

# Climate Action Reserved Function



1. Climate and Biodiversity Strategic Policy Committee (SPC)
2. All other SPC's to ensure climate resilience are incorporated into policy.
3. Standing Item Corporate Policy Group
4. Climate Action Plan – Statutory Adopted by Members at Ordinary Meeting.
5. Relevant policies developed with SPC's, reviewed by CPGs and Adopted by Members





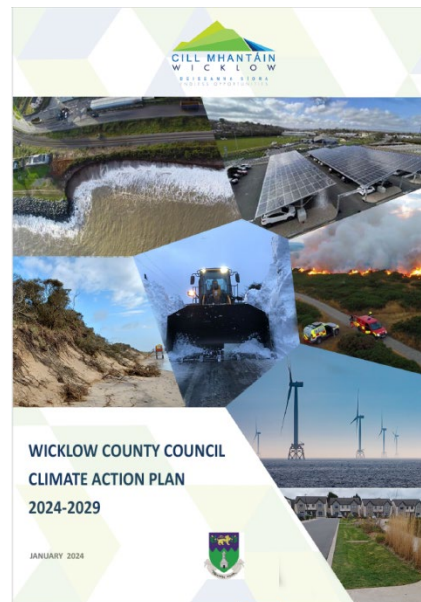
# CAP Policies

1. Develop and implement an integrated **SuDS policy** to guide planning, installation, monitoring and maintenance (2024-2029 Live Document)
2. **Pollinator Friendly and Green Infrastructure guidance** for managing greenspace by Municipal Districts to include: mowing regimes, hedgerow, tree care weed & riparian zones management. (2025-2027)
3. Implement the **Glyphosate policy** within the MD's, identifying and trialling best alternative practices. (2024-2029)
4. Review and update the **Wicklow Heritage Plan** (2024)
5. Review the **Tree Management Policy** and support its implementation (2025)
6. **Landscaping Development Guidelines** (2024-2029 Live Document)
7. Review and update the **Wicklow Biodiversity Action Plan** to protect and enhance local biodiversity, including climate-relevant measures. (2025-2029)

# CAP Policies Continued



8. Develop an integrated **programme to address invasive alien species** through education and with recording and eradication programmes. (2025-2029)
9. Delineate and establish a **Dark Sky Reserve** for County Wicklow 2027
10. Undertaking a **light assessment** of Laragh and Roundwood 2027
- 11. Map green infrastructure** for the five largest towns with objectives.
12. Develop a **'Green Events Policy'** 2025
13. Promote the use of **Green Public Procurement** (2024-2029)



# Plan Adopted 8<sup>th</sup> Jan by Members



- Draft Plan, Revised Plan and Final Plan was reviewed by CABA SPC, and the CPG
- Adopted by Members at Ordinary Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> January
- 5 themes, 135 Actions within 5 year Action Plan
- The Actions will prioritise our core work.
- Actions will be monitored with quarterly progress reports will be provided to the Climate and Biodiversity Action SPC and Annual Progress Reports to the Full Council and published on council website.
- However further Actions may be added or updated in line with National Policy.
- Plan is published and available on website:

<https://www.wicklow.ie/Living/Services/Environment/Climate-Action-and-Biodiversity/Climate-Action-Plan-and-Environmental-Reports>



Governance &  
Leadership



Built Environment  
& Transport



Natural  
Environment &  
Green Infrastructure



Communities:  
Resilience &  
Transition



Sustainability &  
Resource  
Management

# Climate Action Structure



1. Standing Item for Senior Management Team
2. Climate Action Committee – Includes two Directors, Senior Engineers, Senior Executive Officers & Climate Action Coordinator (Cross Service Delivery of Actions)
3. Climate Action Delivery Team – Includes Senior Executive Officer, Climate Action Coordinator, Senior Executive Engineers, Administrative Officers and other relevant positions such as Procurement Officer, Training Officer Etc.. (Cross Service Delivery of Actions)
4. Eastern & Midlands Climate Action Regional Office (17 LA's)
5. Energy Committee – Relevant Staff (Cross Service Delivery of Energy Actions)
6. Climate Action Team
7. Municipal District Engineers meetings
8. Green Team – Representatives / Climate Champions / Ambassadors across the organisation to help deliver Climate Action
9. Green Procurement – (31 LA's Large Market Nationally)
10. Training and Policy guidance for all Staff and Elected members

# Climate Action Team



1. Breege Kilkenny – Director Of Service Climate, Environment, Recreation and Amenity Directorate
2. Marc Devereux - Senior Engineer
3. Jackie Carroll - Senior Executive Officer
4. Mark Costello - Climate Change Coordinator
5. Declan Keogh – Mid-East Energy Manager
6. James Callery - Climate Change Officer
7. Julie Sammiller - Community Climate Change Officer
8. William Halligan – Energy Officer
9. Deirdre Burns – Heritage Officer
10. Hannah O’ Kelly - Biodiversity Officer
11. Sarah Rubalcava – Environmental Awareness Officer



# Climate And Biodiversity SPC & Climate Action Team

# Biodiversity Update



1. Hannah O Kelly Appointed
2. County Biodiversity Forum
3. National Biodiversity Action Fund
4. Review WCC Biodiversity Action Plan
5. Support Climate Action Team
6. Promote Biodiversity & Climate Awareness
7. Develop Biodiversity Training & Workshops
8. Progress reports and Annual reports to Heritage Council and CABA SPC.



# Biodiversity Fund Projects



Wicklow Barn Owl Project – continuation of nest boxes and public engagement



Woodland bat monitoring – continuation of pilot, with BCI



National Mayfly survey – improve recording of Red-listed species, with UCD



# Biodiversity Fund Projects



Coastal sites in Wicklow (Wicklow Head, Bray Head, Brittas, Arklow)

Improved management of council owned sites (Countywide)

General awareness raising and public engagement





# 6 B. Coastal Erosion Within Plan

- County Wicklow Expected to have increased frequency and intensity of Coastal Erosion.
- Historical Extreme Weather Events in Plan such as Storm Emma and Betty
- More recently Storms include Jocelyn, Isha, Debi, Babet and Agnes
- 40% of Irelands Population live within 5km of its coast (CSO 2017)

**Storm Names 2023/24**

A Agnes	H Henk	O Olga
B Babet	I Isha	P Piet
C Ciarán	J Jocelyn	R Regina
D Debi	K Kathleen	S Stuart
E Elin	L Lilian	T Tamiko
F Fergus	M Minnie	V Vincent
G Gerrit	N Nicholas	W Walid

met.ie/warnings @meteireann #StormNames winterready.ie

in partnership with  
Met Éireann  
Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute  
Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management  
Met Office  
Riailtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland

# Brittas Bay & Ennereilly



- Wicklow County Council Applied and Subsequently received €121,5000 funding from the OPW under the Minor Flood Mitigation Works and Coastal protection Scheme to carry out a Coastal Erosion Risk Management Study.
- Applications for funding of such studies under the Minor Works Scheme, cover up to a maximum of 90% of the cost.
- Malachy Walsh & Co Ltd have been appointed following procurement through the eTenders platform.
- Study Covers 5km of Brittas Bay and 7km of Ennereilly



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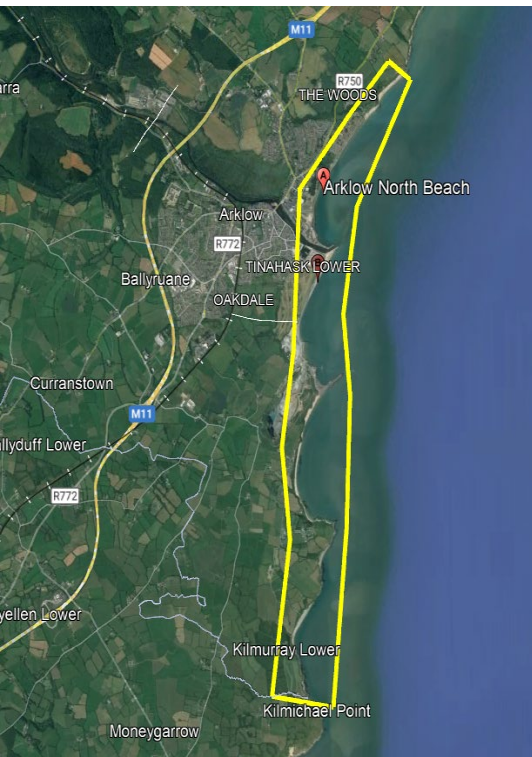
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# Seabank to Kilmichael Point

- OPW Application Made for Study
- Study is tendered.
- Particular focus on Rock Revetment Condition Survey at Arklow North Beach
- Coastal Erosion of Beaches such as Porters Beach, Arklow South Beach and Clogga Strand

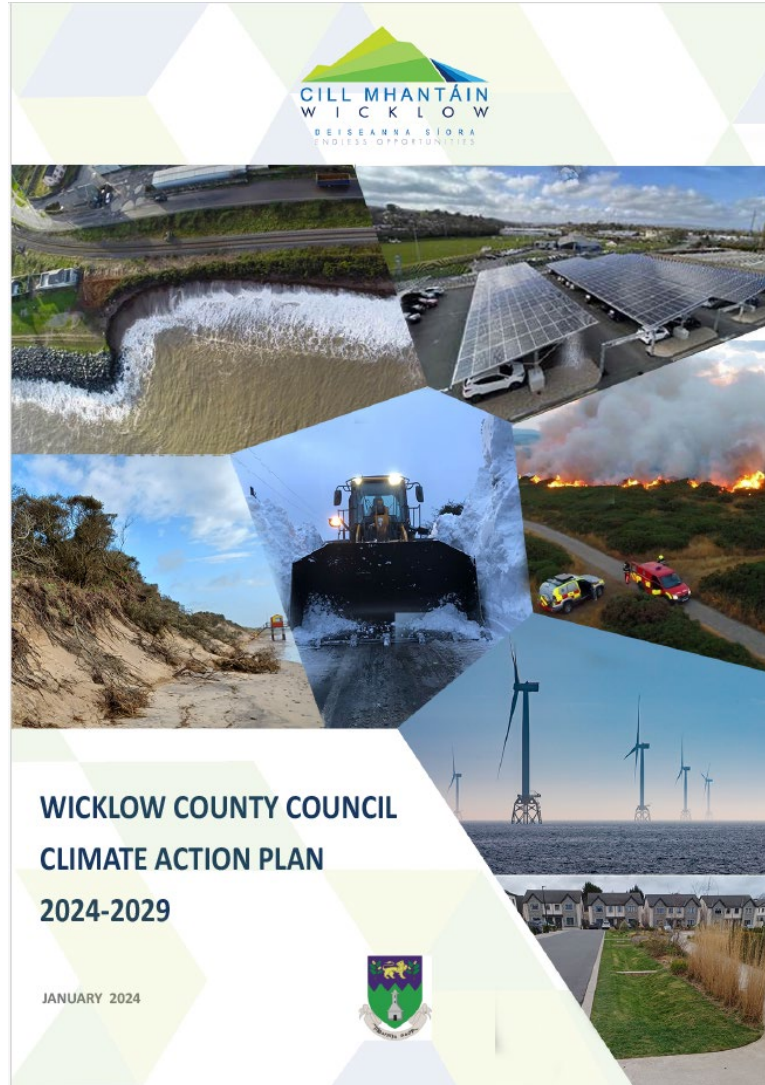


# East Coast Railway Infrastructure Protection Project (ECRIPP)



- Established to deliver the necessary enhanced coastal protection to the existing railway infrastructure
- ECRIPP will shortly undertake public consultation on the emerging preferred option
- The railway line between Dublin and Wicklow, is vulnerable to further loss due to coastal erosion
- To address and implement protection of the existing railway and coastal infrastructure
- Five coastal cell areas have been assessed
- CCA5 - Bray Head to Greystones North Beach
- CCA6.1 - Greystones to Newcastle
- CCA6.2 - Newcastle to Wicklow Harbour
- ECRIPP is funded by the [Department of Transport](#), through the [National Transport Authority](#) under [Project Ireland 2040](#).
- ECRIPP is being implemented by Iarnród Éireann as part of [Project Ireland 2040](#) and the National Development Programme

# Climate Action Plan



# Five themes for climate action



## Theme 1: Governance and Leadership

### Goal:

Adopt climate focused governance, provide leadership, and build partnerships for climate action.

## Theme 2: Built Environment and Transport

### Goal:

Achieve carbon emissions reduction of 51% and energy efficiency improvement of 50% in our operations by 2030, creating a pathway to net zero by 2050.

Support decarbonisation of transport and modal shift from cars to active travel and public transport.

## Theme 3: Natural environment and Green Infrastructure

### Goal:

Deliver on climate adaptation, biodiversity resilience and enhanced capacity for our environment to adapt to changing conditions.

## Theme 5: Community Resilience & Transition

### Goal:

Mobilise and empower climate action in local communities.

Achieve a 'just transition' particularly for communities that may be economically disadvantaged by decarbonising projects or impacted by climate change.

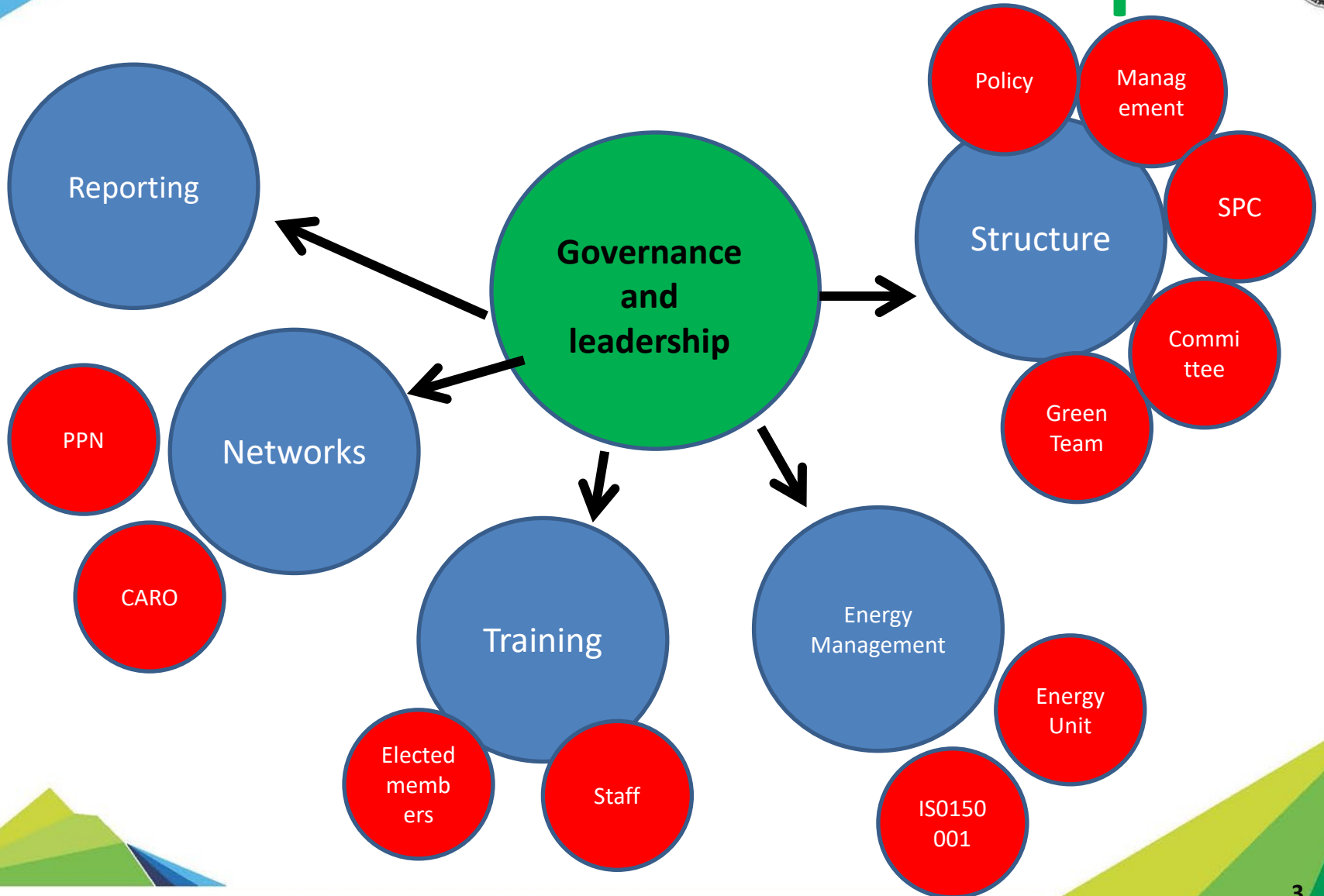
## Theme 6: Sustainable Resource Management

### Goal:

Mobilise climate action in enterprise and agriculture supporting the transition to an inclusive, net zero and circular economy.

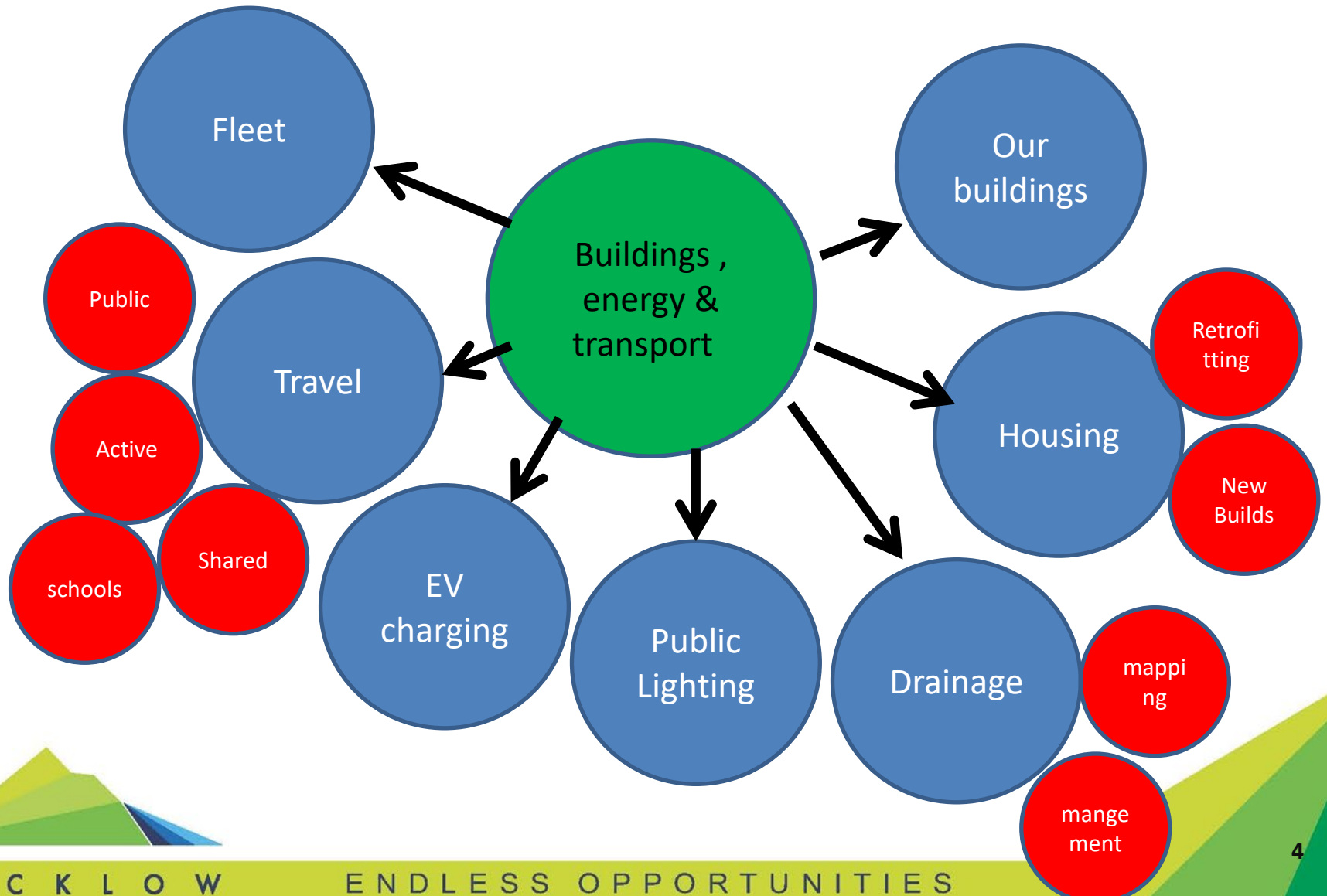


# Governance & Leadership

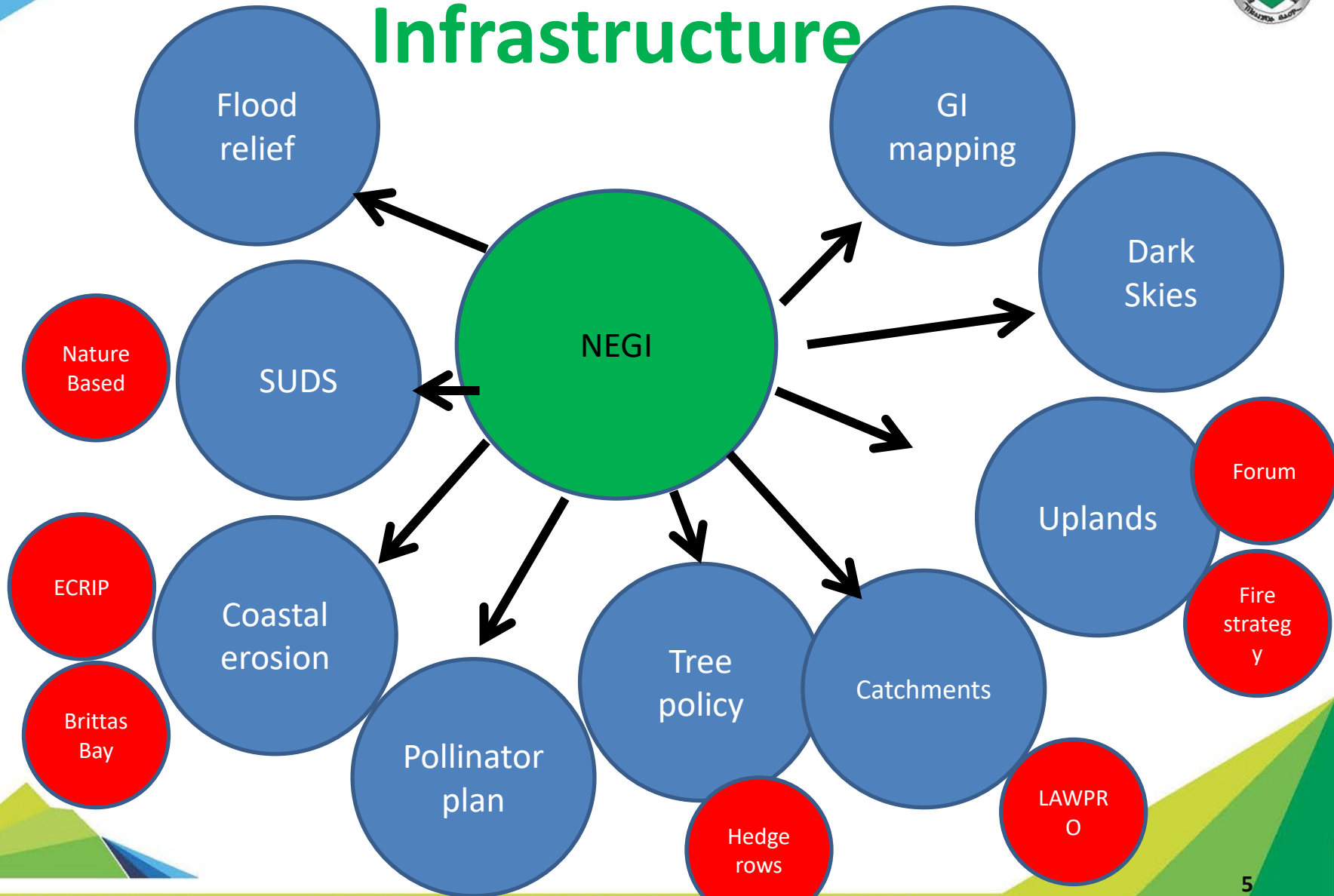




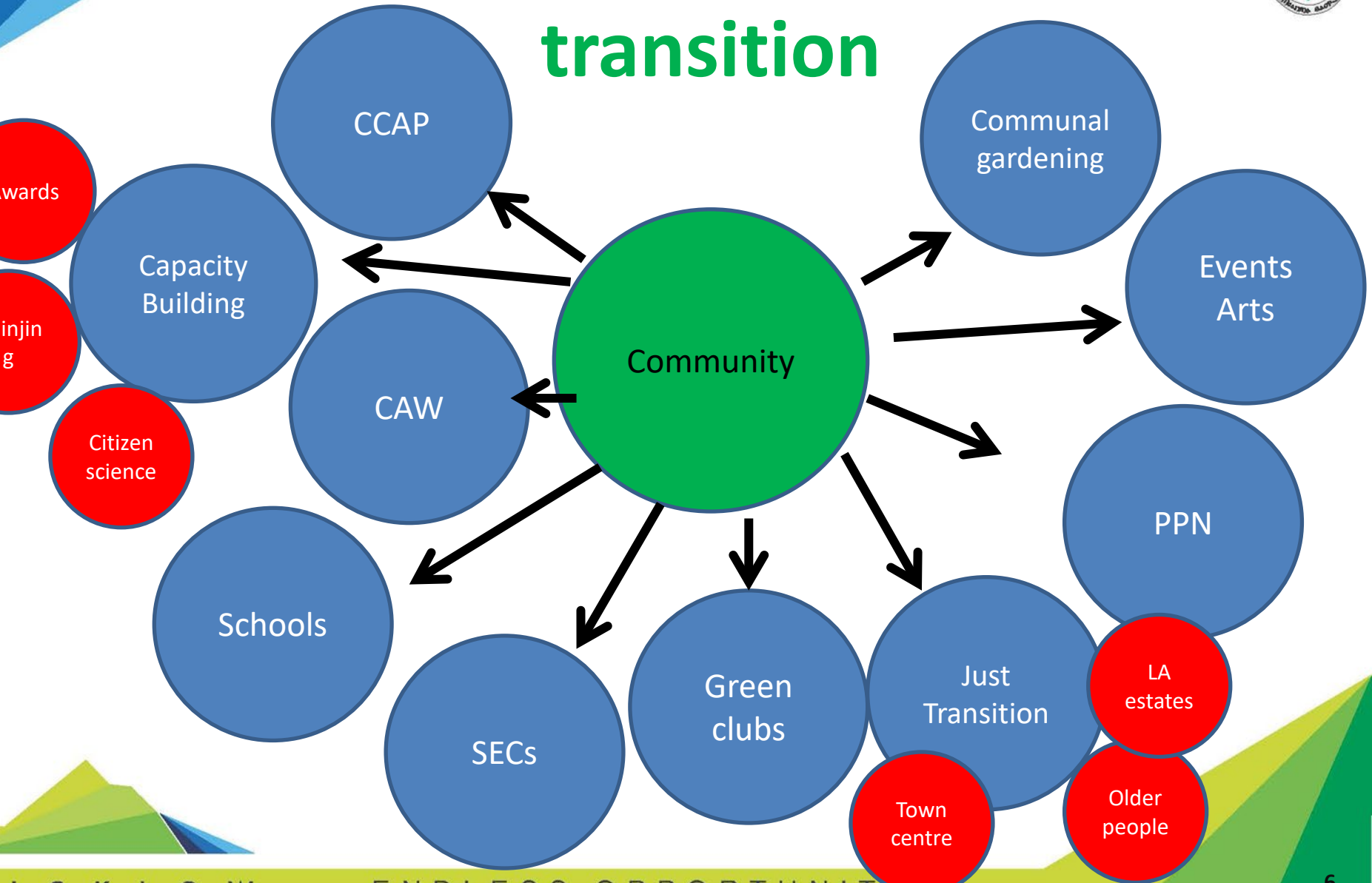
# Built Environment and Travel



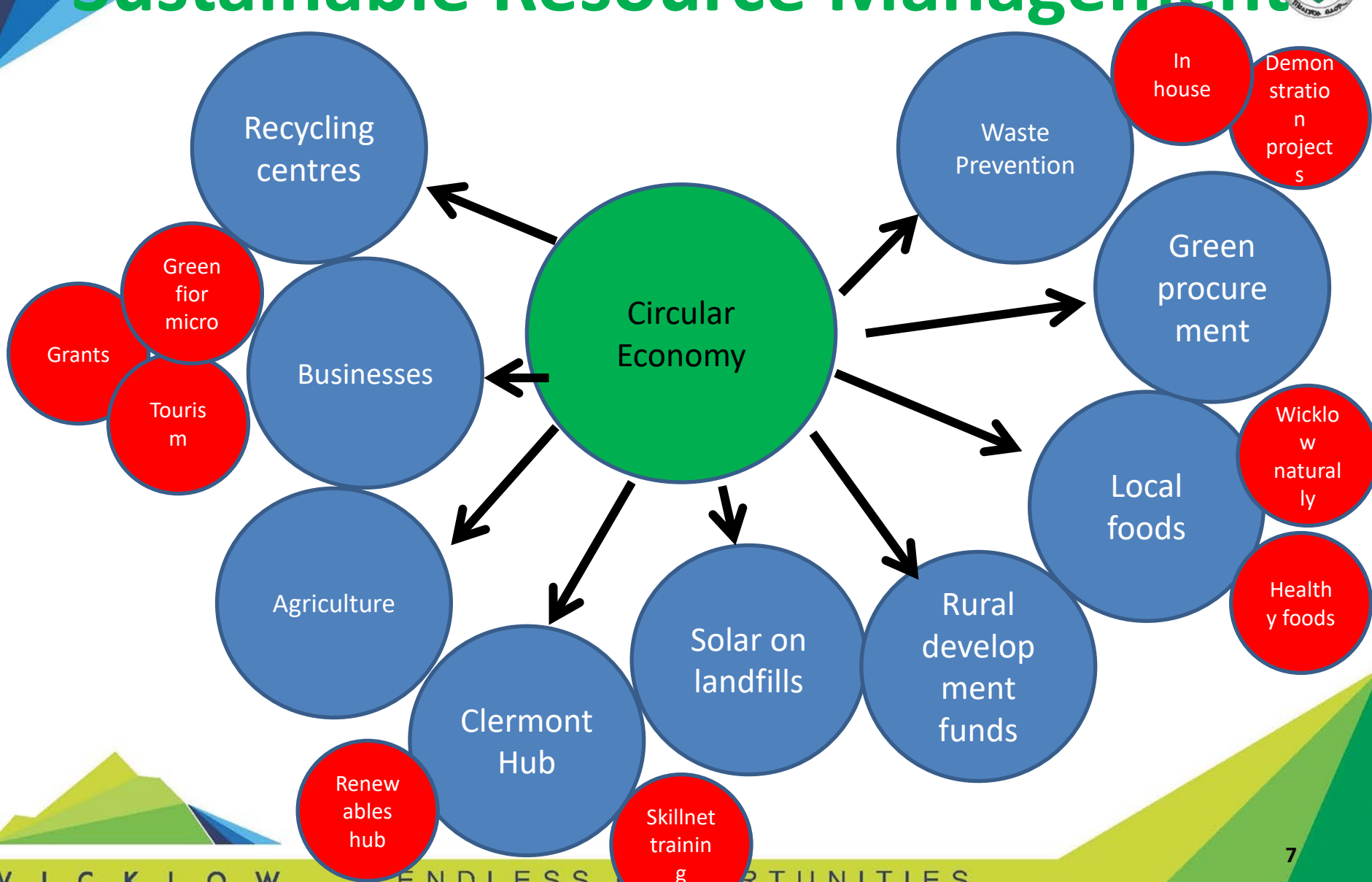
# Natural Environment Green Infrastructure



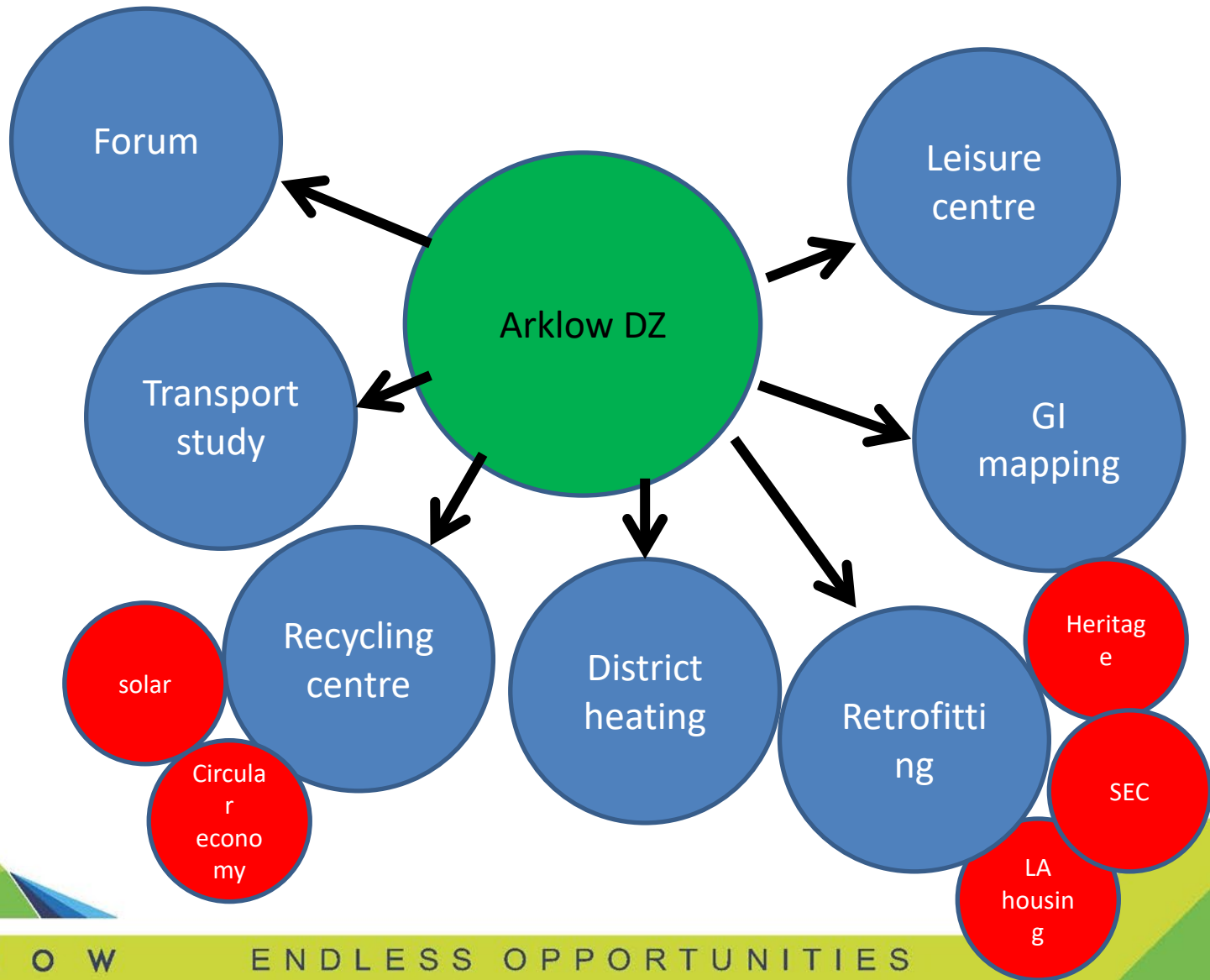
# Community resilience and transition



# Sustainable Resource Management



# Arklow Decarbonisation zone

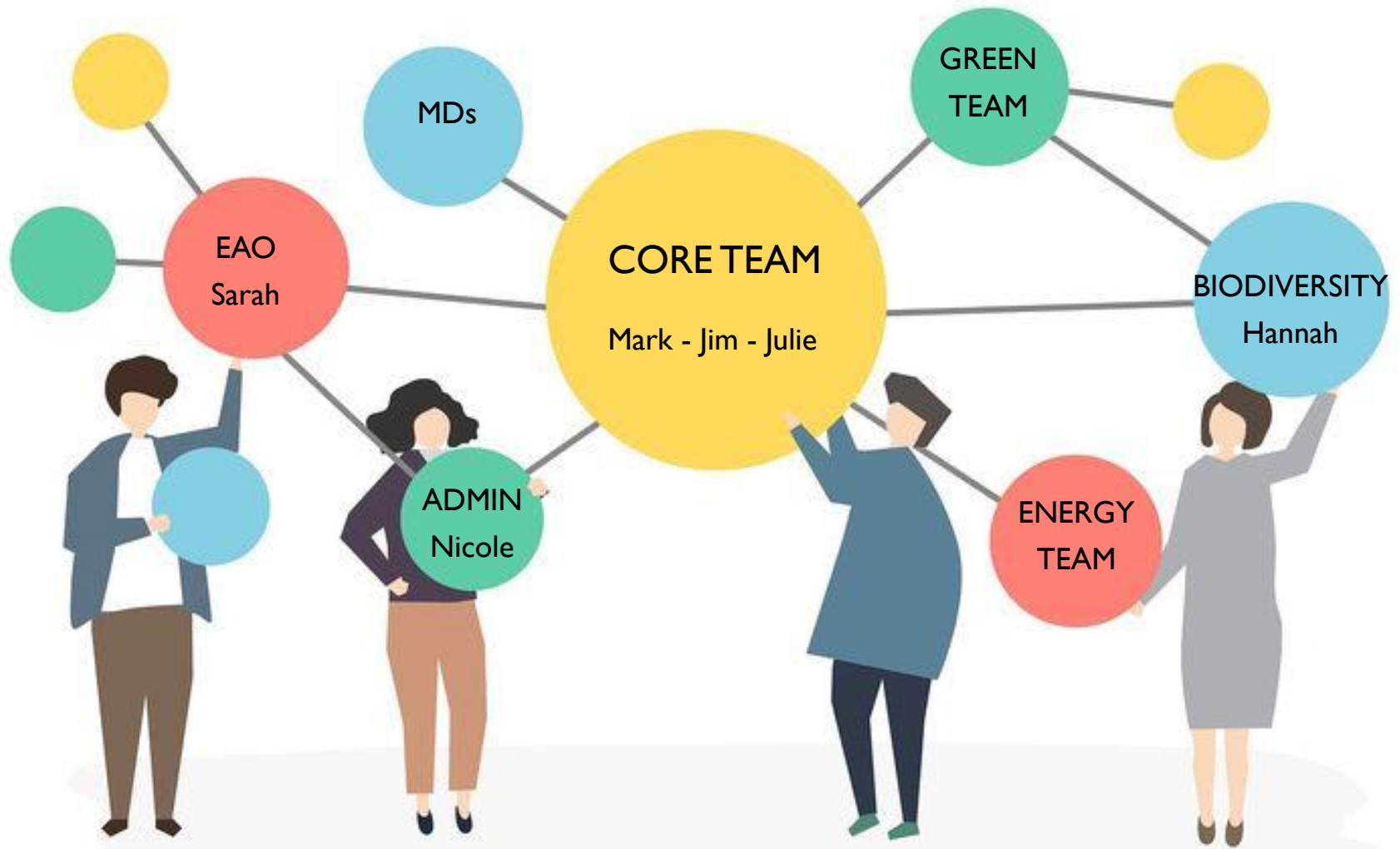




# Community Climate Action Programme

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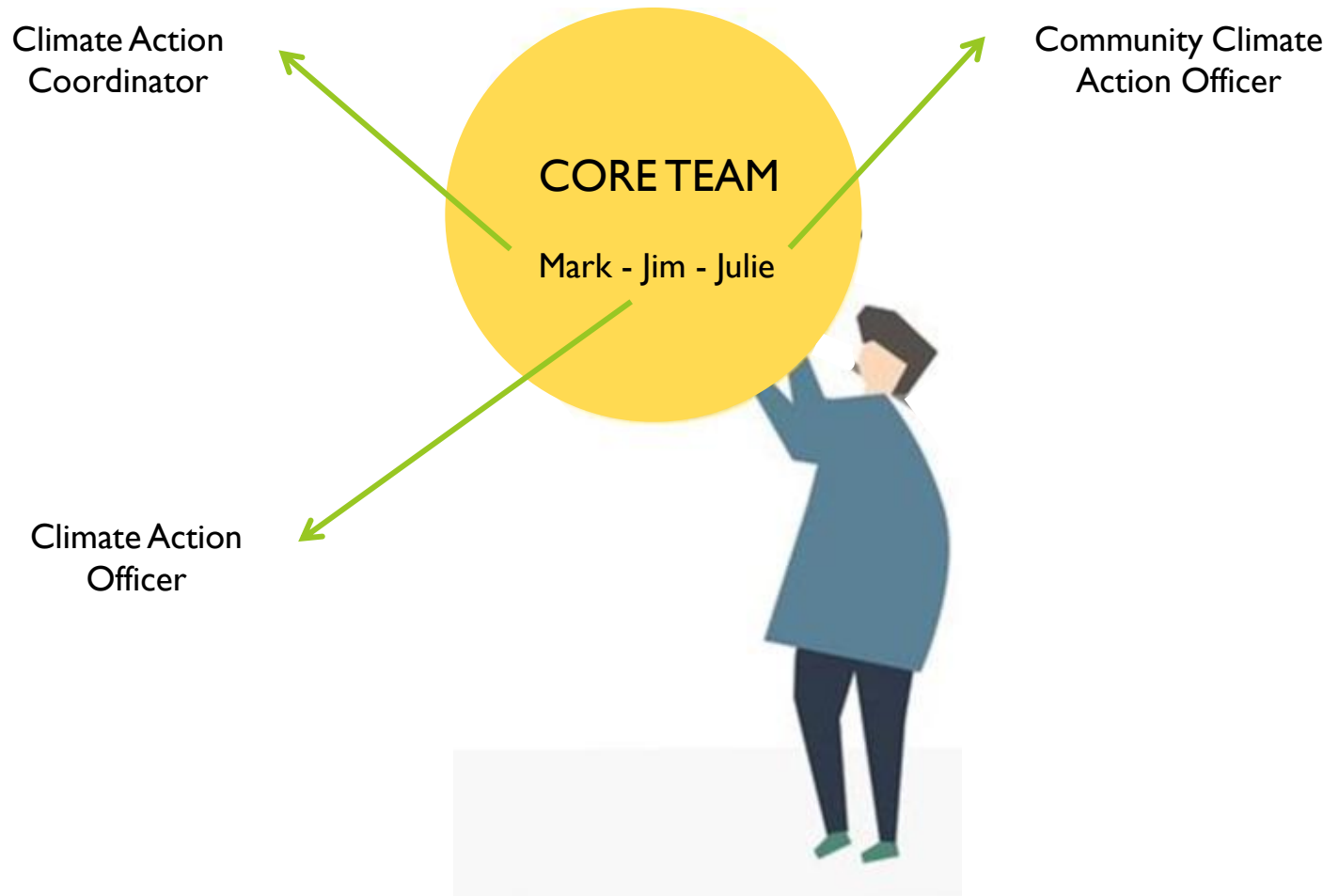
# CLIMATE ACTION IN WICKLOW CO CO



# CLIMATE ACTION TEAM

supported by the Climate Action Fund (CAF)

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# ROLE of COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION OFFICER

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- ▶ work with local communities to promote local positive climate action as supported by the Climate Action Fund programme



# COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION OFFICER

- ▶ assist and motivate community groups, local sporting groups, and PPNs to identify relevant projects/initiatives which will help to meet Ireland's climate targets and build awareness of climate impact



*Extract from 2023 National Climate Action Plan,  
Summary of Emissions Targets to 2030*



# COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION OFFICER

- ▶ work with other departments within the local authority, to build relationships with citizens in the community, publicise events, and make people aware of new initiatives



*2023 Tidy Towns and Sustainable Development Awards, Clermont*

# COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION OFFICER

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- ▶ initiate application process for funding, evaluate the eligibility of applications and advocate for community groups whose projects are successful in receiving funding
- ▶ progress reports and oversee expenditure of funds



# COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION OFFICER

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- ▶ engage and support the public to take climate action and provide support to empower those beginning, and those already participating in, climate action



# Community engagement

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**AWARENESS + COMMUNICATIONS**

**ENGAGEMENT + SUPPORT**

**SUBMISSION**

**EVALUATION**

**PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION**

**PROJECT**

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# Next steps

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## Project evaluation criteria - recommended by DECC

- ▶ Relevance and Impact (30%)
- ▶ Innovation and Scalability (20%)
- ▶ Value for Money (20%)
- ▶ Achievability (10%)
- ▶ Partnership Approach (10%)
- ▶ Governance Arrangements (10%)



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‘Winning’ projects notified (post-August) and MOU offered

18 months for project completion from date of MOU signing

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