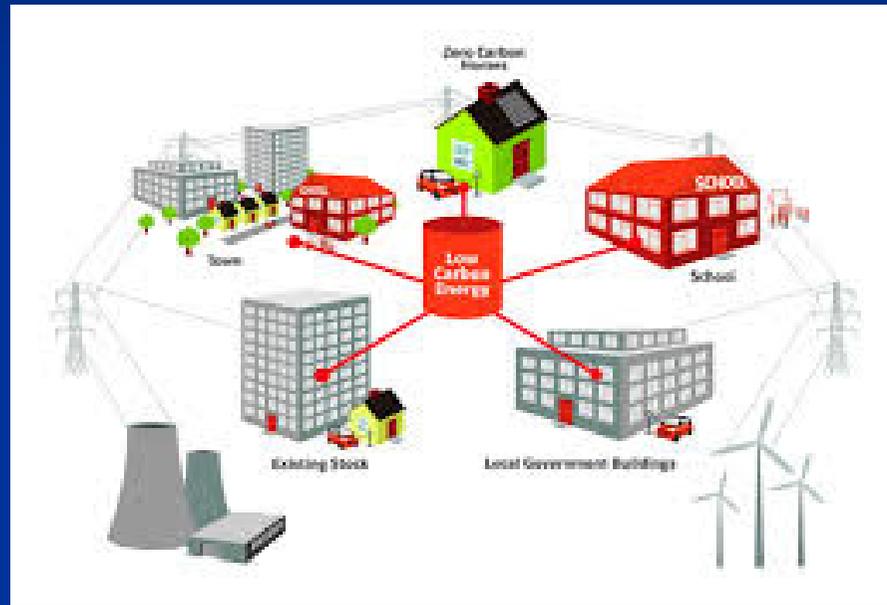


Moving decentralised energy forward in England



Sean Morris, NFLA Secretary
NFLA English Forum, October 2017



What I'm going to look at:

- Centralised energy – a broken model
- Developing DE and some best practice examples
- The state of community energy in the UK
- How can community energy move forward
- Private sector renewable schemes – some good examples
- Connections with local authorities / central government support
- Conclusions



Centralised energy – a broken model?



**NUCLEAR -
FINANCIAL RISKS**



**OFFSHORE WIND
– SUCCESS!**



**GAS OVER COAL
– IMPORT ISSUES**



**DIESEL
GENERATORS!**



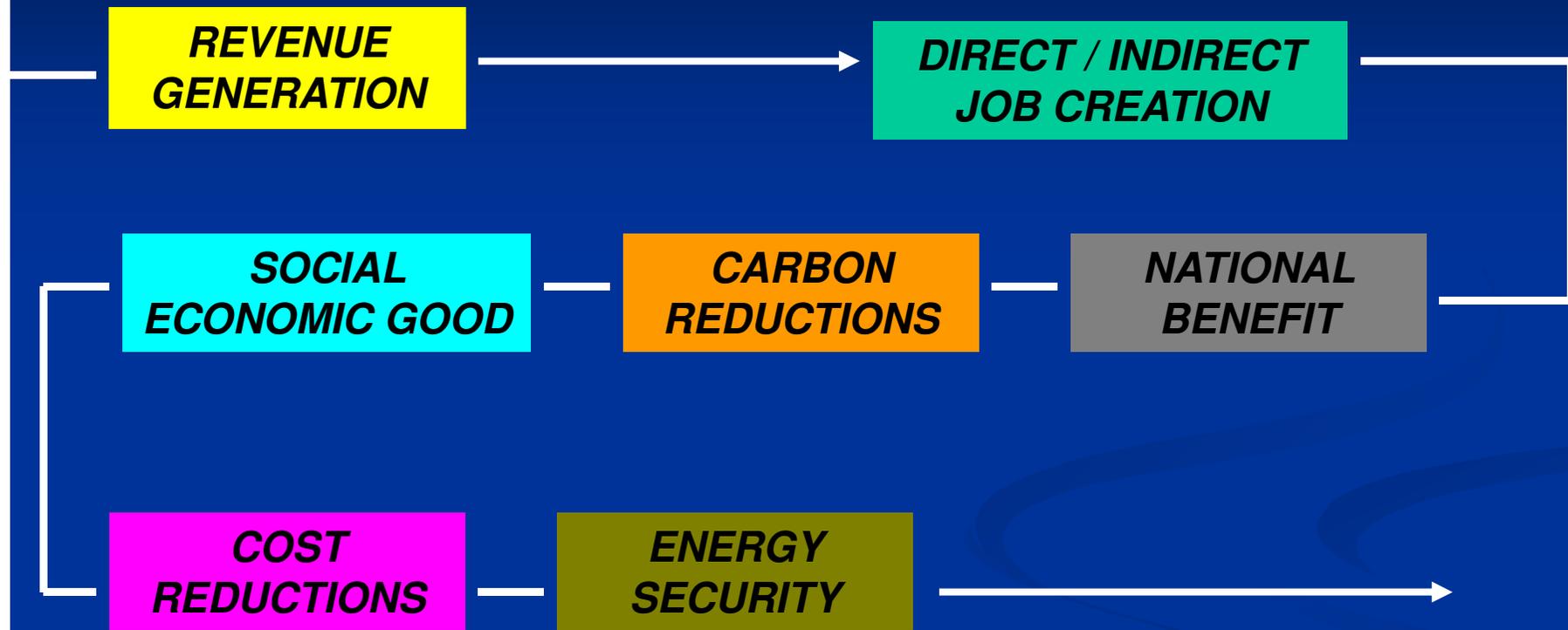
**TIDAL – YES! BUT
EXPENSIVE**



**OR...
DECENTRALISED
ENERGY?**



Drivers for change



**FINANCIAL
RISKS**

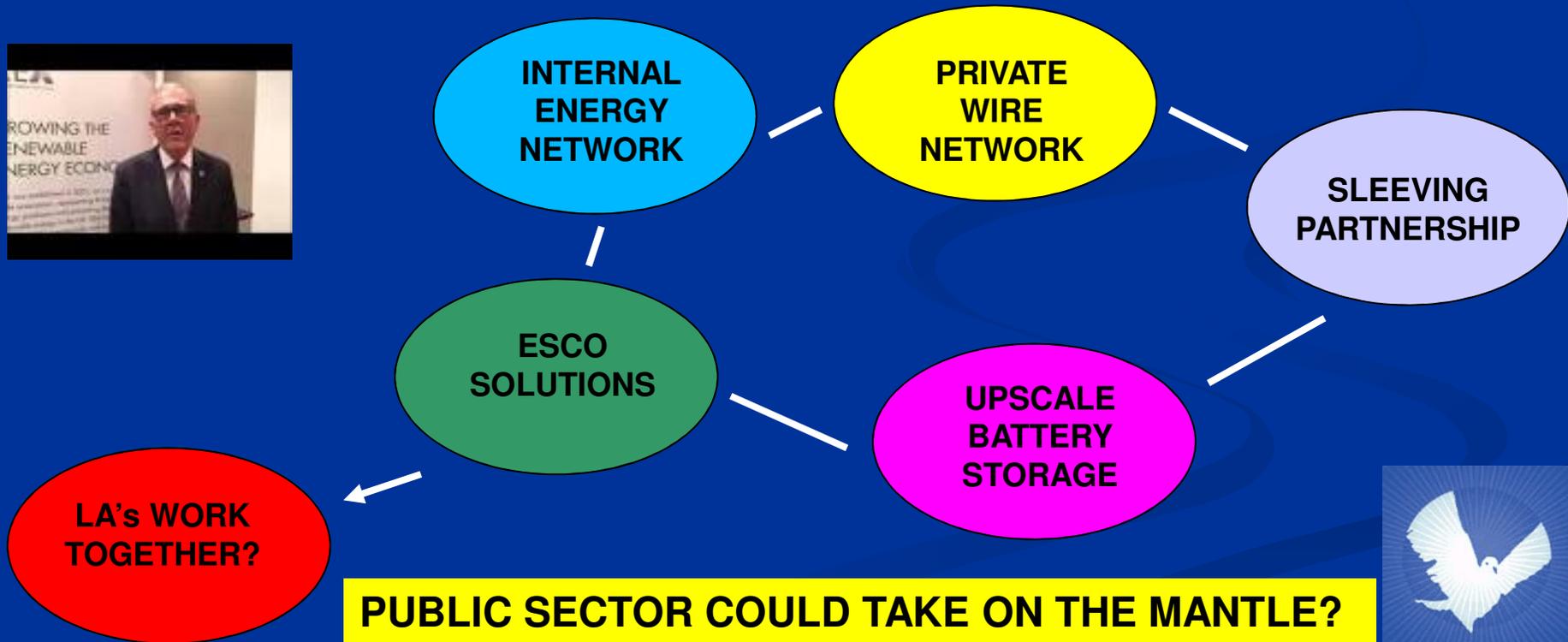
**CAPITAL
COSTS**



FITS cuts & future



- UK / NI Government cuts to feed-in tariff regime
- Badly damaged solar sector / onshore wind sector
- Councils should take stock and think long-term
- Steven Cirell APSE Energy consultant – 5 LA options



LA Energy Companies

**RobinHood
energy**
A not for profit company

**fairerpower**
For All

H2
Aberdeen

OUR CITY. OUR MONEY. ...and now OUR ENERGY!



SWITCH TO **BRISTOL
energy**

Founded in Bristol
Reinvests in the city
Uses Bristol Pounds
Save: £240 per year on average with a BS postcode

OH, AND YOU GET **£20**
AND WE GET **£10**



EDINBURGH COMMUNITY
SOLAR CO-OPERATIVE

- Councils direct into the energy market
- Offering 'white labels' for other Councils
- Building up local low carbon energy
- Visionary but complicated

 **HEBRIDES
ENERGY**
YOUR LOCAL ENERGY PROVIDER



30 fantastic examples of best practice

**RobinHood
energy**
A not for profit company

OUR CITY. OUR MONEY...and now OUR ENERGY!



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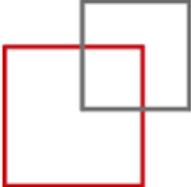
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AND WE GET £10



fairerpower
For All



**EDINBURGH COMMUNITY
SOLAR CO-OPERATIVE**



**White Label
Energy Broker**

www.islington.gov.uk

ISLINGTON

Guidelines for connecting to heat networks
Part 1 - A guide for developers and building owners
(A supplement to Islington Environmental Design Planning Guidance)



**GREATER
MANCHESTER
COMMUNITY
RENEWABLES**



**HEBRIDES
ENERGY**
YOUR LOCAL ENERGY PROVIDER



The state of community energy in the UK

- There are 222 community energy organisations in England, Wales & N Ireland involved in 269 distinct energy activities
- Own 121 MW of energy capacity and generate 265 GWH since 2002
- 74 organisations are also developing energy efficiency schemes
- Leveraged over £190million in project finance (from £1.9m funding)
- £680k income for community benefit funds in past year
- However cuts to subsidies are hitting the sector hard
- Many showing real resilience and some exciting innovation



Barriers to overcome

- UK Government abolished FITs and hugely reduced other subsidies
- Like Councils, now much harder to develop cost effective schemes
- Should Councils seek to work with community energy & private sector partners?
- Planning developments and the need to understand community benefits
- Pooling resources / governance
- Look at joint Power Purchase Agreements (e.g. Portsmouth CC)



How can CE / DE move forward?

- Lower installation costs for RE
- First solar development without subsidy
- Better site selection to allow more on-site electricity usage
- Develop local demand management to put consumers at the heart of energy
- Seek direct partnerships (e.g. Edinburgh Community Co-op with Edinburgh Council and Marks and Spencer)



Private sector renewables

- Private sector can see the way the global energy market is changing
- Low carbon energy use and promotion is the new mantra
- Playing a major role in combating climate change
- Over 90 companies committed to RE100 campaign
- Google, DSM, Philips & Akzo Nobel signed PPA with Dutch wind co
- Whitbread, Premier Inn, Tesco, M & S, Coco-Cola all making large investment in renewables (just some of many examples)
- Lego a 20% investor in Liverpool Bay offshore wind project
- Should LA's be talking to them to encourage energy partnerships?



Connecting LAs, CE & the private sector to develop DE

- UK energy policy has been heavily centralised for too long
- There is wide interest in LA, community and private sector for decentralised energy solutions
- Government policy has reduced resource for DE in LA / community sector
- Should partnerships be encouraged with the private sector?
- Slewing arrangements / private wire local networks?
- Government should also support such connectivity



Conclusions

- Decentralised energy has moved rapidly forward in recent years
- Central government subsidy cuts has hindered this growth in 2016/7
- Attempts to move around these cuts is being made but is slow
- There is benefit in Councils talking to community energy cooperatives and the private sector
- There remains a real need to build up clean energy & demand management
- NFLA will publish a definitive survey on these issues shortly



Thank you for listening.

Questions can be asked in the panel discussion.

**Our reports on can be found in the ‘publications’
part of our website:**

<http://www.nuclearpolicy.info>

