### Financing Climate Action - Six Key Enablers

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Imagine if financing climate action was about more than just money...









Through a combination of focused research, working with on-the-ground council officers and our knowledge and expertise we've developed six enablers to help local authorities deliver on their climate action pledges.

Our robust research combines quantitative and qualitative findings and aims to provide insights and tools for local authorities. The output of the research provides guidance on how to maximise existing resources, capitalise on available funding and fully utilise innovative financing mechanisms to deliver climate action and its many associated sustainable benefits.

Local authorities have a unique opportunity to help communities become more resilient and build back better, whilst addressing the climate crisis. This research will help accelerate your ability to do so.

You can download our full Financing Climate Action report on our <u>website</u> in November 2020.

**useful**projects

## Building a total value business case



We know there's a need to build compelling business cases and it can be challenging for councils to define a specific return on investment for spend on climate action. Using whole-life costing, shadow carbon pricing and sustainability benefit matrix enables councils to build a holistic business case that captures the total value of climate action.

#### Capacitybuilding and upskilling



To meet your carbon neutral pledges, your local authoritiy needs the entire workforce to support and deliver climate actions.

Sustainability is already at the heart of what councils do. Promoting multi-disciplinary work and investing in upskilling and training can build capacity within local authorities, whilst reducing delivery costs.

#### Unlocking external funding



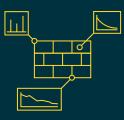
Councils need streamlined, consistent and continuous external funding. Discretionary funding is also required to better respond to specific local needs. Your council can lobby national government for these types of external funding. Embracing blended finance and participatory grant-making practices can also unlock additional funding for your area.

#### Scaling up retrofitting



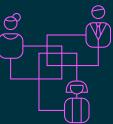
A disconnect between financial investment and social return makes it hard for councils to justify retrofitting spend, even though it can deliver large carbon reductions and social value. Focusing on area-wide retrofit programmes will enable you to benefit from economies of scale and reap cost savings from standardised delivery models.

# Delivering low-carbon developments



Proving the viability of low carbon projects is important. Resolving the percieved conflict between sustainability and viability allows for greater impact. Thoughtful spatial planning, good design, upskilling and early supply chain engagement allow to eliminate cost uplifts in delivering low-carbon developments, whilst maximising environmental and social gain.





Collaboration models that ensure accountability, transparency and risk-sharing, whilst avoiding duplication of work are essential to ensuring positive climate action. Pooling resources, collaborative governance models, industry forums and knowledge-exchange platforms are tools to help you respond to the climate crisis.