



Essex Climate Action Commission - Year 2 - Green Growth & Sector Development

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What is Green Growth?

- ***Green growth means fostering economic growth and development while ensuring that natural assets continue to provide the resources and environmental services on which our well-being relies.***

To do this it must catalyse investment and innovation which will underpin sustained growth and give rise to new economic opportunities.

Source: OECD [Green Growth Strategy](#)



Transition to a low carbon economy

- Investment has been increasing...
- But the pace needs to increase if net zero is to be achieved by 2050 or sooner
- Homes and businesses need to change and we need to play a facilitating role
 - in technology transitions
 - informing residents
 - supporting local business
 - upskilling the local workforce
- Whilst a raft of targets will drive demand for low carbon goods and services, it is crucial that there is a workforce in place to deliver the change needed.

Green Economy

The Government's 10-point plan focuses on increasing ambition in the following areas:



advancing offshore wind



driving the growth of low carbon hydrogen



delivering new and advanced nuclear power



accelerating the shift to zero emission vehicles



green public transport, cycling and walking



'jet zero' and green ships



protecting our natural environment



greener buildings



investing in carbon capture, usage and storage



green finance and innovation

The 10-point plan will mobilise £12 billion of government investment, and potentially 3 times as much from the private sector, to create and support up to 250,000 green jobs.

Essex the land of opportunity – the future of our economy

ECC via their sector development strategy are gathering insight data and modelling on the future economy of Essex. Essex is a place of opportunity. The greatest growth potential within the following sectors:



**Clean Green
Energy (including
low emission
vehicles tech)**



**Green
Lifesciences
(focusing on med
& care tech)**



**Digitech
(including Fin,
Insure, Agri,
Marine)**



**Green
Construction
and Retrofit
(including NSIPs)**



**Advanced
Manufacturing &
Engineering**

We know that Green is not a sector in its own right; green and sustainability is a cross cutting principle incorporated within each of the sectors and is intrinsic to the future of the Essex economy. Whether that is creating green energy, designing and manufacturing green products, such as heat pumps or facilitating a green economy through digitalisation of services.

Green Opportunities: Jobs



•**Construction:** Essex construction GVA is **25% larger** than the average across the Eastern region. the economic opportunity of delivering retrofit in Essex to be in excess of **£15bn**, with more than **13,000 jobs** created



•**Low Carbon and Renewable Energy:** In Essex it is estimated that **15,908 jobs will be required by 2030 and 27,741 by 2050** (Local Government Association , 2021)



•**Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering** is going to be integral to achieving our net zero aspirations and creating a circular carbon economy in Essex. Every additional person employed through engineering activity is also projected to create a further **1.74 jobs** down the supply chain



•**Greater AI diffusion and SME tech** adoption could add **£38bn** and **£45bn** respectively to UK GVA in 2030 (Confederation of British Industry, 2021) Essex has expertise in this area and should seek to benefit.



•**Life Sciences:** Forecasts predict that by 2040, Essex could gain around **10,000 additional jobs** in the life sciences sector (Cambridge Econometrics, 2021).

Green Jobs: what type of sector?

In 2018, businesses active in England's low-carbon and renewable energy economy (**LCREE**) generated close to **£37 billion in turnover** and **employed 185,000 full-time workers**.

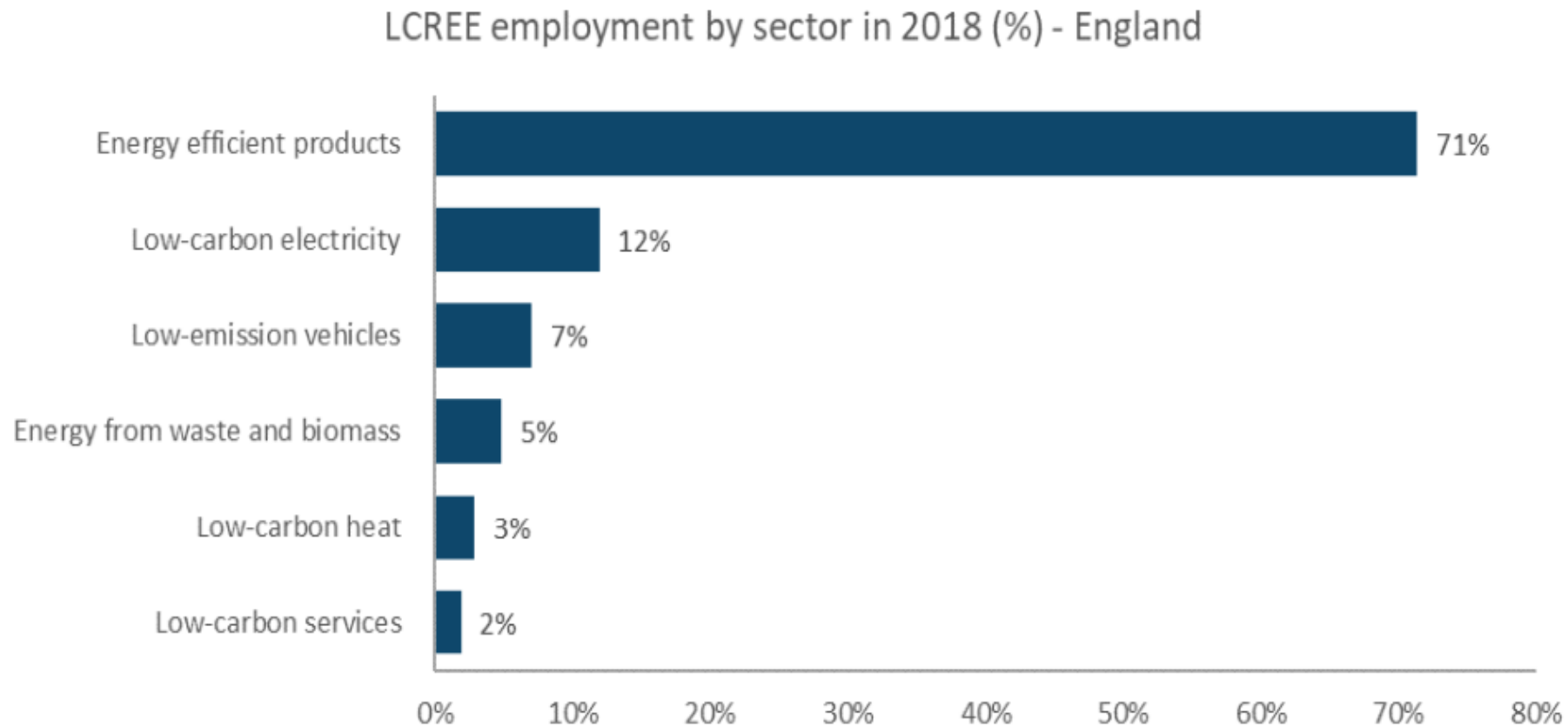


Figure 1 - current employment by LCREE sector (source: ONS)

Green Jobs: what type of job?

- The Local Government Association commissioned Ecuity Consulting to estimate the total number of low-carbon jobs that will be supported by England's net zero transition by 2030 and 2050. The number of direct jobs estimated cover the value chain from manufacturing, construction and installation, to operation and maintenance
- Research found that there could be as many as 694,000 direct jobs employed in the low-carbon and renewable energy economy by 2030 in England, rising to over 1.18 million by 2050

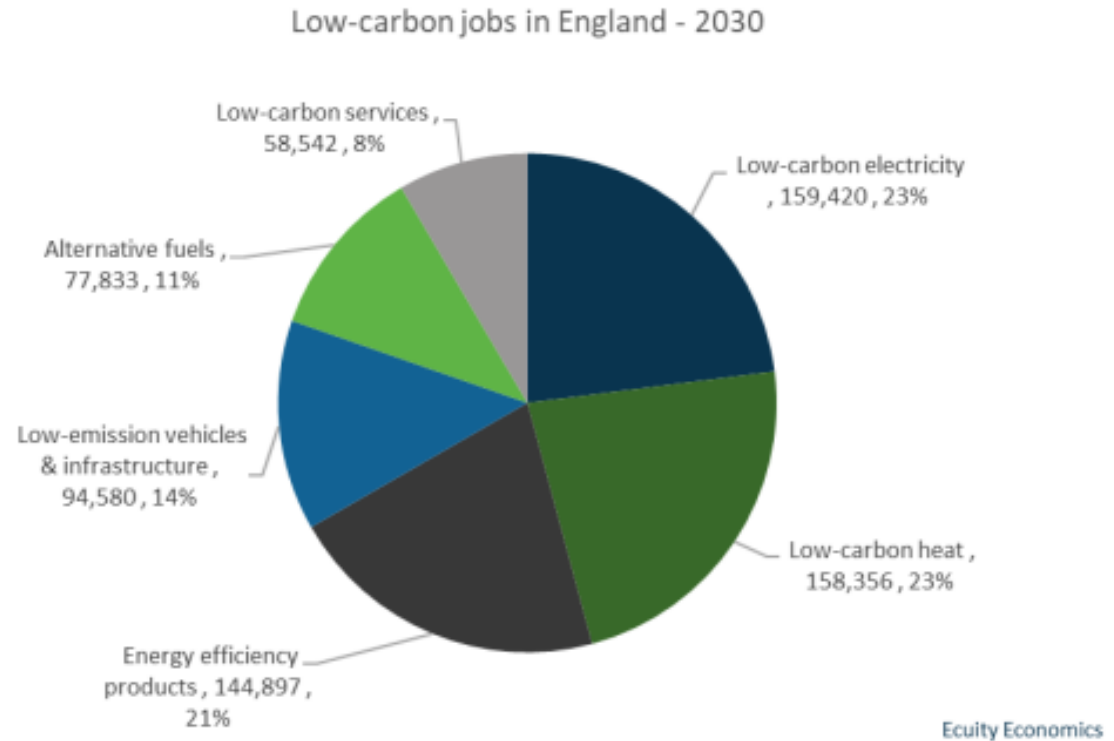
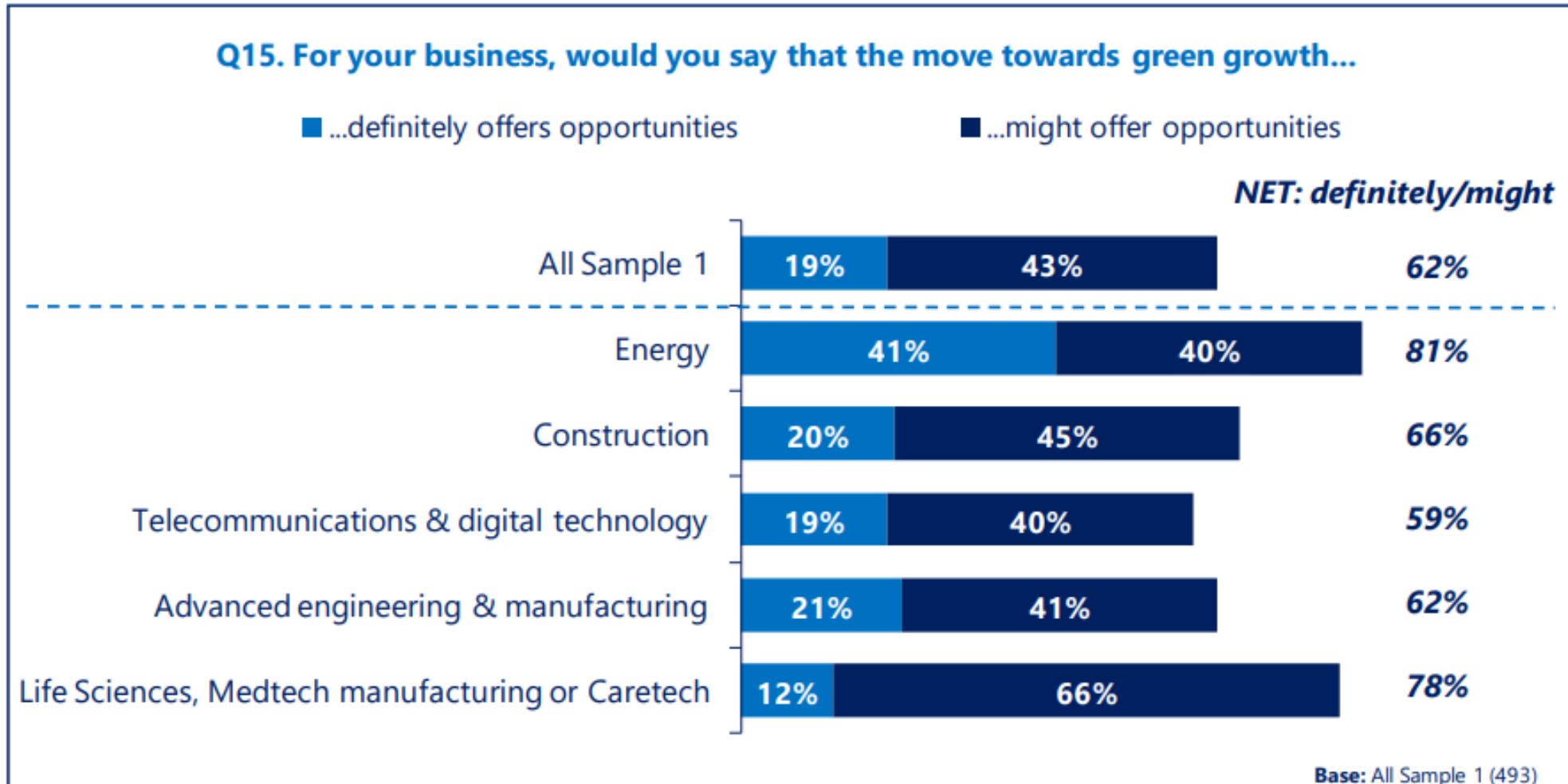


Figure 2 – split of LCREE (direct) jobs in England by 2030 (source: Ecuity estimate)

Ambitious Essex

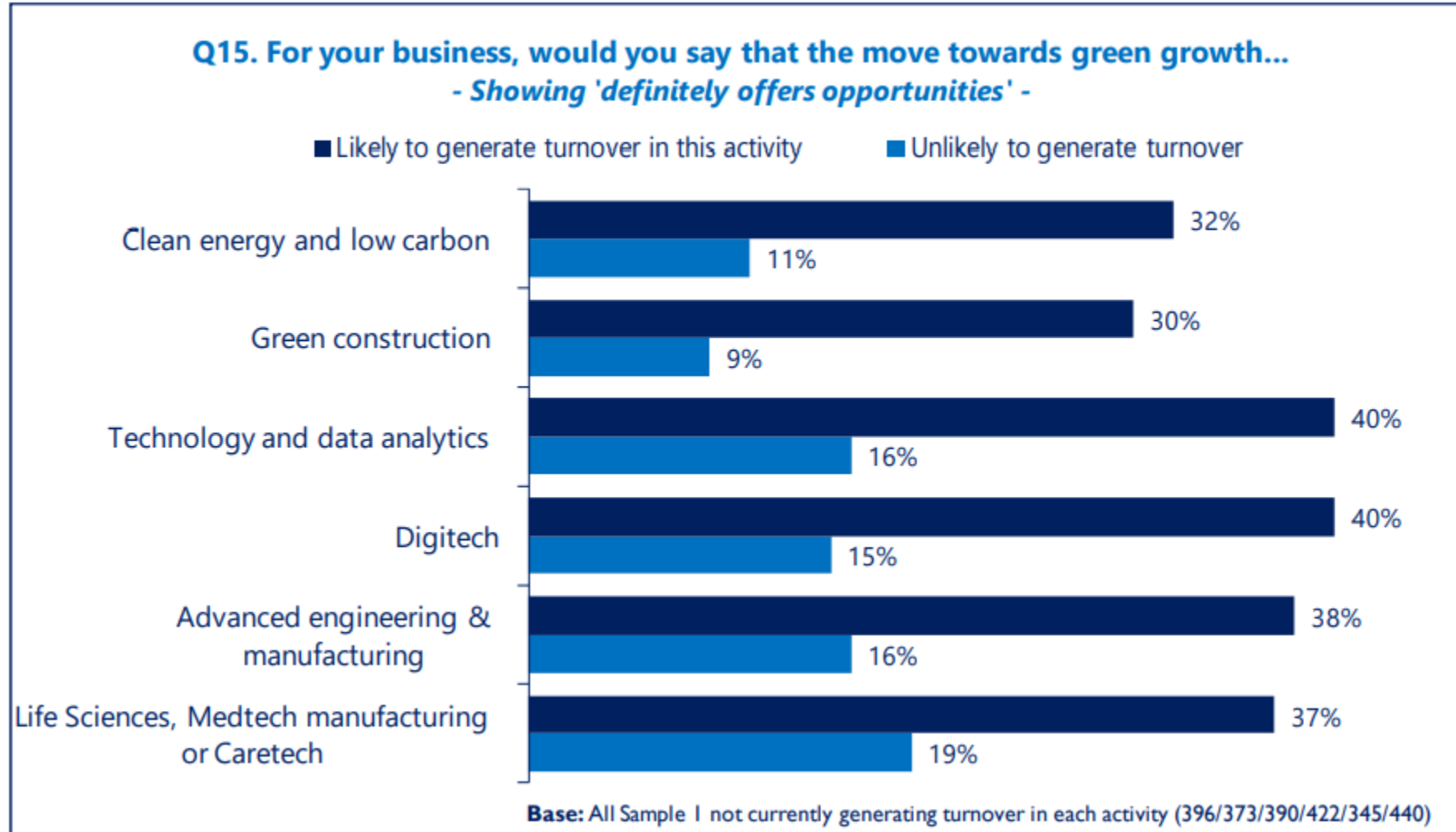
Businesses need more support to realise the net zero ambitions for Essex.

Figure 15. Green growth opportunities – by growth sector



Ambitious Essex

Figure 17. Green growth opportunities – by target activities likely to undertake



Sustainable homes

- With over 8,000 new homes planned every year in Essex, housing decarbonisation presents an enormous opportunity for **clean growth**.
- **Net zero** homes in Essex (like Brookfield Close in Brentwood) represent real opportunity:
 - **stimulating innovation** and share knowledge of building to net zero standards.
 - **encouraging and promoting net zero technologies and building practices in Essex.**
- **Retrofitting** to ensure that our existing homes meet ambitious decarbonisation targets, reducing carbon emissions and fuel poverty is also key.



The Essex Opportunity: Retrofit

In the UK it is expected to create **455,076** jobs; 67,400 in the South East; for **Essex** that could mean up to **12,800 jobs...BUT** we need to ensure our residents and businesses can benefit – our own retrofit programme through our schools and estates is **ESSENTIAL** to develop a...

Pipeline of activity which shows the opportunity

Local People



Articulate the opportunity of re-skilling & re-training and drive demand for courses

Education & Skills



Colleges, Universities & ACL to provide the courses needed to enable our residents to train

Businesses



Market the opportunity by phasing & sequencing work so accessible to business of all sizes

Procurement



Establish procurement routes to enable local people & local business to access the opportunity

Tackling Inequality



address inequality of opportunity & jobs: women & young people particularly impacted by Covid & future opportunities

The Outcome – A Circular Economy: Those trained and given work through this process will have transferrable skills and experience, helping Essex to be at the forefront of wider retrofit in commercial and domestic settings, keeping jobs local and the money spent within the Essex economy.

The Essex Opportunity: Energy

The Unique Value Proposition for Essex

- Essex has a broad energy mix and provides business potential: the East of England is highlighted by Government as the area of highest opportunity.
- The area sits at the heart of the world's largest market for offshore wind.
- Nuclear power facilities are being decommissioned and new sites being developed.
- Onshore renewable energy projects such as solar, biomass, and battery storage are growing.
- With emerging plans for the storage of gas and captured carbon in the Southern North Sea, the East of England has a potential energy investment programme worth £billions.
- The scope and scale of planned developments in the region's energy sector means that companies across North Essex and the wider region are presented with a host of new business opportunities.

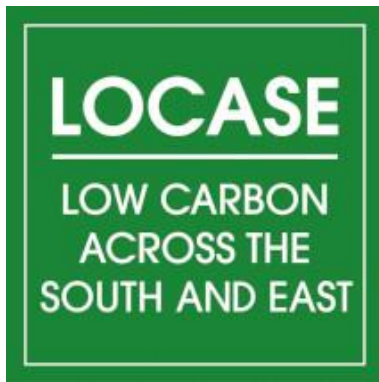


Current schemes



- **Green Homes Grant Local Authority Delivery Scheme (LAD and LAD2)**

Funding under this scheme to improve the energy efficiency of low-income households in their area.



- **LoCASE**

The aim is to help businesses to become more competitive and profitable while protecting the environment and encouraging low carbon solutions.



- **Solar Together**

Group-buying for solar panels and battery storage: better offers together.

Actions

In terms of creating a green economy and supporting green growth our actions when put together are greater than the sum of their parts.

Via the ECAC report we have a trajectory to reach net zero by 2050

We now need to focus on how we do this...

- What is it that we can do individually or through your organisation to help us achieve the ambitious aims set out in the recommendations?
- What can we do together as a collective to help us reach net zero?
- Who do we need to collaborate with and influence going forward?

