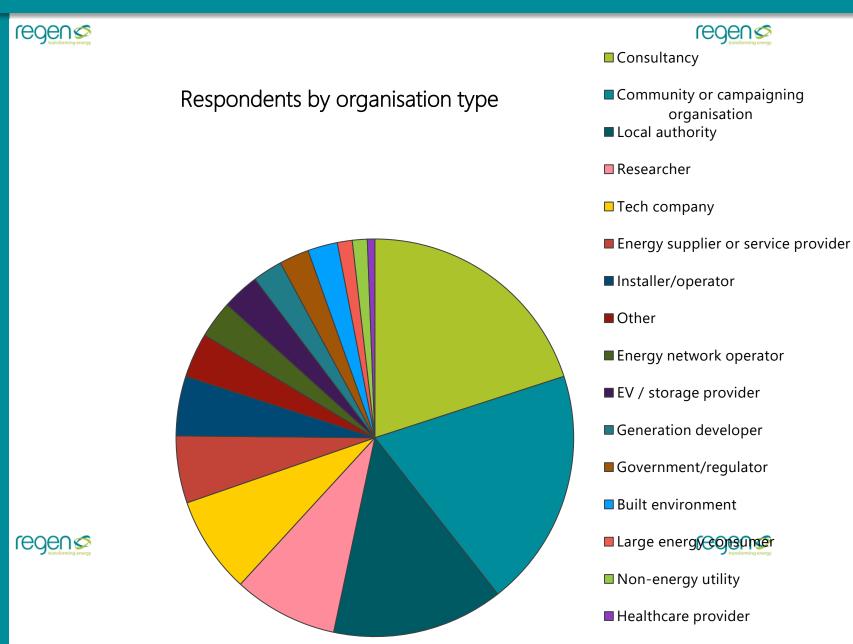
# **ONLINE SURVEY**



## Respondents



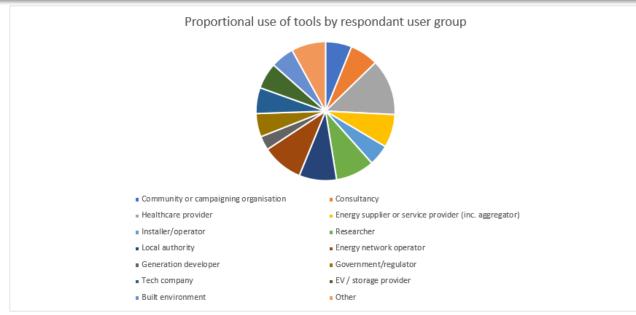
- There were 165 full responses to the survey with representation from all the sectors of interest
- The most responses were from consultancies (20%), community and campaigning organisations (19%) and local authorities (14%)
- The 'Other' category represented 4% of respondents and included two smallholdings, and several that fit into more than one category
- Full list of respondents in shown in Appendix 1

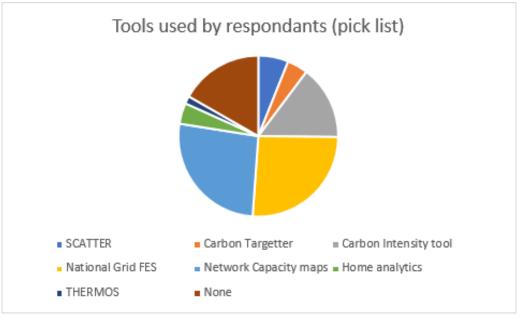


## Existing use of energy-related data applications



- Most respondents had used one or more of the suggested tools before – only 17% had not used any of them
- All user groups used data apps with no groups showing a significantly higher level of access. Most user groups had interaction with a similar number of tools each
- Of the data apps listed, network capacity maps and the National Grid FES were the most used, each accounting for about 26% of the selection. This was far higher than the next most popular Carbon Intensity Tool (15%)
- Respondents provided additional information on tools and approaches not included in the survey. These have been added to the Existing data applications report.

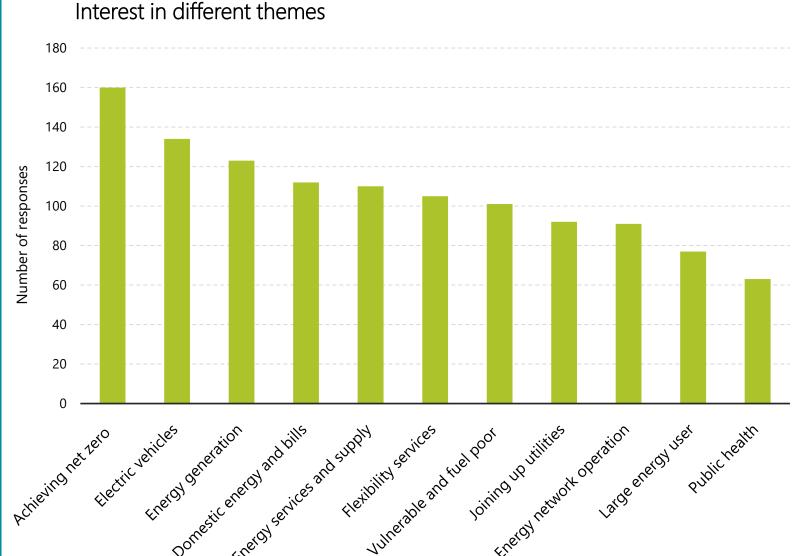




### Interest in different themes



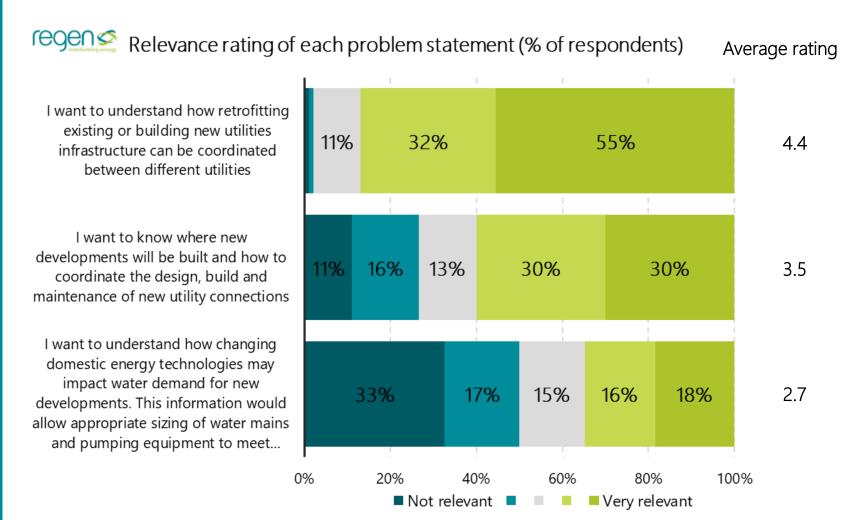
- Nearly all (97%) of respondents were interested in 'achieving net zero and local decarbonisation'.
- Only two themes had responses from less than half of respondents: 'large energy users' (47% were interested) and 'public health' (38% were interested)
- Some caution should be taken in comparing levels of interest as it reflects the types of organisations that responded to the survey and not the full spectrum of stakeholders.



## Joining up utilities



- 92 respondents (56%) were interested in this theme, with the majority of those interested represented by consultants, local authorities, and researchers. However respondents were not unanimous within categories i.e. not all local authority or consultancy respondents were interested in this theme.
- The statement deemed to be most relevant to respondents was "I want to understand how retrofitting existing or building new utilities infrastructure can be coordinated between utilities", 87% of respondents rated this as relevant or very relevant.
- A broader spread of interest was shown in the two other example problem statements with 60% and 34% of respondents rating them as relevant and very relevant.
- 46 respondents offered additional problem statements which were grouped into themes on the next slide.



## Joining up utilities: Additional use cases

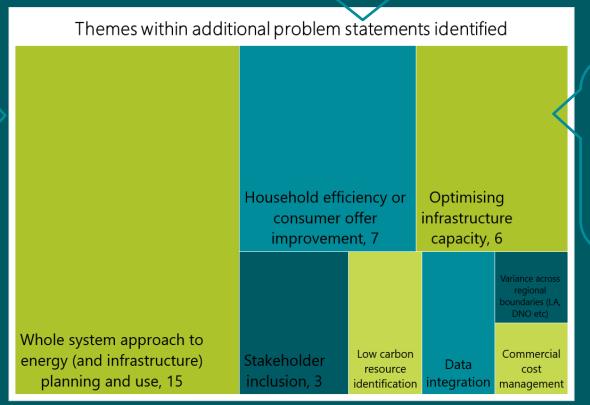


## Cross-cutting issues running through the problem statement themes:

- Net zero
- Decarbonisation of heat
- Utilisation of waste heat and heat networks
- Flexibility and integrating multiple technologies

"Shared data, and joining up utilities is a key enabler to transforming the utilities market, allowing retailers to offer "packaged utility bundles" to cover water, waste, broadband, gas, electricity etc."

"How energy systems can operate together to deliver a low or zero carbon supply"

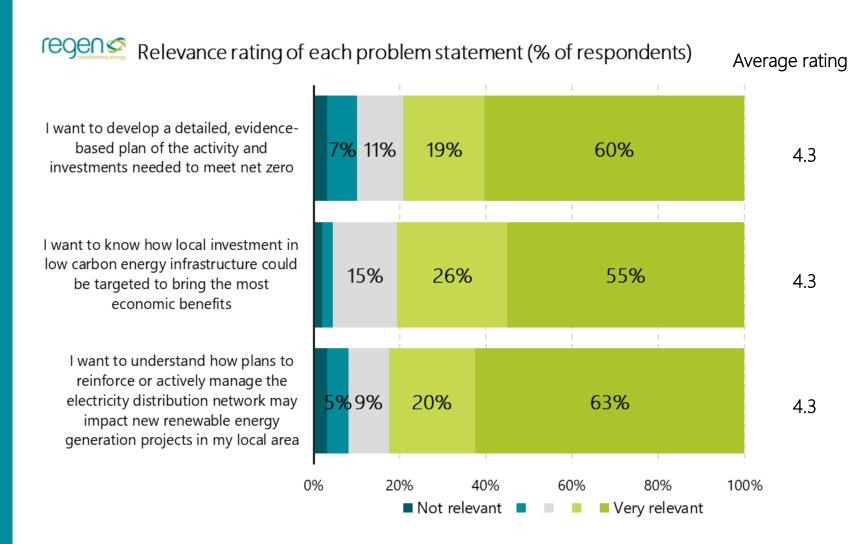


"Capacity restrictions lead to delays in new distributed and demand centres being deployed - improved data sharing will lead to better planning outcomes"

### Achieving net zero and local decarbonisation



- 160 respondents (97%) were interested in this theme, with interest from all user groups.
- The statement deemed to be most relevant to respondents was "I want to understand how plans to reinforce or actively manage the electricity distribution network...", 83% of respondents rated this as relevant or very relevant.
- A similar level of interest was shown in the two other example problem statements with 81% and 79% of respondents rating them as relevant and very relevant.
- 64 respondents offered additional problem statements which were grouped into themes on the next slide.

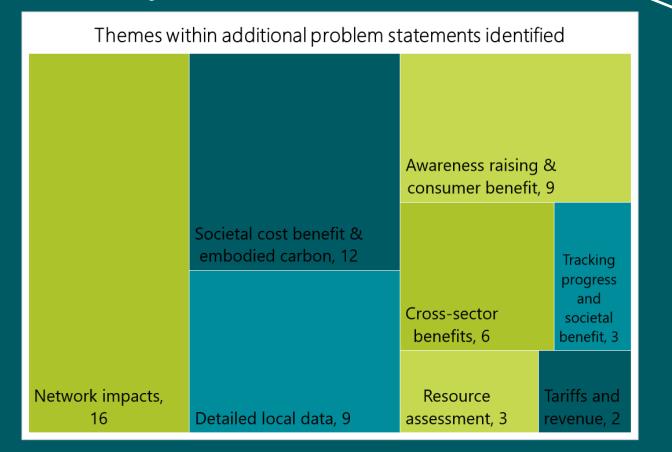


## Achieving net zero: Additional use cases



"I want to be able to understand capacity constraints in my area to plan for electrified heat and transport"

"Low visibility of low-voltage networks and lack of network topology



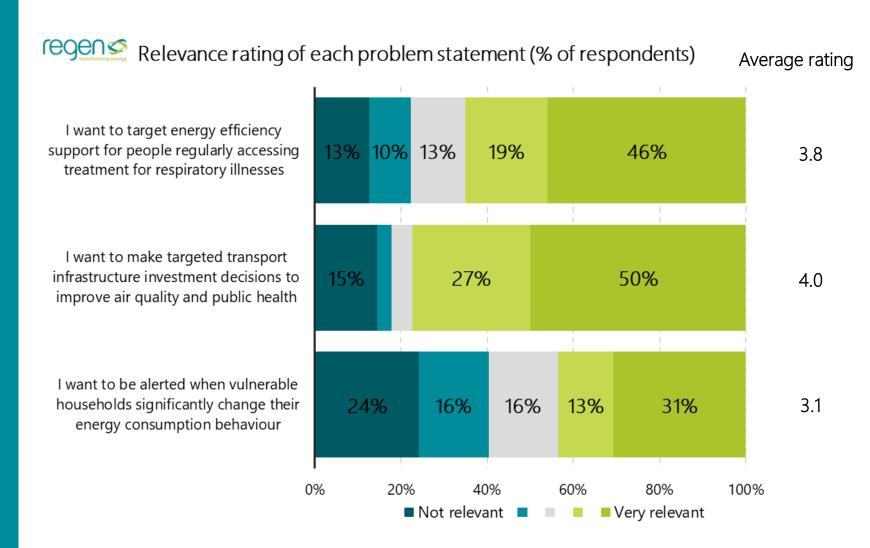
"As a consumer, I want to understand how my energy behaviours can help to achieve net zero"

"How can the benefits/value from local decarbonisation be shared with local communities and businesses"

### Public health



- 63 respondents (38%) were interested in this theme, with two thirds of those responding representing community organisations, local authorities or consultancies
- The statement deemed to be most relevant to respondents was "I want to make targeted transport infrastructure investment decisions...", 77% of respondents rated this as relevant or very relevant.
- A lower level of interest was shown in the two other example problem statements with 65% and 44% of respondents rating them as relevant and very relevant.
- 24 respondents offered additional problem statements which were grouped into themes on the next slide.



### Public health: Additional use cases



"I'd like to know how the value compares of generally increasing warmth and internal air quality in different regions across the UK and be able to quantify the costs to the NHS."

Themes within additional problem statements identified and comfort Impact of low carbon nterventions Air quality impacts from nterventio on mental net zero carbon health, 2 interventions, 5 links between **Ouantification of links** Improving access to target multi-vector bewteen health and home audiences and raising approaches and health, 2 awareness, 3 energy / transport options, 9

"I want energy activities to dovetail with public health winter planning to ensure that everyone can keep warm over winter (e.g. short-term actions like the warm home discount, not just energy efficiency measures)."

## Domestic energy and bills



#### **Findings**

- 112 respondents (68%) were interested in this theme, with the majority of those interested represented by community or campaigning organisations, consultants, local authorities, and researchers. Almost all user groups were represented by those interested in this theme.
- The statement deemed to be most representative to respondents interested in this theme was "I want to know how to encourage consumers to make low carbon energy choices...", 86% of respondents rated this as relevant or very relevant.
- A similar level of interest was shown in the two other example problem statements with 76% and 67% of respondents rating them as relevant and very relevant.
- 38 respondents offered additional problem statements which were grouped into themes on the next slide.

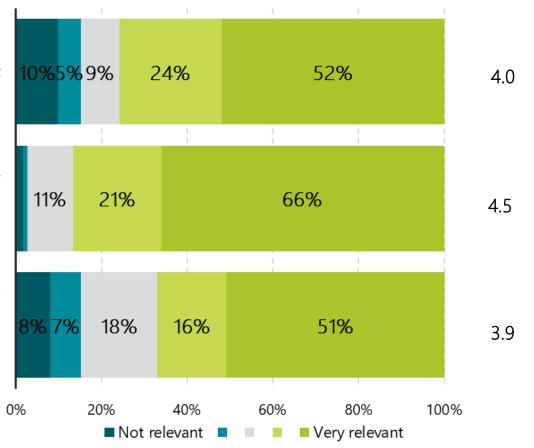
Relevance rating of each problem statement (% of respondents)

Average rating

I want to know which homes have (or are likely to have in the future) energy generation and storage assets, electric heating or electric vehicle charging to target related products or services

I want to know how to encourage consumers to make low carbon energy choices such as installing solar panels, low carbon heating, energy storage devices or energy efficiency measures

I want to identify the homes in my area that I should prioritise for a programme of major targetted retrofit investment, taking into account the types of properties as well as the socioeconomic demographics

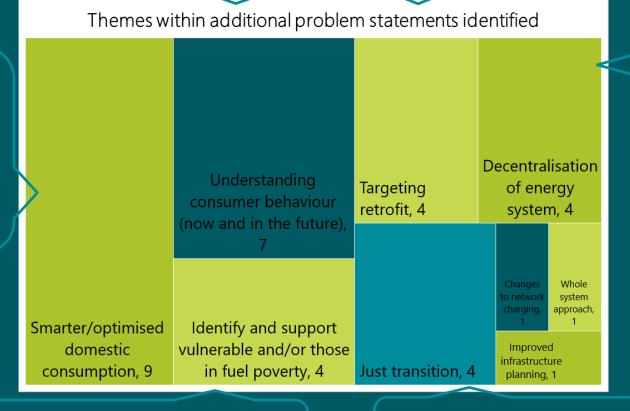


## Domestic energy and bills: Additional use cases



"Anonymised smart meter data is paramount for our research on better understanding how LV networks will be impacted by low-carbon technologies" "Applications to easily model (and explain) the benefits of different measures to households in terms of cost savings."

"Demand for energy by end users is key and the roles they may have in delivering system flexibility. Requires innovative system design, operation, commercial models and user engagement."



"I want to be able to illustrate, through statistics, the financial benefit of Community Energy sharing"

## Cross-cutting issues running through the problem statement themes:

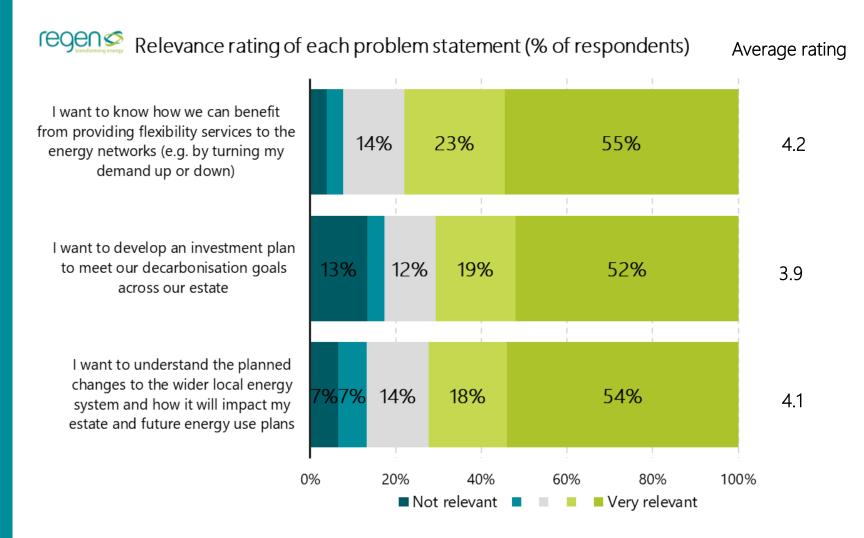
- Social inclusion and just transition
- Community access to data and systems

"How to identify fuel poverty households and how to improve their energy efficiency to reduce costs and increase welfare." "Understand equity issues in uptake of new technologies and effects for sharing energy system costs"

### Large energy users



- 77 respondents (47%) were interested in this theme, with the majority of those interested represented by consultants, local authorities, and tech companies. Almost all user groups were represented by those interested in this theme with a near neutral balance of interest/disinterest within most groups.
- The statement deemed to be most representative to respondents interested in this theme was "I want to know how we can benefit from providing flexibility services...", 78% of respondents rated this as relevant or very relevant.
- A similar level of interest was shown in the two other example problem statements with 71% and 72% of respondents rating them as relevant and very relevant.
- 21 respondents offered additional problem statements which were grouped into themes.

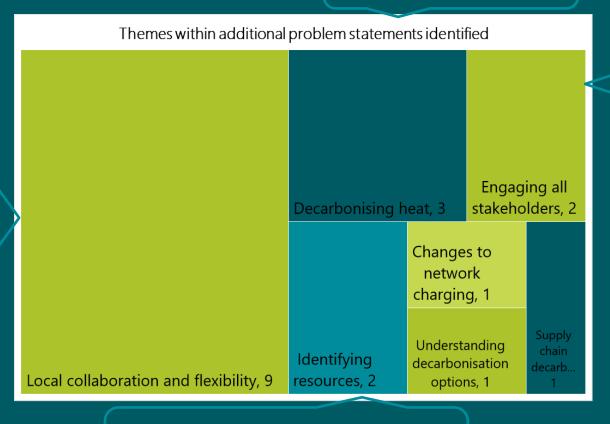


## Large energy users: Additional use cases



"Accessing low/zero carbon heat sources on city scale."

"A live database linking developers of renewables who are waiting for grid upgrades with local large energy consumers looking for green energy might facilitate a development by giving access to a local offtaker at behind the meter prices."



"Willingness of large energy users to optimise opportunities within their remit (e.g. installing PV panels, electric vehicle fleets)."

## Cross-cutting issues running through the problem statement themes:

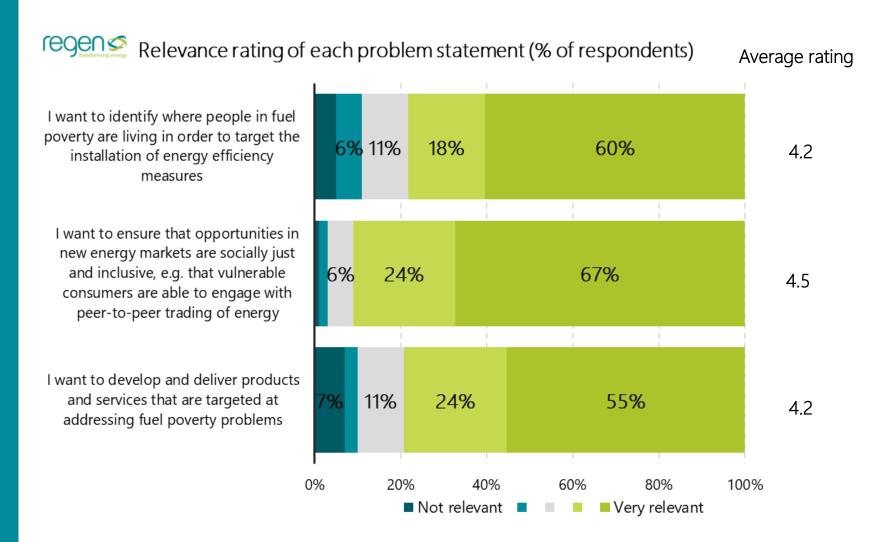
- Understanding local need and resource
- Flexibility
- Collaboration

"We have a solar canopy and EV charge point product being launched in 2021 which would benefit from mapping to ascertain prime opportunities."

## Vulnerable and fuel poor consumers



- 101 respondents (61%) were interested in this theme, with the majority of those interested represented by community or campaigning organisations, local authorities, and consultants.
- The statement deemed to be most representative to respondents interested in this theme was "I want to ensure that opportunities in new energy markets are socially just and inclusive...", 91% of respondents rated this as relevant or very relevant.
- A slightly lower level of interest was shown in the two other example problem statements with 79% and 78% of respondents rating them as relevant and very relevant
- 32 respondents offered additional problem statements which were grouped into themes...



## Vulnerable and fuel poor consumers: Additional use cases (CQE



"I want to understand the pathways to reducing energy bills for vulnerable and fuel poor customers (not just insulation, energy storage, generation, heating, but also community schemes, shared infrastructure, etc.)"

Themes within additional problem statements identified

Explore links between Smart approaches to measuring behaviour fuel poverty and othe Understanding and realigning change, 4 societal barriers, 4 tariffs and bills, 6 Modelling the impact of Finding and nfrastrcutu changes on unlocking Pathways for the fuel poor to energy bills, decarbonise, 6 flexibility, 3 Data integration, 4

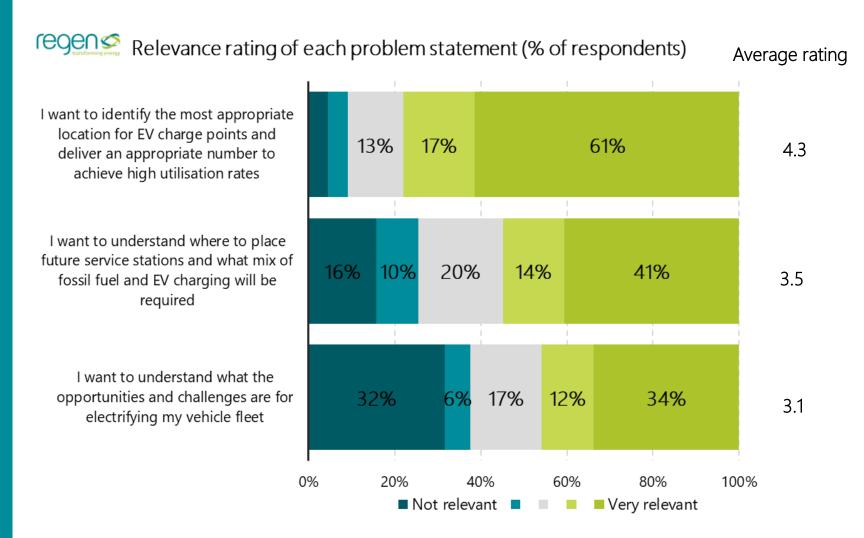
"I'd like to be able access research on segregating fuel poverty from general poverty issues."

"What are links between fuel poverty households and poor health and educational achievements? How to access resources to retrofit their homes? How to support/motivate them to access resources?"

### Electric vehicles



- 134 respondents (83%) were interested in this theme with the majority represented by community or campaigning organisations, consultants, and local authorities.
- The statement deemed to be most representative to respondents interested in this theme was "I want to identify the most appropriate location for EV charge points and deliver an appropriate number to achieve high utilisation rates", 78% of respondents rated this as relevant or very relevant.
- A notably lower level of interest was shown in the two other example problem statements with 54% and 46% of respondents rating them as relevant and very relevant.
- 45 respondents offered additional problem statements which were grouped into themes...

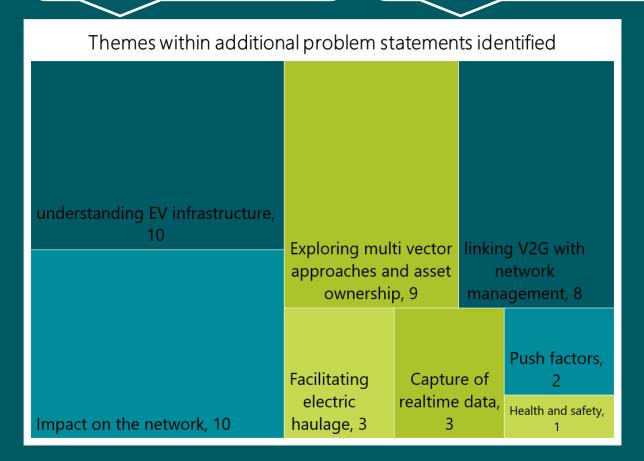


### Electric vehicles: Additional use cases



"I want to know in real time which are good and bad times to charge vehicles and to automate charging"

"How to use data to identify V2G locations that would be particularly helpful to local networks"



"How to encourage
Local Authorities and
businesses to partner with
community energy groups to
provide low carbon
electricity+EV charging."

"Impact of smart charging on chargepoints at specific locations."

## Energy services and supply arrangements



Average rating

#### **Findings**

- 110 respondents (67%) were interested in this theme with the majority represented by community or campaigning organisations, consultants, and local authorities.
- The statement deemed to be most representative to respondents interested in this theme was "I want to develop a local energy tariff linked to local generation assets...", 61% of respondents rated this as relevant or very relevant.
- A similar level of interest was shown in the two other example problem statements with 58% and 57% of respondents rating them as relevant and very relevant.
- 26 respondents offered additional problem statements which were grouped into themes...

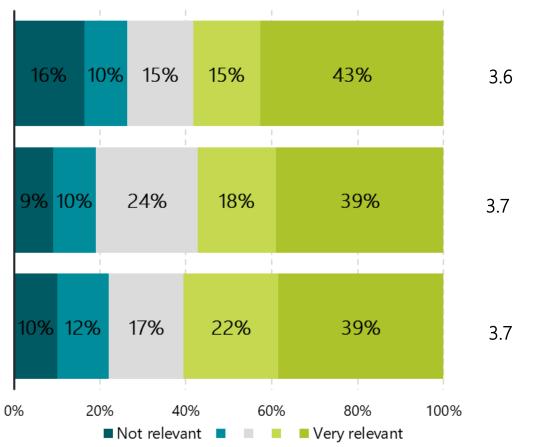
Relevance rating of each problem statement (% of respondents)

I want to identify a particular customer segment to target a new product or

segment to identify a particular customer segment to target a new product or service. For example, selling a new time of use tariff or aggregation service to homes with a heat pump or EV

I want to design, fund, operate and maintain a solution for decarbonising a city/local area, including major investment in infrastructure (heat and power), generation (e.g. combined heat and power/solar) and storage assets...

I want to develop a local energy tariff linked to local generation assets in order to maximise the use of local renewables and lower energy bills

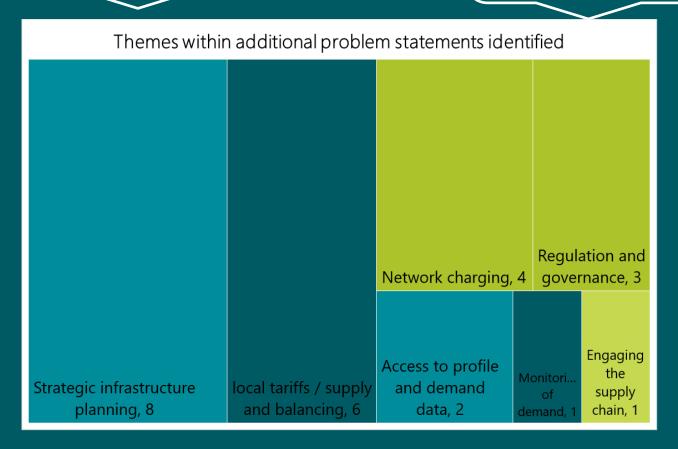


## Energy supply arrangements: Additional use cases



"I want to understand how new energy services and supply arrangements will impact on energy infrastructure (and vice-versa)"

"I want to know the expected daily and seasonal pattern of energy consumption for a particular property type"

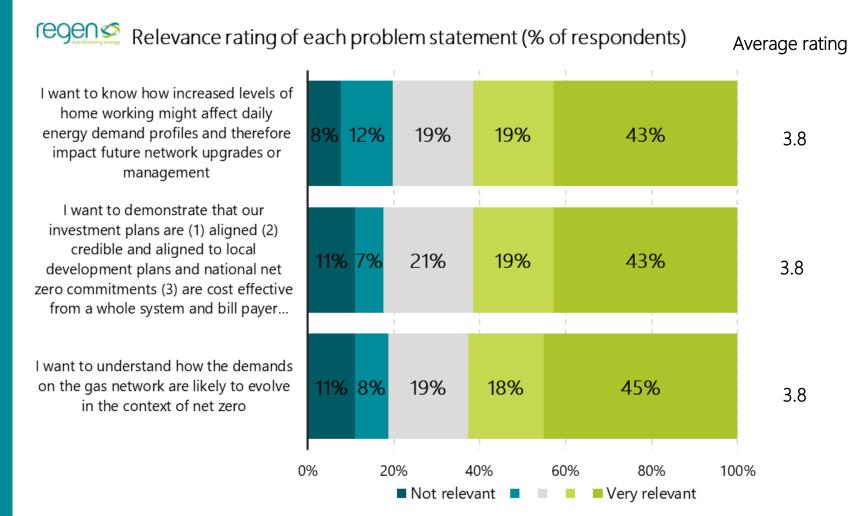


"Gathering processed data from distributed sources and sites and securely storing and using this data to benefit operators and consumers"

## **Energy network operation**



- 91 respondents (55%) were interested in this theme with the majority represented by community or campaigning organisations, consultants, and local authorities.
- The statement deemed to be most representative to respondents interested in this theme was "I want to understand how the demands on the gas network are likely to evolve in the context of net zero", 63% of respondents rated this as relevant or very relevant.
- A similar level of interest was shown in the two other example problem statements with 62% of respondents rating both as relevant and very relevant.
- 24 respondents offered additional problem statements which were grouped into themes



## Energy network operation: Additional use cases



"I want to benefit from local energy resources and/or microgrids"

Local supply, 8

Themes within additional problem statements identified

Future of the strategic energy system assets, 3 Impact of disruptive technologies / rapid scale up Access to on the network, 6 data for **Punitive** enahnced measures planning for heavy assessments, use, 2 Local Network investment controls, flexibility Forecasti... revenue.

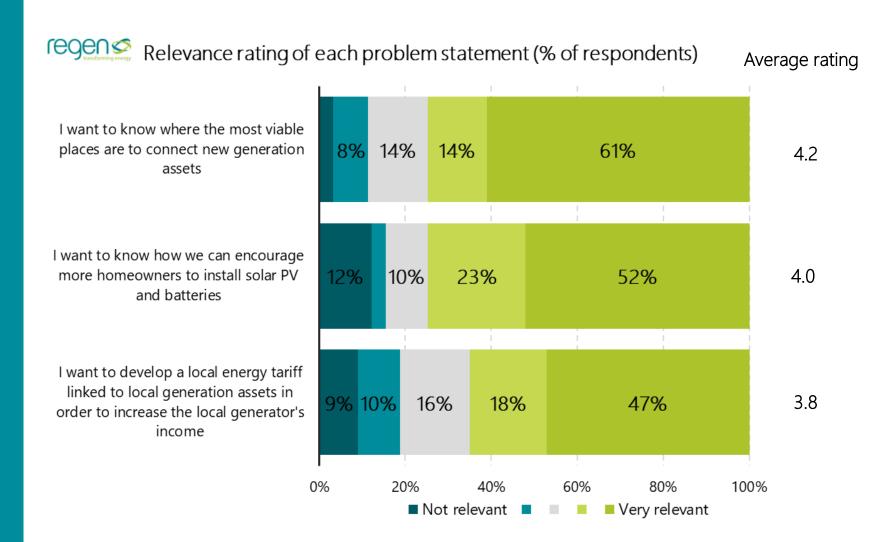
"The play off between different future system options and the impacts these have on energy supply networks as the solutions are adopted and the impact network capacity has on the potential and take-up of these options"

"We need to understand how future growth in our district will impact on local energy networks, and how capacity, and longer-term resilience can be addressed in a future energy scenario aiming to achieve net zero carbon by 2050."

### **Energy generation**



- 123 respondents (75%) were interested in this theme, with the majority of those interested represented by community or campaigning organisations, local authorities, and consultants. All user groups were represented by those interested in this theme.
- The statement deemed to be most relevant to respondents was "I want to know where the most viable places are to connect new generation assets", 75% of respondents rated this as relevant or very relevant.
- Encouraging homeowners to install PV and storage was rated very closely in second place, at 75%. Development of a local energy tariff was rated as relevant or very relevant by 65% of respondents.
- 25 respondents offered additional problem statements which were grouped into themes on the next slide.



## Energy generation: Additional use cases



"Good to have continuously updated resource to see how much export capacity there would be at our various points on the grid."

Themes within additional problem statements identified "Localised investment in reliable green energy supplies is critical" Improved infrastructure Policy clarity, planning, 5 Decentralisation of Local collaboration Smarter/optimised domestic consumption, 2 and flexibility, 6 energy system, 6 heat, 1

> "Store-and-forward strategies to allow areas with excess renewable generation to assist those in Constraint Management Zones"

## Flexibility services



#### **Findings**

- 105 respondents (64%) were interested in this theme, with the majority of those interested represented by consultants, community or campaigning organisations, local authorities and tech companies. All user groups were represented by those interested in this theme.
- The statement deemed to be most relevant to respondents was "I want to understand the opportunities for investing in flexible resources...", 79% of respondents rated this as relevant or very relevant.
- Very similar levels of interest were shown in the two other example problem statements with 77% and 78% of respondents rating them as relevant and very relevant.
- 25 respondents offered additional problem statements which were grouped into themes on the next slide.

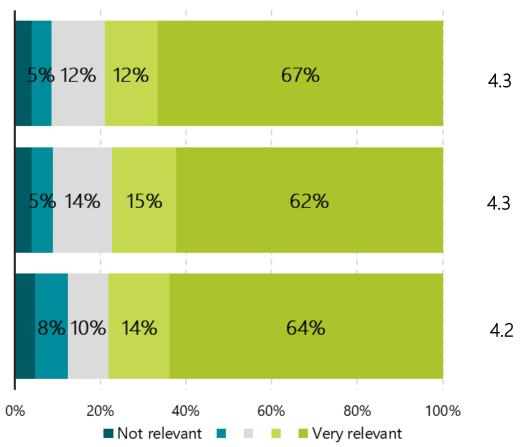
Relevance rating of each problem statement (% of respondents)

Average rating

I want to understand the opportunities for investing in flexible resources that enable me to change when I import or export power, such as battery storage, and how I can maximise potential revenue streams

I want to gauge the level of flexibility that providers within a constrained area of the network are able to offer. This information would inform whether a DNO develops a local flexibility market or reinforces the network assets

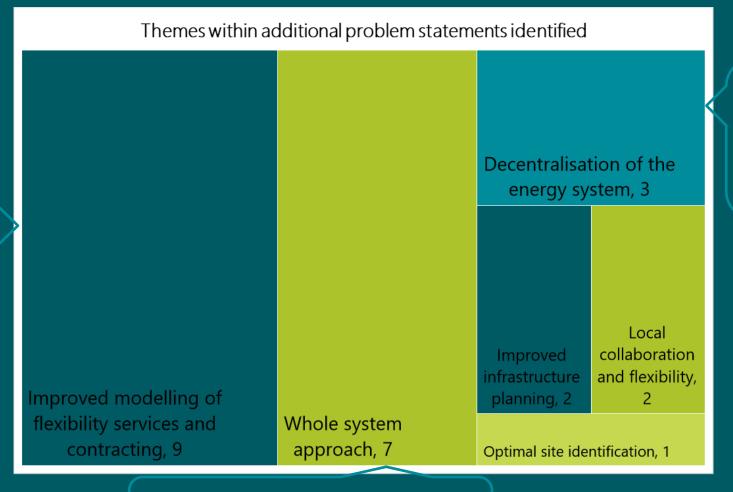
I want to know how a new development could benefit from providing flexibility services to the energy network operator if there was a microgrid or behind the meter controls



## Flexibility services: Additional use cases



"I want to understand how the introduction of new flexibility in an asset in a local area could be used to enable a new grid connection for a renewable energy generator."



"Providing flexibility services that meet the requirements of individual customers or local communities"

"Flexibility can be delivered by both electrical and thermal storage. Both need to be considered in parallel."

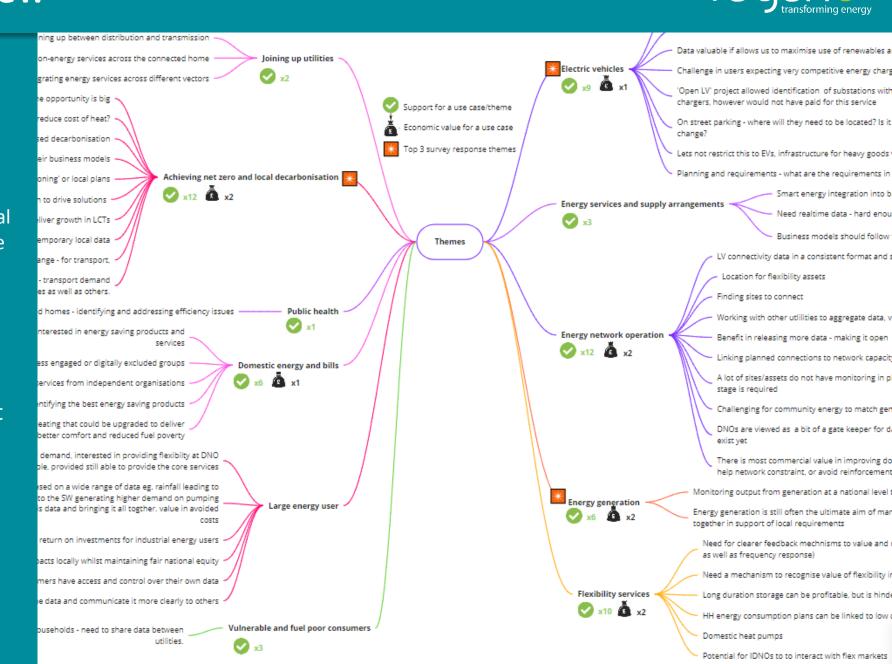
# WORKSHOPS



## Workshops overview



- Two workshops were attended by 70 stakeholders
- The questions for discussion were:
  - What are your key areas of interest?
  - Which use cases have the potential to create economic value from the use of data?
  - What should innovators take into account when designing new applications?
- Responses were captured on an interactive whiteboard, a snapshot of which is shown here
- The green ticks represent
   participants' key area of interest.
   The most popular were: Achieving
   net zero (x12); energy network
   operation (x12); flexibility services
   (x10); and electric vehicles (x9)





- We captured comments and additional problem statements by theme during the workshops.
- The following pages set out the comments received in their raw form.

### Stakeholder engagement

Workshop participants were asked about their main area of interest In addition to using the green ticks to indicate interest areas, we captured comments and additional problem statements on the white board

### Reporting

We are reporting the level of interest in themes here to inform innovators

The additional problem statements were included in the selection process for the final output



Joining up between distribution and transmission

Engaging people through non-energy services across the connected home

Integrating energy services across different vectors

· Joining up utilities 🥆



**x2** 

Data for heat is lagging, but the opportunity is big

How can we reduce cost of heat?

Planning for place-based decarbonisation

More focus is needed on longer-term technologies and their business models

Heat: insights around the benefits of 'zoning' or local plans

Challenge in engaging stakeholders. Motivation to drive solutions

Network capacity to deliver growth in LCTs

Need for contemporary local data

Behavioural change - for transport,

Need to analyse how lifestyles are going to change due to Covid - transport demand changes as well as others.

Achieving net zero and local decarbonisation













Managing multiple sites of high energy demand, interested in providing flexibilty at DNO request if possible, provided still able to provide the core services

Data forecasting energy consumption based on a wide range of data eg. rainfall leading to fresh water supplies, influx of tourists into the SW generating higher demand on pumping stations, challenge in identifying all this data and bringing it all togther. value in avoided

Understanding options and return on investments for industrial energy users

How to drive positive impacts locally whilst maintaining fair national equity

Ensuring consumers have access and control over their own data

We need intermediaries to mine data and communicate it more clearly to others

Vulnerable and fuel poor consumers

Large energy use

costs

Identifying the vulnerable and fuel poor. Indebted households - need to share data between utilities.



Smart charging, reducing impact on LV network, shared chargepoints, maximising renewables

V2G and link with flex services

Data valuable if allows us to maximise use of renewables and assist in best use of network

Challenge in users expecting very competitive energy charges

'Open LV' project allowed identification of substations with headroom for connection of EV chargers, however would not have paid for this service

On street parking - where will they need to be located? Is it near homes or will behaviour change?

Lets not restrict this to EVs, infrastructure for heavy goods vehicles?

Planning and requirements - what are the requirements in local plans?

Energy services and supply arrangements

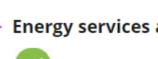


Need realtime data - hard enough to get HH data

Smart energy integration into buildings

Business models should follow the data trail - where is open data most available.







**Energy network operation** 



x12



х2

LV connectivity data in a consistent format and some idea of loading in the future

Location for flexibility assets

Finding sites to connect

· Working with other utlilities to aggregate data, verifying correct billing against consumption

Benefit in releasing more data - making it open ———— potential to link with smart meter data

Linking planned connections to network capacity maps

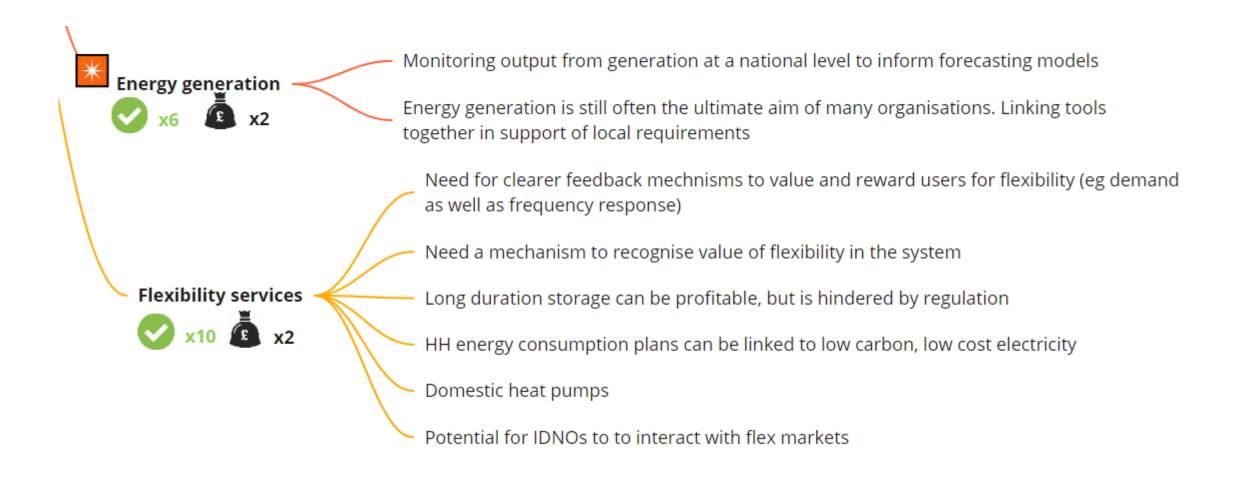
A lot of sites/assets do not have monitoring in place, identifying the priority sites at this stage is required

Challenging for community energy to match generation with our local community

DNOs are viewed as a bit of a gate keeper for data, although the data people want may not exist yet

There is most commercial value in improving domestic and non-domestic retrofit services to help network constraint, or avoid reinforcement.





### Potential to create economic value



- Workshop participants were asked which themes or use cases had the potential to create economic value
- The themes highlighted as having the most value were (see pound signs on above slides):
  - Achieving net zero
  - Energy network operation
  - Energy generation
  - Flexibility services
- Questions were raised about the ability of some users to pay for data apps, particularly local authorities and vulnerable customers
- The point was made that many apps may not be viable now but will be in the future when markets open up and evolve.

Data is typically not provided in real time, and is so changeable that 6 month year old data might not be useful. DNO data is variable, but could have economic value for new connections

Links between energy and other sectors are either very locationally specific or of national significance.
Makes it challenging to create a solution unless it is replicable

Limited opportunities to fund innovations related to vulnerable customers (need regulations to avoid compliance costs)

Believe data services should be free at point of use for flexibility to open up that market Tools like SCATTER and carbon budgets are free and a good start

Don't limit scope of innovations with commercial requirements - may become viable in the future

LAEP - has whole system value - is it publicly funded? Questions of fairness and postcode lotteries

Climate change response is not a statutory requirement, so no real budget or consensus on approach for local authorities

Might not be obvious income stream - could be savings e.g self generating A lot hangs on DNO data - still early days Value of flexibility is limited

## Data application design



- Workshop participants were asked for their views on app design, specifically on preferred user interfaces, the types of outputs and whether they wanted bespoke apps
- There is a need for data to be:
  - Standardised
  - Transparent
  - Of a consistent quality
  - Interoperable
  - Realtime
  - High levels of granularity
- User interfaces need to be:
  - Digitally inclusive
  - Accessible
  - Interactive
  - Appropriate to the user needs
- There was a general sense from participants that they didn't know what was available or how to find it. They asked for better publicity.

Much data is available in report format. Interactivity with a model would be more useful, rather than fixed outputs based on fixed assumptions

Vast amount of data available, hard to understand the problem, data often in vast resources User focused design is essential to deliver a usable and attractive product, rather than overly focusing on the technical solution Must be clear, in the data processing and local otpions Want to see data specs being published in standardised way - a national approach

Not one size fits all - some organisations want raw data, some want simple outputs

Readability and common format via APIs - a common language across DNOs Move quickly to deliver progess towards net zero with good UX/UI, doesn't need to be perfect initially Need openness around metadata quality, source etc. Enable both machine to machine as well as visual interfaces Access and interoperability of the data across heat and transport sectors is vital

Need good

publicity - it's

hard to know

what's out

Services must be designed to be digitally inclusive

Start with the API, then the visual interface will follow

Remember there is a carbon cost of using these tools!

Realtime data is
increasingly important as
margin calls are made on
projects / revenues. But
there are clear issues
around data protection and
consumer confidence

Need high levels of granularity

High level of granularity e.g. beter than sub-postcode

Transparency is valuable

there

Need to know where to find data, and it needs to be of a consistent quality Accessible user interface

> Making it searchable

# APPENDIX



## Appendix 1: Full list of respondents' organisations



Acocks Greener

Advance Further Energy

All Wind UK Itd

Argo Environmental Engineering

Limited

Arlington Energy Awel Aman Tawe

Barnsley MBC

**Bath & North East Somerset Council** 

Bright Photon Ltd Bristol Energy

**Bristol Energy Cooperative** 

Bruntwood Burohappold

**Business Navigators Ltd** 

Calderdale MBC

Cambridgeshire county council

CamProf

Carbon Co-op

Carmarthenshire Energy Ltd Centre for Sustainable Energy

Charge my Street

Charlbury Town Council
Cherwell District Council

Chew Magna Climate and Nature

**Emergency Group** 

Chordant

Citizens Advice

CoGen

Coimhearsnachd Bharraidh agus Bhatarsaidh (Barra & Vatersay

Community) Ltd Comms365

Community Energy Birmingham

Connected Response Ltd Corrie Energy Partners

Costain Ltd

CPRE, the countryside charity

**Cultivate Innovation Ltd** 

D&G Electrical services (UK) Ltd

**Devon County Council** 

E.ON E3G

**EA Technology** 

East Devon District Council

Ecodyn Ltd and Highlands and Islands

Enterprise ElectraLink

**Electricity North West Limited** 

Electron

Energiesprong UK
Energise Sussex Coast
Energy Systems Catapult
Environment Plymouth
ESB Innovations SES

Estate Eye

Evans Engineering
Evergreen Smart Power

Gommyr Power Networks Itd

Grand Union Community Energy Ltd.

Greener Energy Futures Ltd

GridDuck

Grimsey Marine Technology Ltd

gwent energy cic Heat Pump Federation Hitachi Europe Ltd

Hlps.me Hydrogen East IBM ICCL

Imperial College

Imperial College London

Innovate UK

**Invinity Energy Systems** 

Kiwa

KWTN Solar Limited Lagoni Engineering Leeds City Council

Lincolnshire County Council Loughborough University Low Carbon Estates Ltd

Manchester Metropolitan University

Marine Energy Wales Nadder Community Energy National Energy Action National Grid ESO Newcastle University

North Somerset Council

Northern Ireland Housing Executive

Nottingham City Council Orsted UK Limited

OVO Energy
Pell Frischmann
Plymouth City Council

Plymouth Energy Community

Polarwall Pure Leapfrog

Q-Bot Regen

Renewable energy consultancy

Renewable exchange Scene Connect Ltd.

Severn Trent Water

Sharenergy

Sheffield Renewables Ltld Smart Community Projects Solesco Co-Operative Ltd

South Derbyshire District Council

South Hams, West Devon and

Plymouth Councils

South Hill Association for Renewable

Energy

South Somerset District Council

Spire Group Ltd

Stephens Scown/Bristol City Council

Storelectric Sunamp Surple

Surveying firm

**Sustainability Coordinator** 

**Taylor Lewis** 

Teign Energy Communities Ltd.

TfL

The Department for Business, Energy

& Industrial Strategy (BEIS) The Energy Action Project

UCL

**UK Power Networks** 

University Hospitals Bristol and

Weston NHS FT
University of Bristol
University of Exeter
University of Plymouth
University of Reading
University of Sheffield
University of Strathclyde

URBED Utilidex VEST Energy

Vision 2030

Wales & West Utilities

Wates Group

Watts-ON Consultants Welsh Government

WRc WWA YCE

Zero Carbon Marine Ltd

ZX Lidars



Street, Exeter, EX4 3PL

**L** : 01392 494 399

29 September, 2020