

# APSE Energy Summit: Informing Decision Making on Climate Action

Judi Kilgallon, Improvement Service  
Jamie Brogan, Edinburgh Climate Change Institute

October 2024



Scottish  
Climate  
Intelligence  
Service

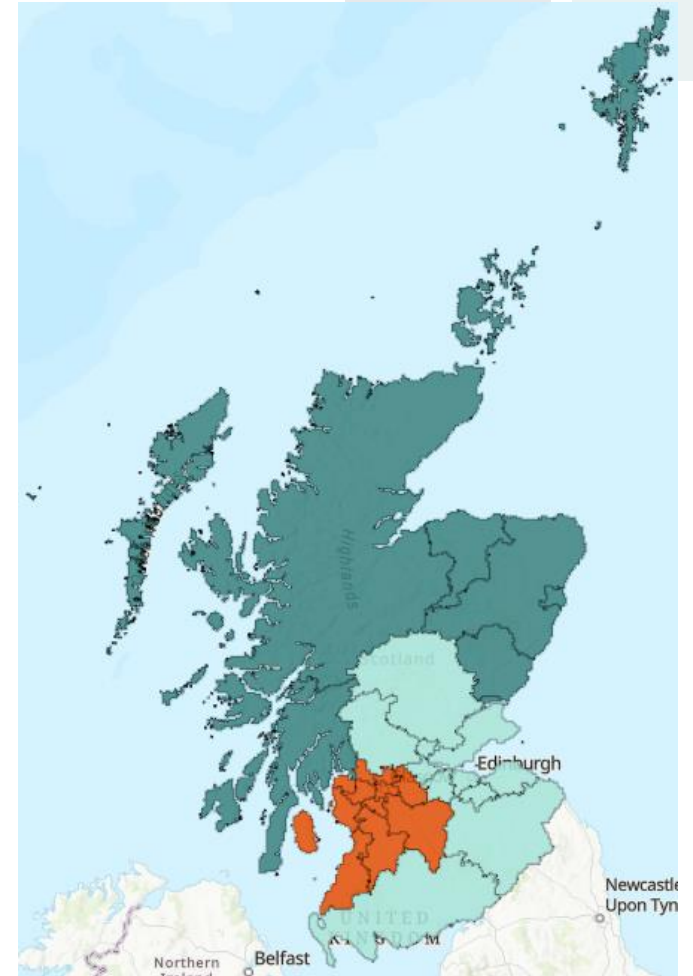
# Outline

- Who are we
- How the SCIS was formed
- The problem we're trying to solve
- How we help local and national government
- Why this shows public service excellence

# Who are we?

---

- Partnership between Edinburgh Climate Change Institute and the Improvement Service, jointly funded by Scottish Government and all 32 local authorities.
- Bringing skills and experience to support delivery of climate action.
- We're about building capacity and confidence within local authorities.
  - Collaboration
  - Sharing skills, knowledge, insights and common approaches





# Update to the Climate Change Plan

2018 - 2032

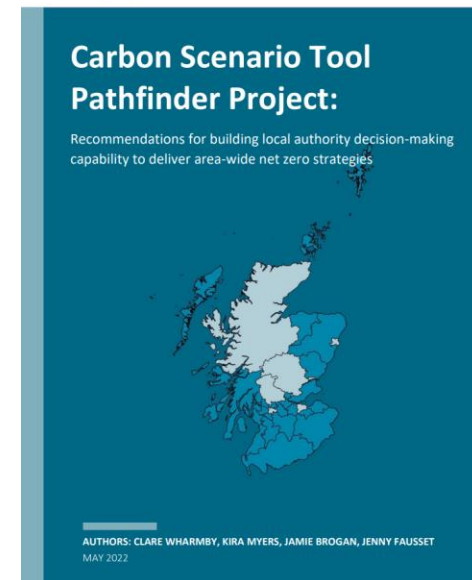
Securing a Green Recovery  
on a Path to Net Zero

## Context

- Scotland has a national and legally binding target for net zero by 2045
- Local authorities have set targets for and are leading strategies for area-wide emissions reduction
- Delivery isn't happening at the pace and scale required

## Problem

- Climate impact is not embedded into decision making
- Data limitations make it difficult to track progress towards implementation policy effectiveness
- LAs lack the tools, data and insights, and skills, knowledge and confidence to deliver these strategies effectively
- Need to build capacity and capability efficiently and effectively



## Solution

- Establish a national **Climate Intelligence Service**, to support local authorities and Scottish Government to target, implement and improve delivery of actions for area-wide emissions reduction

# SCIS Programme Outline

---

1

Develop and deploy a national dataset on area-wide emissions consistently across Scotland, aligned to international standards

2

Evaluate and embed the best tools and techniques for using climate data insights to inform decision making across Scotland

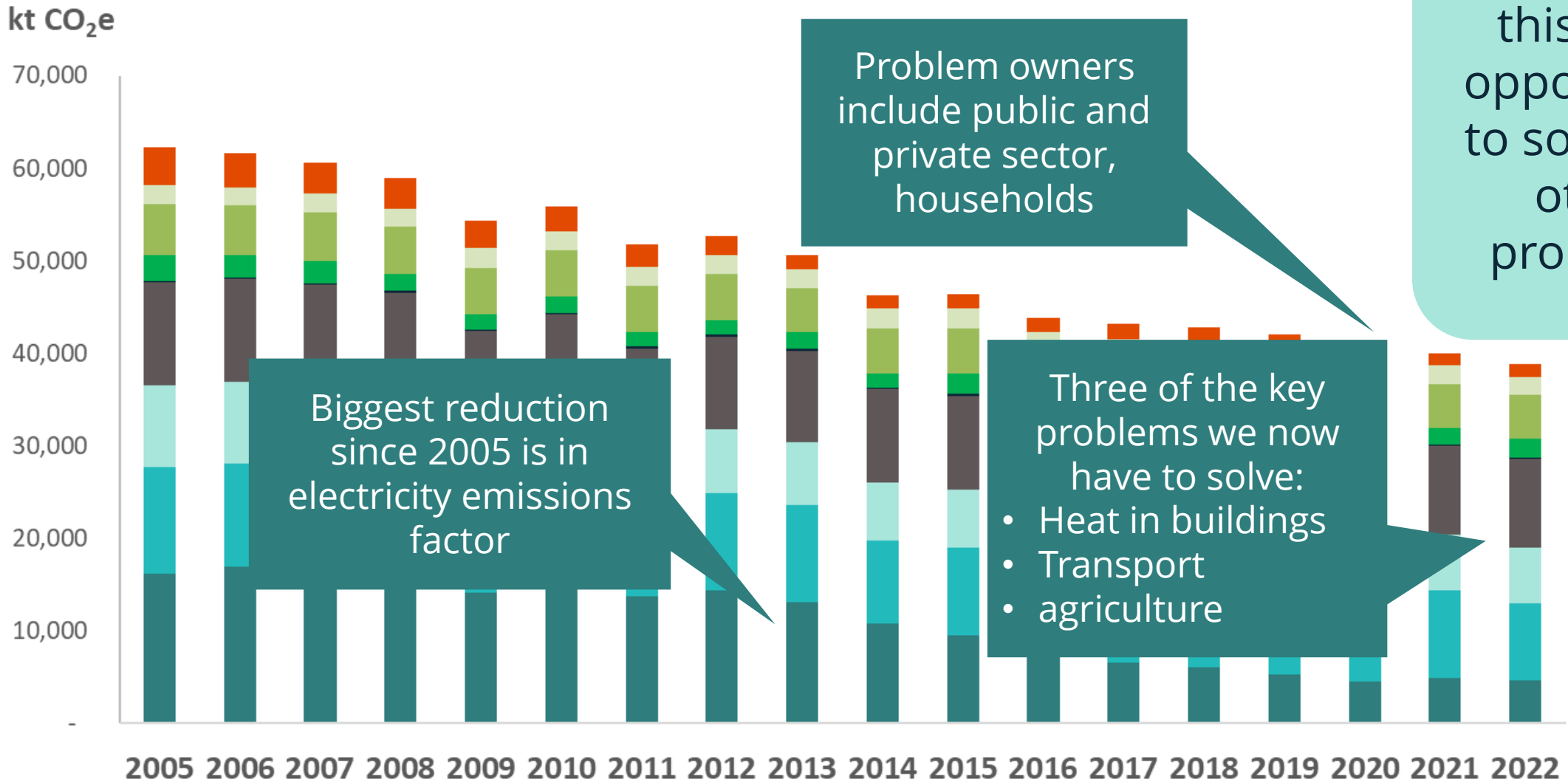
3

Use data to evaluate, monitor and improve local plans and target local interventions through a dynamic online system

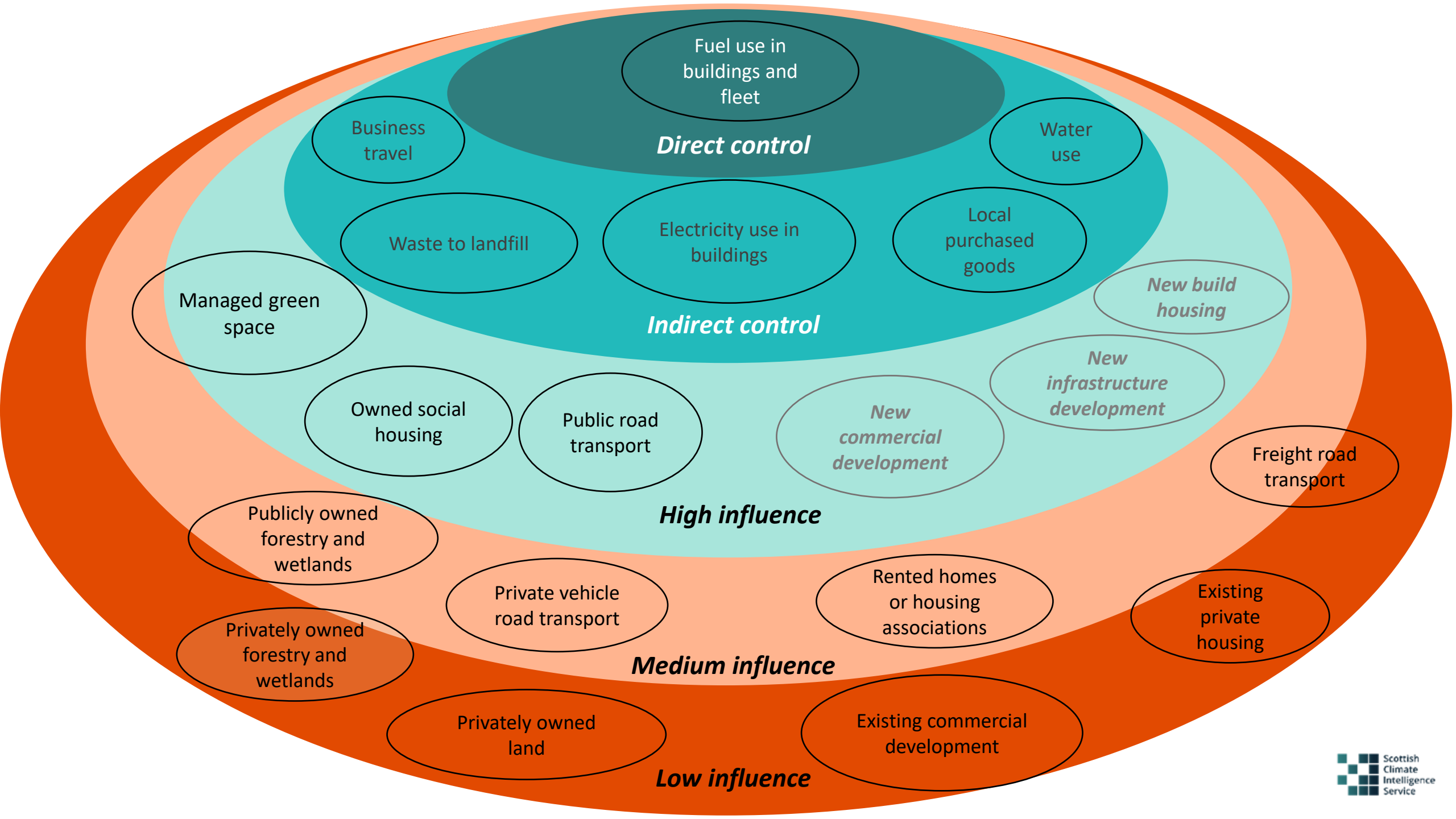
4

Deliver a national programme of capacity building for local authorities

# What is the problem?



■ Electricity ■ Gas ■ Other fuels ■ Road ■ Rail ■ Land Use ■ Livestock ■ Soils ■ Waste



Fuel use in buildings and fleet

***Direct control***

Business travel

Water use

Waste to landfill

Electricity use in buildings

Local purchased goods

Managed green space

*New build housing*

Owned social housing

Public road transport

*New commercial development*

*New infrastructure development*

***High influence***

Freight road transport

Publicly owned forestry and wetlands

Private vehicle road transport

Rented homes or housing associations

Existing private housing

Privately owned forestry and wetlands

***Medium influence***

Privately owned land

Existing commercial development

***Low influence***



# Strategies, strategies, everywhere ...

---

- More than 300 climate-active plans, strategies and route maps across Scottish LAs
- A wide array of policies, strategies, plans, programme and route maps at Scottish and UK Government level
  - Lots of desired outcomes
  - Many uncertain interventions
  - Hard to share and interact
  - Not functional or engaging

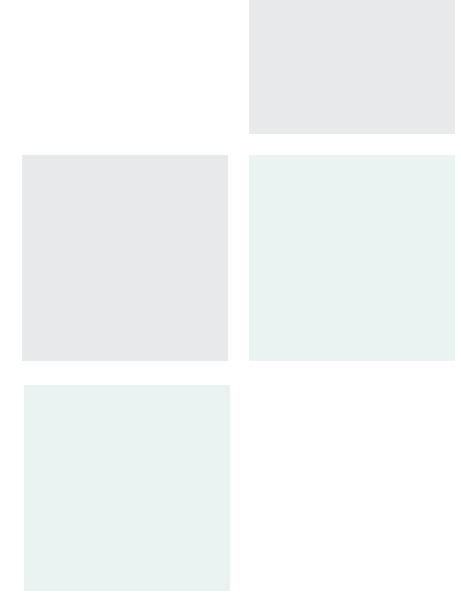
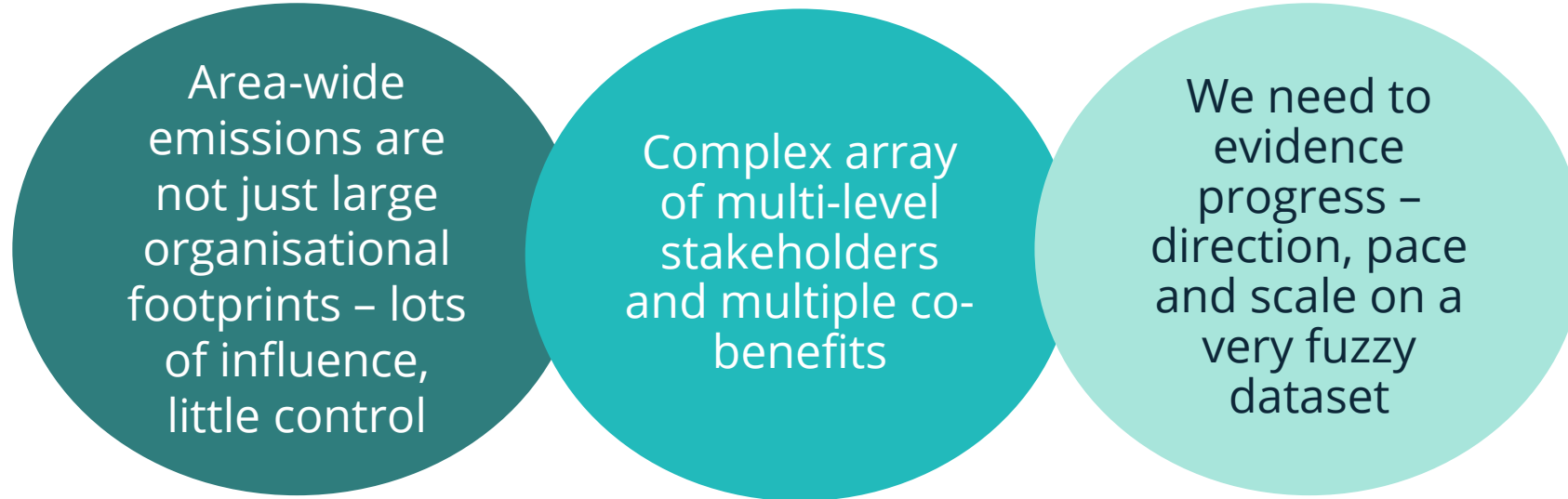


*Are we going to meet our target?*

*How much will our target cost to deliver?*

# Problem summary

---



## Key philosophy:

- Climate change is not a data problem, it is **decision-making, financing, political and emotional problem**, therefore:
  - The consistency of a common platform and the support to effectively use it
  - Live action plans emphasising progress over perfection
  - Make climate action the solution, not the problem

# Trying to untangle the challenge

## Interventions

20 mph zone

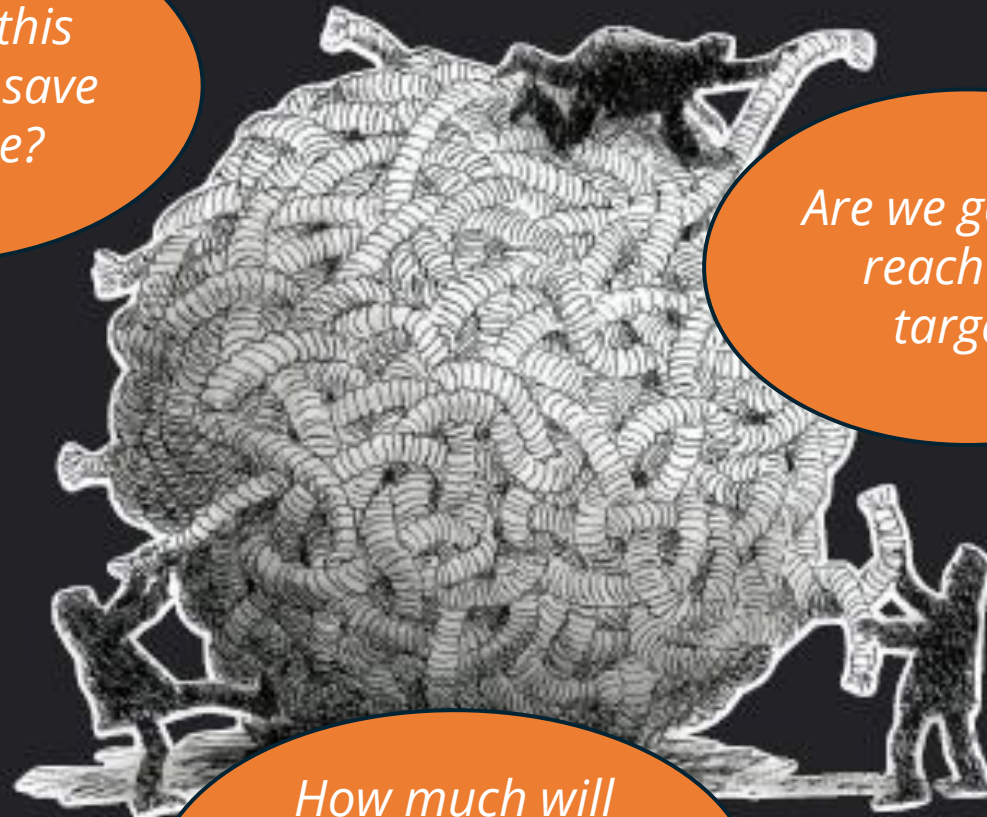
Street cycle stores

Dynamic traffic lights

Fuel taxes

Congestion charges

*What does this intervention save us in tCO<sub>2</sub>e?*



*Are we going to reach our target?*

*How much will our plan cost and how much will it save?*

## Outcomes

Reduced CO<sub>2</sub>

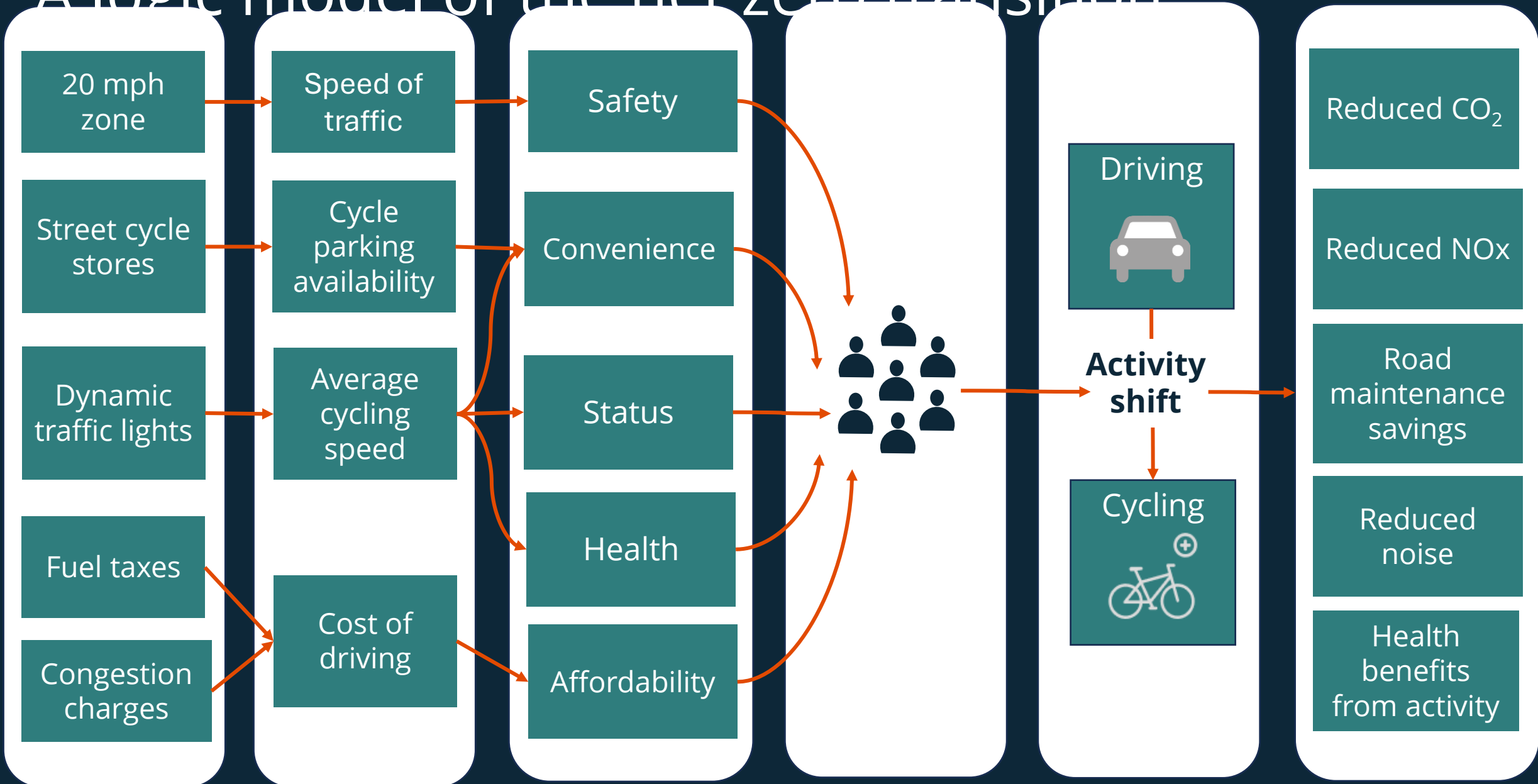
Reduced NOx

Road maintenance savings

Reduced noise

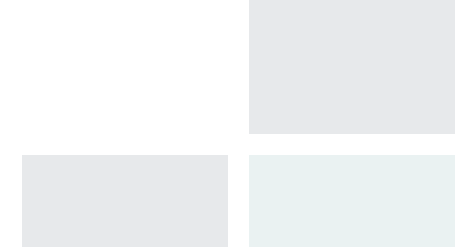
Health benefits from activity

# A logic model of the net zero transition





# How will SCIS help?



CLIMATEVIEW FOR DUNDEE 2045

Search on title 🔍

Dundee > Transportation > Personal mobility > Modal shift > Increased proportion of walking and cycling

[View introduction](#)

## 4 Policies and commitments for Increased proportion of walking and cycling

List view

Column view

Filter

Group: Status

Sort: Intervention ...

*We have convincing evidence of the long-term societal benefits of our investment*

Interventions to deliver transitions are logged and evaluated

2030 (0)

*Our indicators of transition are moving in the right direction at the right pace*

Leaders and elected members – clearer and current information about various plans

Different service areas in the Council can contribute to relevant transition pathways

Climate teams can develop a live agile plan, update it easily and share it with stakeholders

All stakeholders, including the public can see and engage with the local area plan

# Why this is public service excellence?

---

- Brought leading **climate expertise into policy delivery**, enabled by a partnership building approach rather than traditional procurement
- **Scaled up through existing networks** to gather support, build collaboration, grow impact and secure commitment
- **Challenged stakeholders** on where the issues lay in Scotland's net zero system and how best to address them
- Shows **coordinated and collective leadership** with a shared, common approach across Scottish Government and all 32 local authorities
- Focus on **moving from planning to delivery** through a dynamic, open and public data platform
- **Value, efficiency, scale and impact**



Scottish  
Climate  
Intelligence  
Service

[www.climateintelligenceservice.scot](http://www.climateintelligenceservice.scot)  
[info@climateintelligenceservice.scot](mailto:info@climateintelligenceservice.scot)