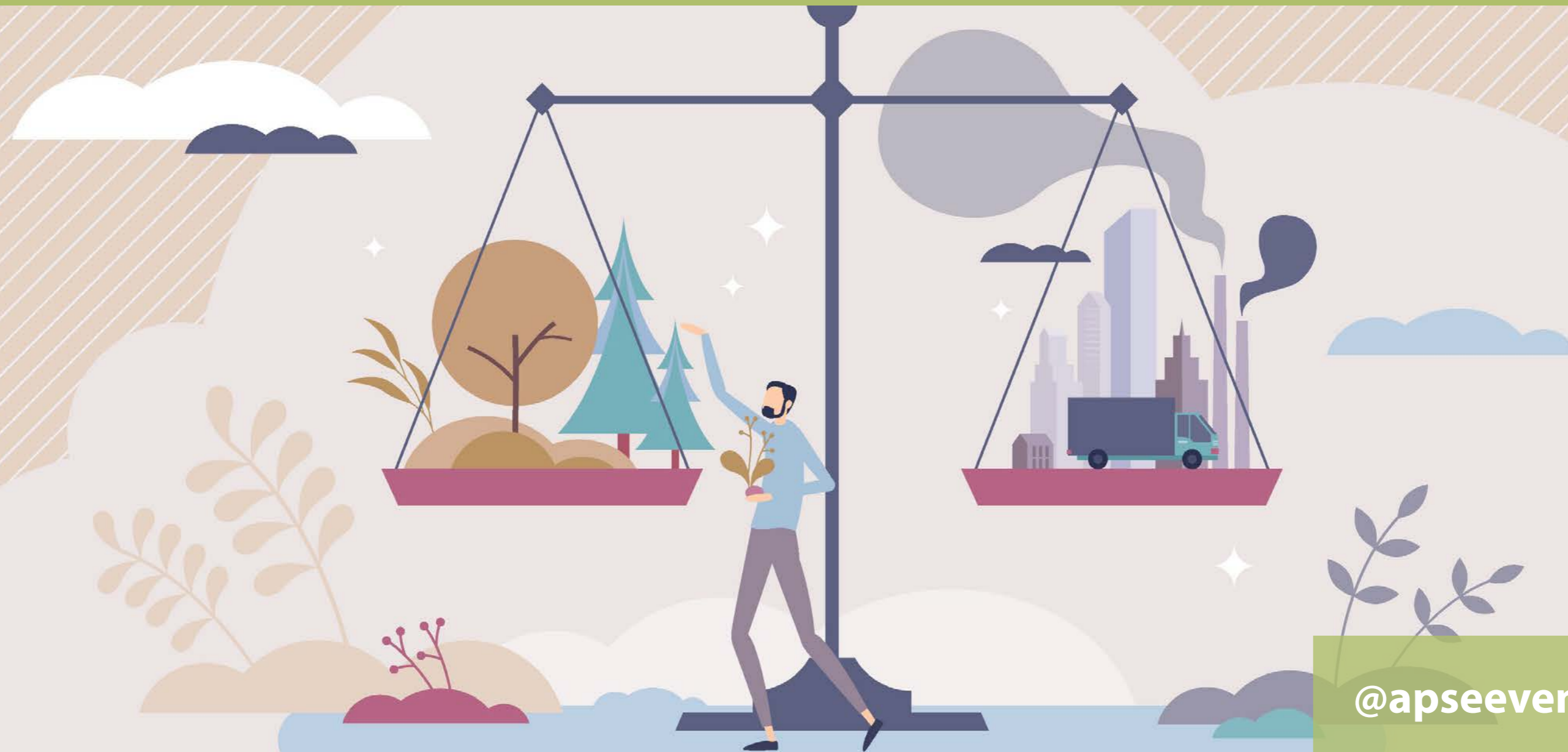


# 'The relevance and legitimacy of carbon offsetting in local government'

A webinar from APSE Energy

Tuesday 17 May 2022



# Introduction

Offsetting is now an area of considerable focus

But what is offsetting?

The purpose of the new report



# Context

Climate Emergency Declarations

Calculation of carbon footprints

Climate Emergency Action Plans

Achieving Net Zero Carbon



# Offsetting

“In simple terms, carbon offsetting is a mechanism used to compensate for corporate or individual carbon footprints through the purchase of carbon credits issued by accreditation standards to projects that remove greenhouse gas emissions from the atmosphere or avoid generating the emissions in the first place. Each credit is equal to one tonne of CO<sub>2</sub>(e) that has not been emitted. Once purchased, the credit is then retired through an internationally recognised and publicly viewable registry.”



# The Hierarchy

Calculate

Avoid

Reduce

Offset



# The Options

International action

National action

Local action

Which shall we choose?





# Direct Action

Renewable energy projects eg solar farms

Example Cornwall's solar farm

Also nature based solutions

Tree planting, wildflower meadows or peat restoration



# Indirect Action

Procurement

Power Purchase Agreements

Town & Country Planning





# Governance

No rules for voluntary markets

The Taskforce on Scaling Voluntary Carbon Markets

Core carbon principles developed



# Problem Areas

- Credibility and verification
- permanence
- additionality
- leakage
- Double counting
- No harm



# Conclusions

- It's that simple!
- Climate change requires behaviour change
- Timing of offsetting
- Start thinking about it now



# 'The relevance and legitimacy of carbon offsetting in local government'

A webinar from APSE Energy

Tuesday 17 May 2022

