



Greater  
South East  
Net Zero Hub

# The Greater South East Net Zero Hub Overview

Operations, Governance & Finance

December 2024

# Purpose

The Hub has a Memorandum of Understanding with DESNZ (Net Zero Strategy) that sets out our objectives:



1. **Attract commercial investment** and help local authorities and other public sector bodies develop investment models which accelerate progress to net zero



2. **Increase the number, quality and scale** of local net zero projects being delivered across the region



3. **Collaborate with DESNZ** to develop and support net zero elements to wider programmes and initiatives (e.g. Transport Decarbonisation Plan / Levelling Up)



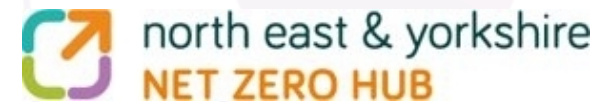
4. Support a national **knowledge transfer** programme to improve information sharing, training, and evaluation and create a network of experience



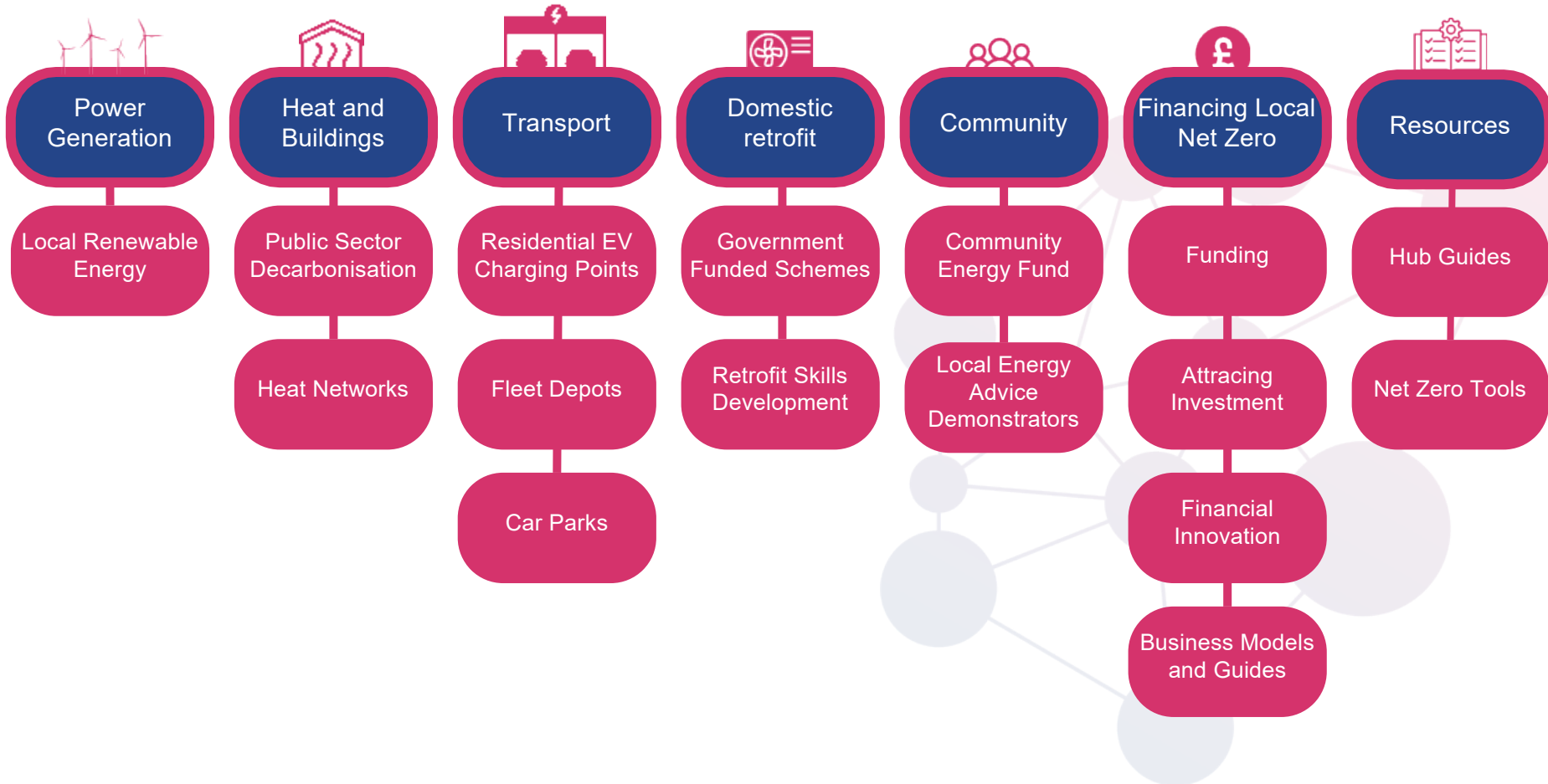
5. Raise **local awareness of opportunities** for and benefits of local net zero investment

# The Hub

- One of five regional Net Zero Hubs
- Funded by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ)
- CPCA is our accountable body
  - The Hub's operating strategy is approved by the GSENZH board and DESNZ
  - Hub sits in the Place and Connectivity Directorate
- The GSE region →
  - 148 local authorities
  - ~ 46% of English pop
  - 10.3m households



# Our priority support areas



# Our activities

Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme

Strategy and project support

Fund Administration

Heat Networks

Domestic Retrofit

Skills and Supply Chain

Local Net Zero Accelerator

Local Area Energy Planning

Project feasibility studies

Data and information

And more...

# Our work in the last year

## Supported Cambridgeshire County Council PSDS Application

- Completed OnGen assessments for the Horizon Resource Centre and St Ives Library which were taken forward as part of a successful £1.8M PSDS3c application by Cambridgeshire County Council to install ASHP and other energy efficiency measures.

## Cambridgeshire Constabulary

- Building and transport decarbonisation, including development of a hierarchy of solar investment opportunities

## IRENES Land Use Mapping Tool

- We funded partners, including Anglia Ruskin University, to extend the geographic coverage of this tool and its functionality, and give access to our region's local authorities.
- Tool stores data on renewable electricity opportunities, land use and environmental factors for assessing project feasibility.

## ZEBRA bus fleet decarbonisation

- Provided technical advice to support CPCA's 2 ZEBRA projects.
- Included coordination of charging infrastructure and business case preparation.

## HVO Workshop

- Collaborated with CPCA to deliver a workshop on the use of alternative fuels such as hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO).

# Ongoing work

## Community Energy Fund

- Applications from community groups for feasibility and development funding
- Granchester Parish Council – Heat network from water source heat pump
- Scarewell Heritage Farm, low carbon options appraisal (GSHP/PV)
- Cambridge Sports Lake Trust – water source heat pump for new housing

## Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme

- Supporting applications for Phase 4 of PSDS funding. To date, we have helped deliver nearly £100m of PSDS funding across Greater South East and we have helped unblock more than £79m of stalled projects.

## Industrial Clusters Study

- Project underway to develop a support service and delivery model for ‘local energy communities’ in industrial areas.

## Transport Hubs Study

- Research project underway on opportunities for zero carbon strategic future transport hubs in the region, which includes the creation of an outline business case for a potential hub in Peterborough. This would co-locate multiple transport and energy services.

## Heat Networks

- We support the development of heat networks in the region by providing knowledge sharing and project advice (e.g. NHS Trusts)

# Future support areas

All of the previous thematic areas, plus:

## Local Area Energy Planning

- Tailored support to local authorities, including Cambridgeshire County Council, to develop and implement Local Area Energy Plans.

## Data and Insights

- We are developing a tools and data decision tree that will help local authorities scope, plan and accelerate their net zero projects by navigating them to the correct tools and data for their project type.

## Procurement

**LNZA DPS – ‘Investment Readiness’ professional advisory** (finance, investment, technical, legal, energy markets, due diligence, consumer finance, fund management, social value) 48 suppliers to date

**Strategic Client Support** 2030 Clean Power Mission, National Energy System Operator (NESO) & Regional Energy Strategic Planner, Local Power Plan, GB Energy, UK Wealth Fund

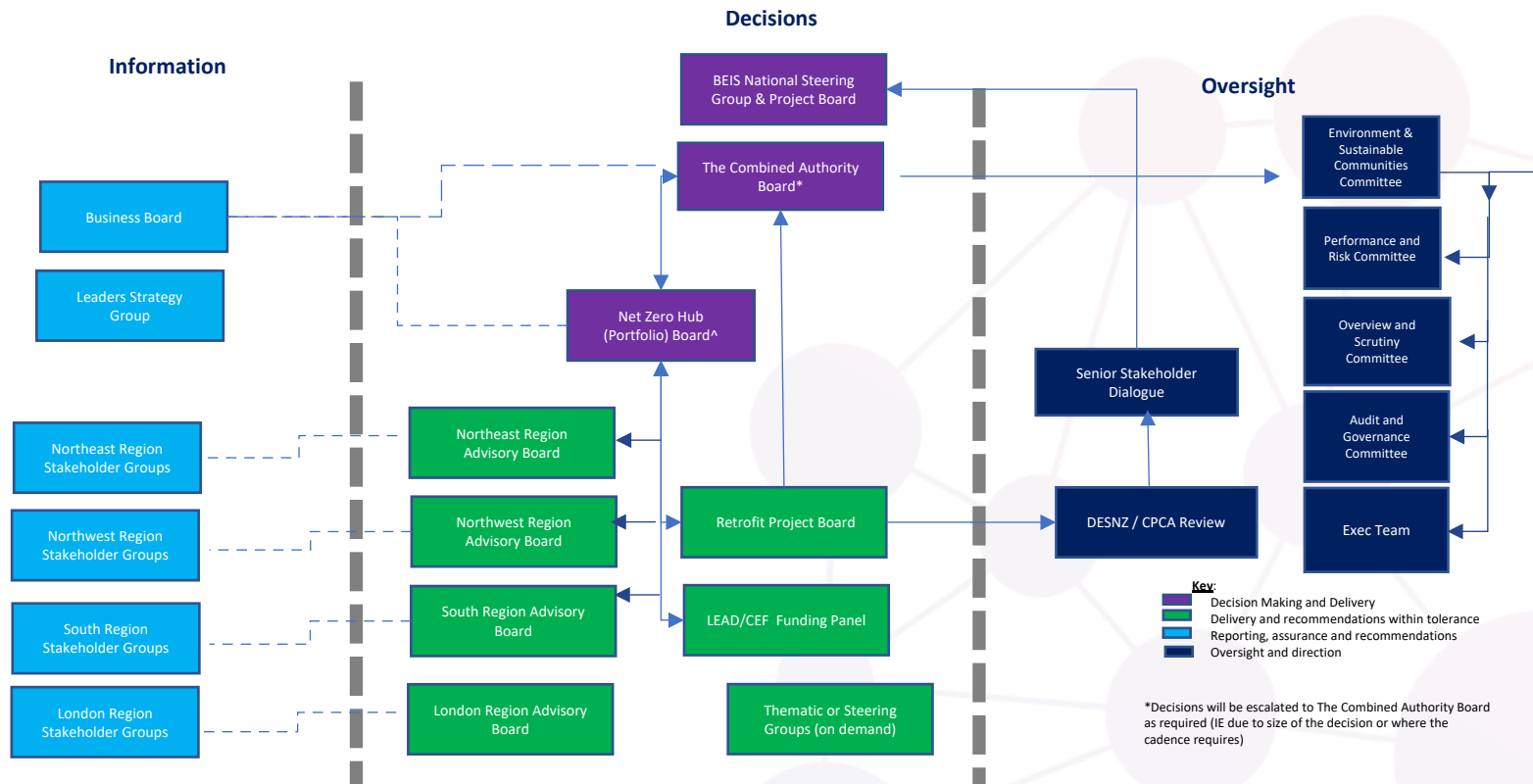




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# Governance

# Governance Structure



# Roles & Responsibilities

	Role	Responsibility
CPCA Board	Accountable Body	Decisions over delegated thresholds, escalated risks
ESCC	Delegated oversight from the CPCA Board	Oversight of Net Zero programme delivery and Hub Board decisions
Hub Board	Delegated decision making from CPCA Board (independent Chair)	Strategy, resource and funding approvals, risk escalation
Regional Advisory Board	Stakeholder representation, strategic advisory, challenges and opportunities	Engagement with sectors/geography
Funding Panel(s)	Recommendations to Hub Board	Review of appraised projects to funding awards
Retrofit Project Board	Support delivery of retrofit schemes	Engagement with consortia, escalation of risk to Hub Board



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# Finance

# Finance - Key Programmes 2024-25

Programme	Purpose	Budget	Pipeline Value
Local NZ Capacity Support*	Staffing (technical support, knowledge share), consultancy	£1,350,000 p.a.	£753million (32 live projects being supported)
Public Sector Estate*	Staffing (technical support, knowledge share), consultancy	£518,000 24/25 £850,000 25/26	£173million (77 live projects being supported)
Community Energy Fund	Feasibility & development grants (staffing costs)	£2,224,870 (10% administration)	N/A 47 funded projects 24 projects approved subject to additional funding (£933K)
Local Energy Advice Demonstrator	Grants (staffing costs)	£2,400,000	N/A
Local Net Zero Accelerator*	Grants (2 MCAs), Hub staffing, finance support service, knowledge management service	£22,000,000 (over 2 years)	Est £1bn

\* Pipeline value is not on CPCA balance sheet, this is the value of public sector projects being supported



# Greater South East **Net Zero Hub**



Department for  
Energy Security  
& Net Zero