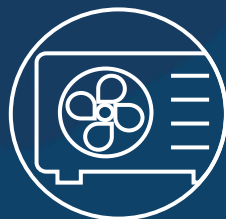




Dorset
Council

Dorset's Local Energy Journey

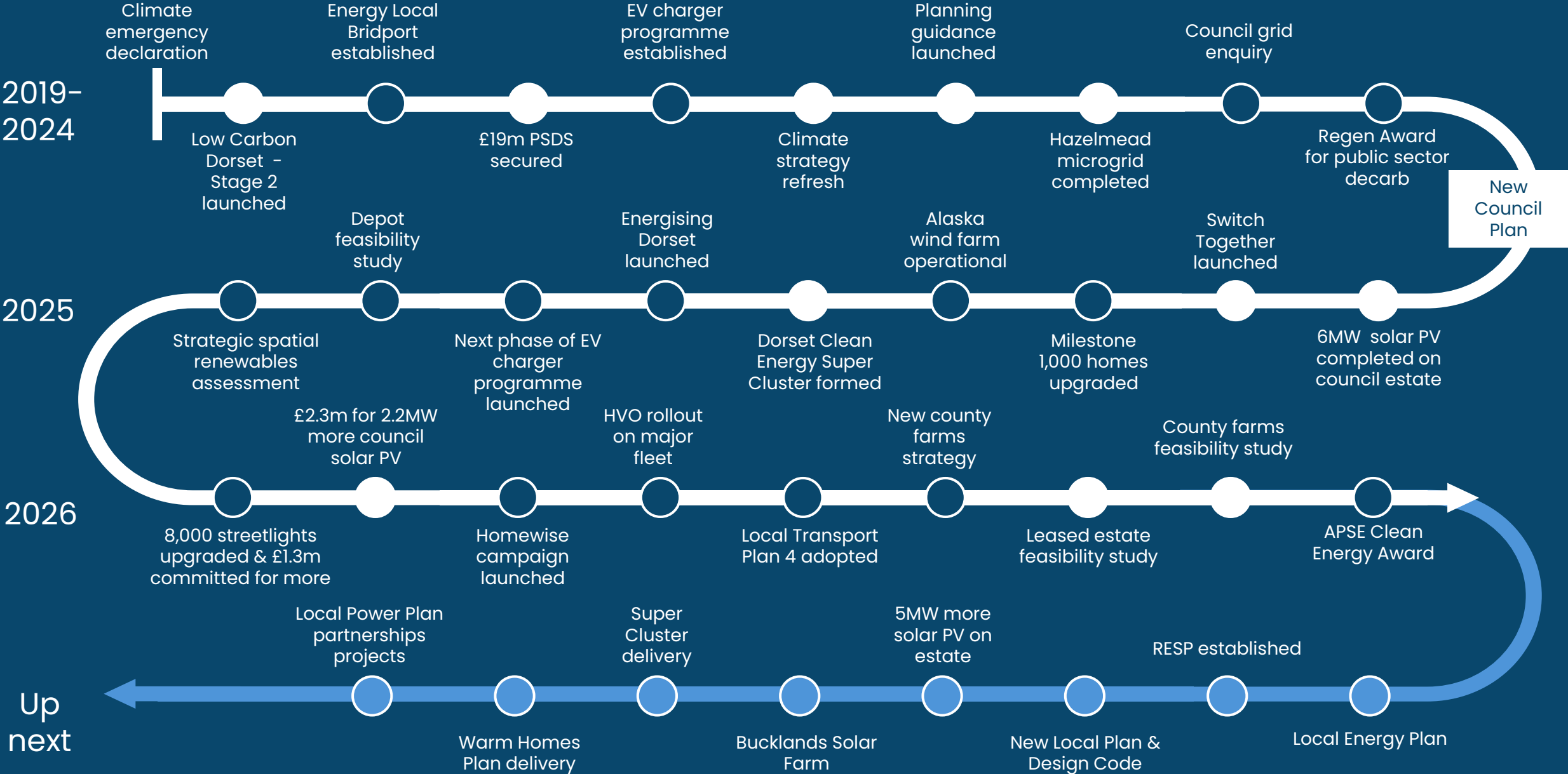
APSE Energy webinar | 29th Sept 2026



Working together | ambitious for **Dorset**



Dorset's energy journey





Climate Change

Cutting our greenhouse gas emissions



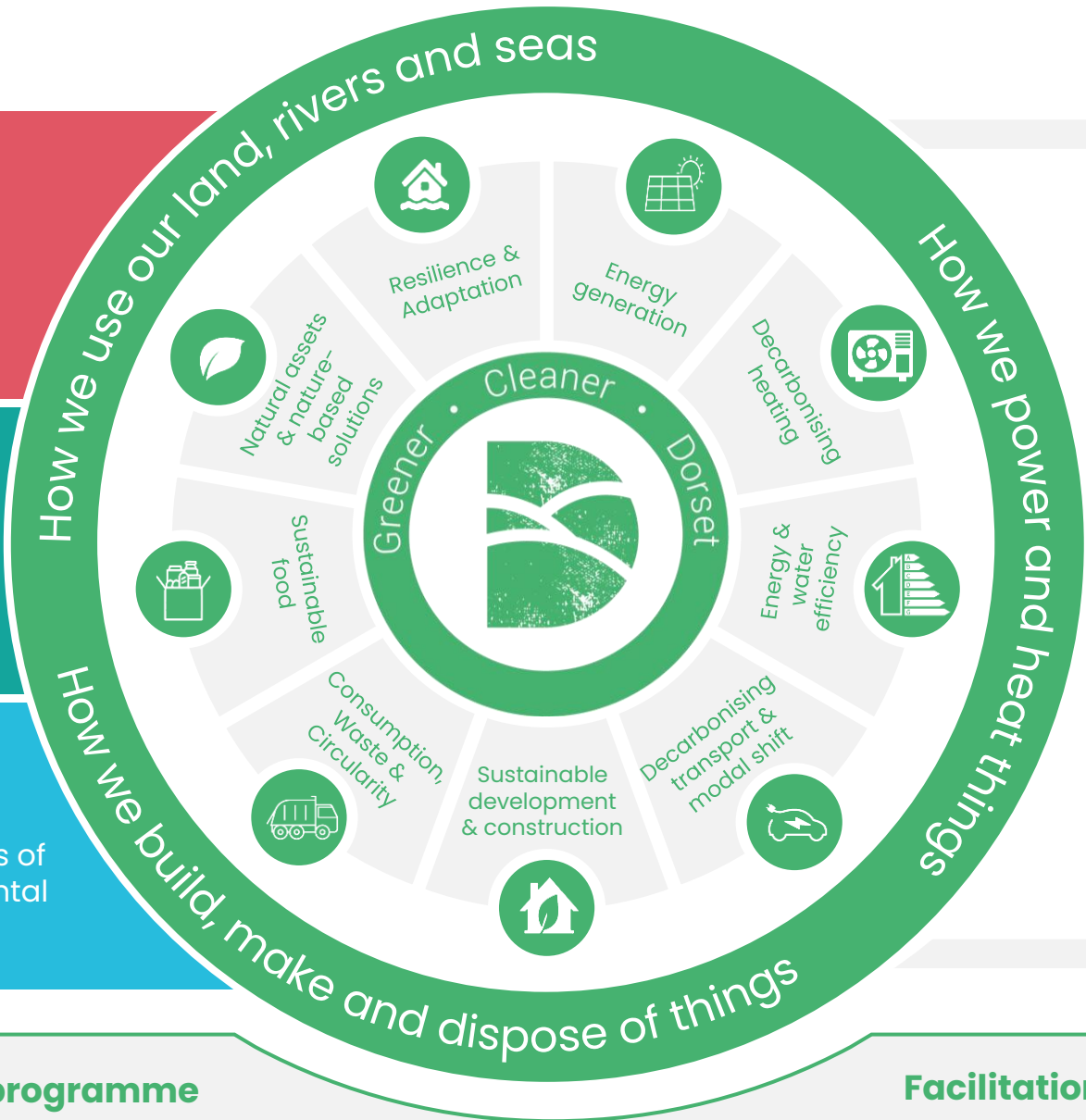
Biodiversity Loss

Helping nature recover by protecting and enhancing our land, rivers & seas



Environmental Resilience

Adapting for the impacts of unavoidable environmental change



Our vision is for **a net zero, nature positive and resilient Dorset** achieved through **a clean, green and fair transition**, and that generates prosperous, stronger and healthier communities.

Operational programme



Assets we directly control and what we buy to tackle our own footprint.

Facilitation programme

Place-shaping, partnerships and engagement to influence Dorset's footprint





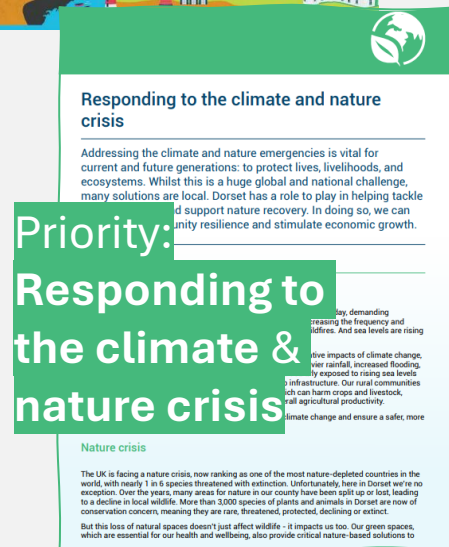
Climate Change
Cutting our greenhouse gas emissions



Biodiversity Loss
Helping nature recover by protecting and enhancing land, rivers & seas



Environmental Resilience
Adapting for the unavoidable changes



Net Zero targets brought forward by 5 years: 2035 for council, 2045 for county



Transition all our small **vehicles** to electric by 2030, and all larger vehicles to low emission fuels by 2026



Add another 5MW of **solar PV** to our estate by 2030



Switch all council oil-fired **heating** to non-fossil fuel alternatives by 2028



Cut emissions from staff **business travel** by at least 25% by 2029



Develop **adaptation plans** for our services by March 2026



A 65% **recycling and composting** rate by 2035



Manage 80% of our **urban verges** for nature by 2030 (50% now)



70% of our **county farms** estate using sustainable farming practices by 2030

...n is for a net
...ture positive
...lient Dorset
...d through a
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Open



buy to tackle our own footprint.

engagement to influence Dorset's footprint



Public sector estate

| Estate retrofit programme

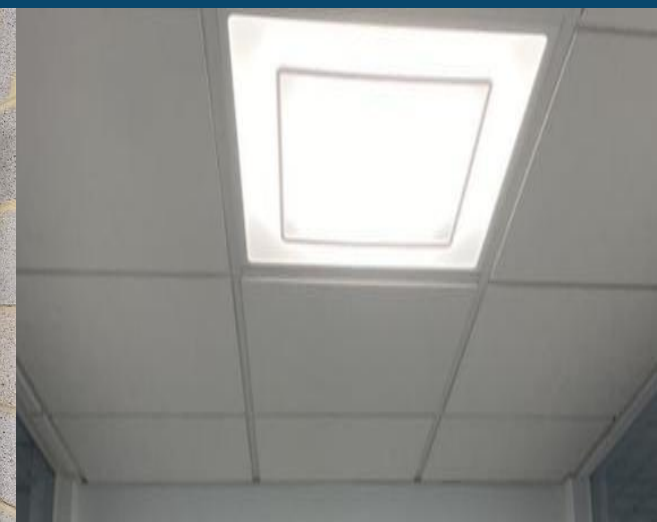
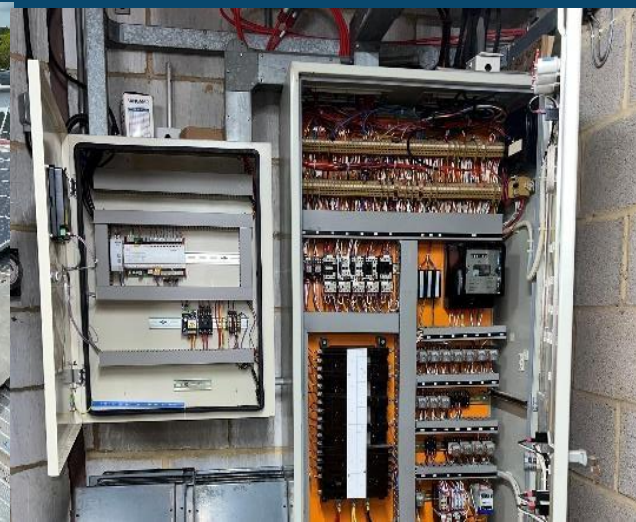


**£19m
investment
so far**

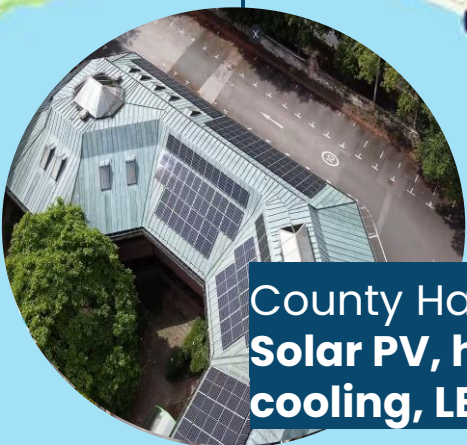
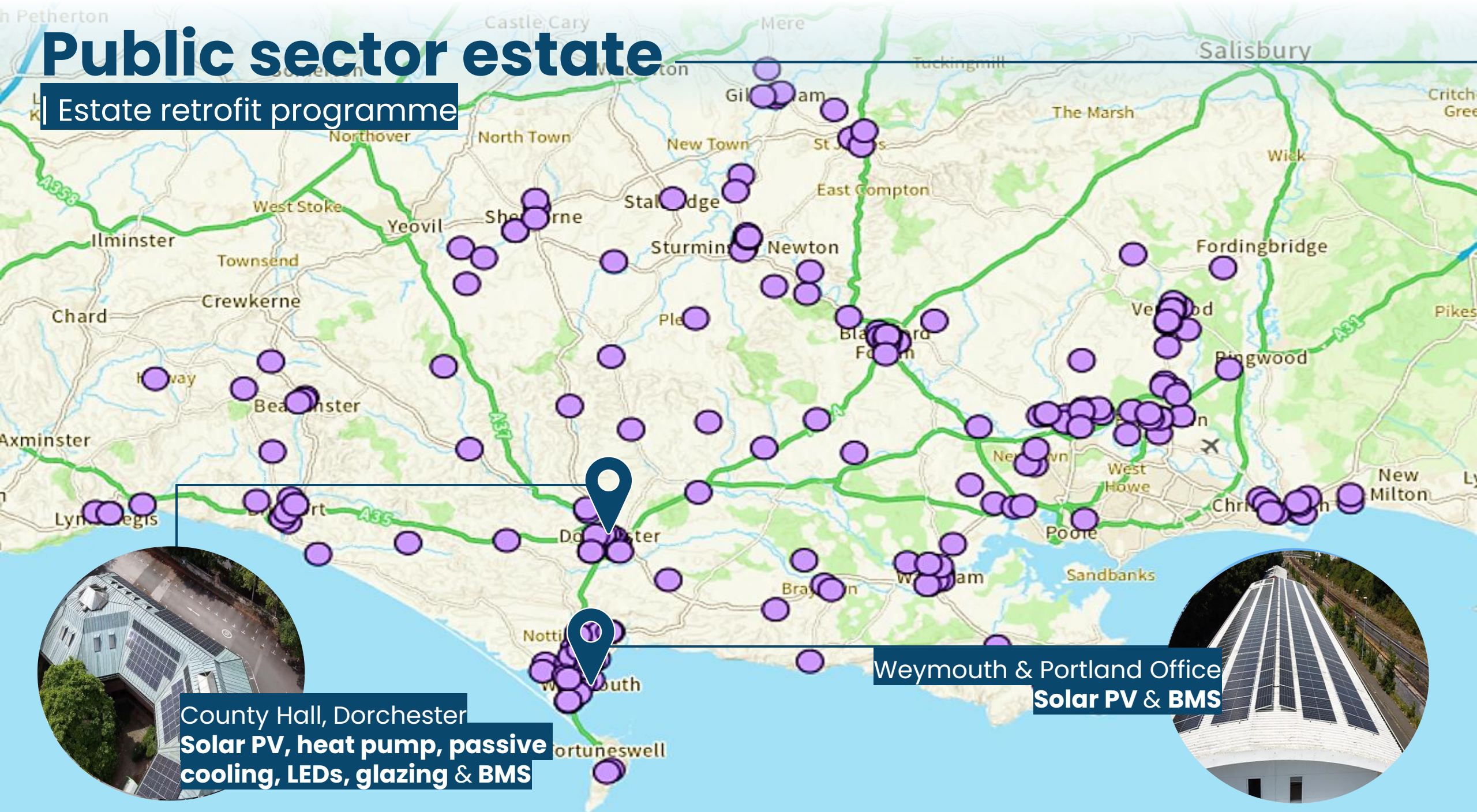
**350
measures
installed in
over 200
buildings**
(heat pumps, PV,
LEDs & heating
controls)

**6MW of
solar PV on
113 buildings**
(~4.6m
kWh/yr)

**Saves us
~£0.5m/yr
& generates
£40-150k/yr
of SEG
income**



Estate retrofit programme



County Hall, Dorchester
Solar PV, heat pump, passive cooling, LEDs, glazing & BMS



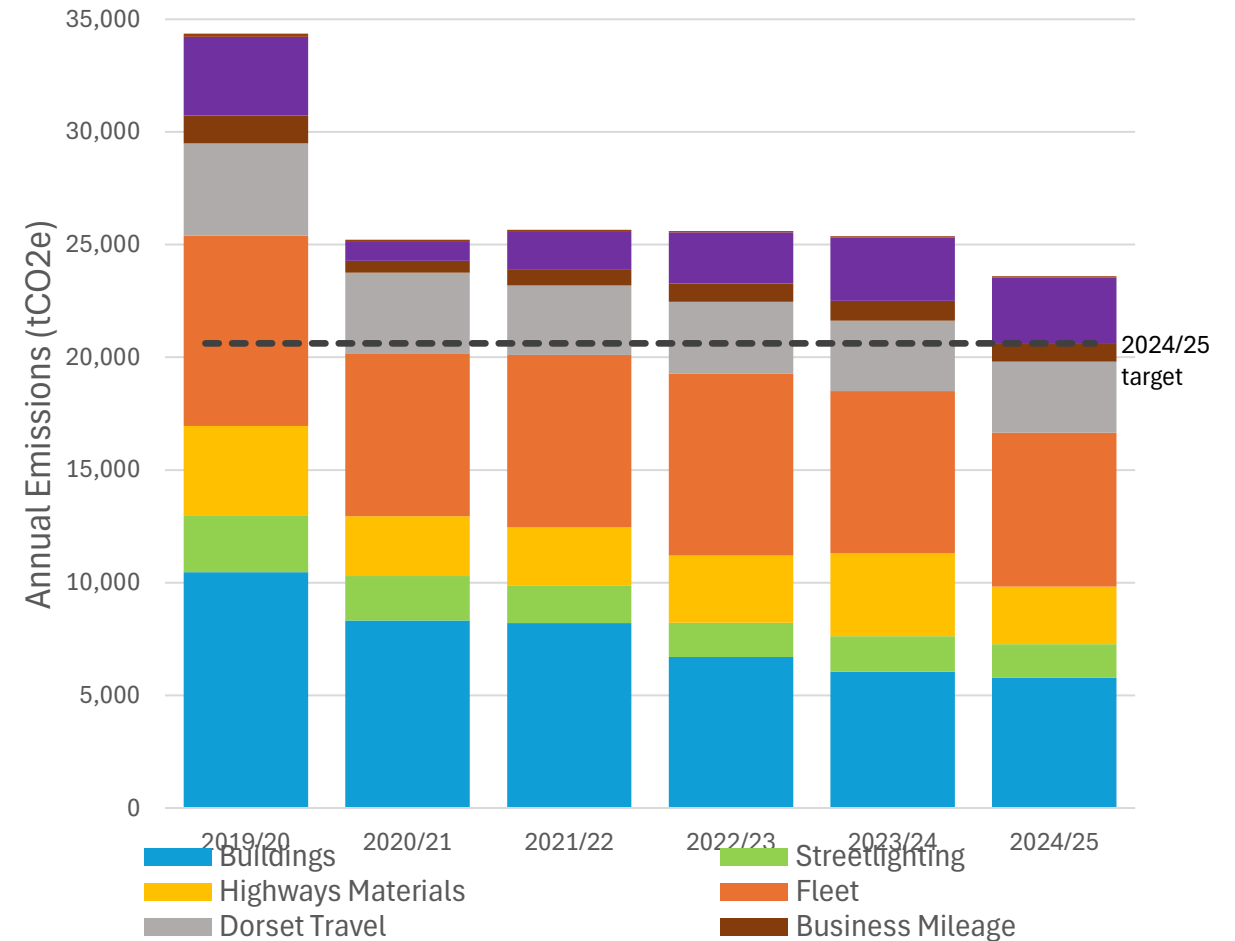
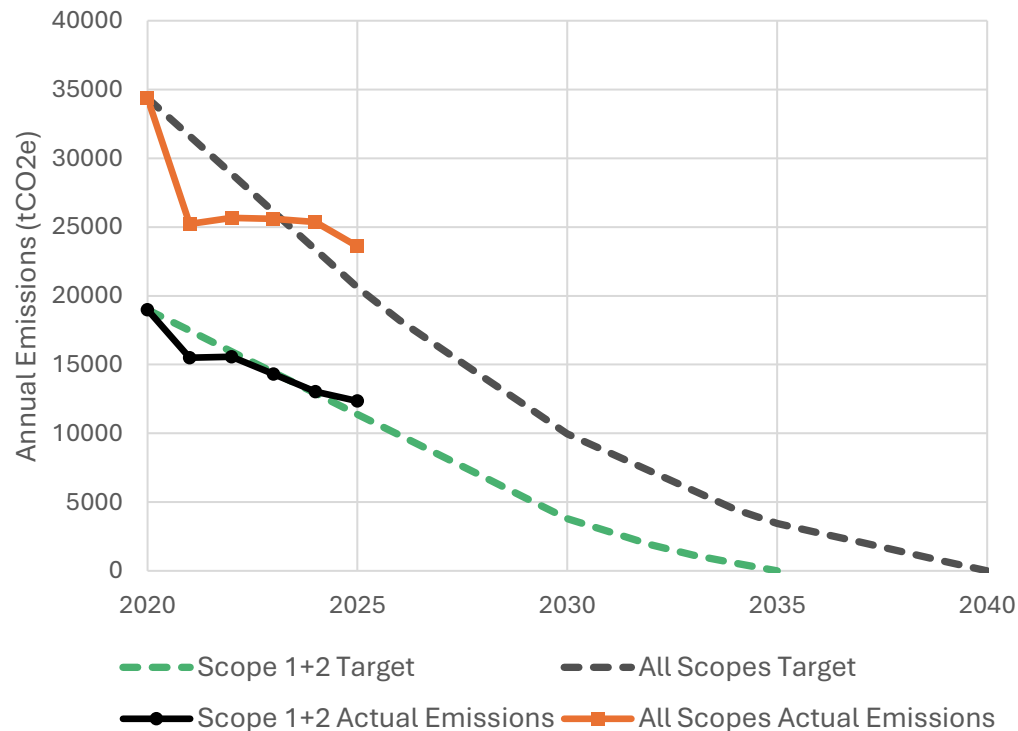
Weymouth & Portland Office

Estate retrofit programme



Operational programme Trajectories and milestones

Dorset Council Operational Emissions:
Performance and Target



Key Lessons Learnt from last phase of Recent Solar Delivery

- Industry installer accreditations did not guarantee workmanship quality
- Lack of detailed brief/spec resulted in variable quality and spec.
- Early engagement with grid, planning and consideration of roof structure important
- Engagement with internal Hard FM/Building Safety Team experts critical to ensure accurate asset registers, (future maintenance); and alignment with internal processes and standards
- Installers (national and local) who bid for smaller numbers of schemes produced higher quality installations
- Vulnerability of large installer with multiple schemes going into administration
- Cheapest installs invariably also most likely to suffer from issues
- Sufficient and suitably qualified resource required to specify AND **oversee installations** (including sign off, defects/warranty period management)

Key Lessons Learnt from last phase of Recent Solar Delivery

- Significant follow up work to secure export financial benefits – SEGs, PPA etc
 - Formal commissioning finalisation, connection agreement finalisation/novation, DNO/installer/supplier engagement
- Gaining carbon benefit from export
 - Engagement with SWNZH, DESNZ, LGA, APSE Energy Network
- Maintenance
 - Suitable access
 - Increased insurer focus
 - What standard?
 - Who responsible

Development of New Approach for Next Phase of Delivery

Strategy developed in consultation with Commercial and Procurement, Legal services, Assets and Property

- Upfront feasibility and outline design from known, high quality national installer (incl. grid, structural, planning)
- External Specialist Support required to finalise specification of systems for procurement
- External Specialist Support required for project delivery (support contract and project management)
- Internal Assets and Property programme manager appointed to ensure alignment with internal A&P standards/processes/strategy
- DPS ensures mix of local and national pre-vetted installers
- Smaller batches and quality considered carefully vs lowest price only (=>better lifecycle cost value)
- Tried to build on condition surveys/ and surveyor building specific knowledge for scheme design
- Compliance team feedback into outline designs/ standards

A look at our Commercial Estate...

In order to hit solar PV targets we are also looking at our commercial estate

- Currently investigating mechanisms for capturing carbon benefit from commercial estate (REGOs? Contracts with tenant, etc)
- SWNZ Hub study on rooftop solar plus meetings with West Suffolk Solar for Business
- SWNZ Hub study on our county farms estate (large wind, large solar, behind the meter wind/solar)

Low Carbon DORSET

Helping reduce Dorset's footprint

Supporting local business and
community organisations with...



**Free technical
advice**



Grants



**Sharing best
practice**

Visit

dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/low-carbon-dorset



11,400
Tonnes of
CO₂e/yr saved



18MW

of renewable energy
already installed



£7.9M
in grants
awarded



Since 2017...



1,186
Applications
received



896
Organisations
supported



£21.5m
Total
investment
including
match

Commercial & community buildings

| Low Carbon Dorset programme





switch together.



Group buying low carbon tech at a reduced price with trusted installers.



Reverse auction to get the best price and avoid residents effort researching and negotiating.



Vetted suppliers and agreement on fair terms upfront to provide quality assurance and no hidden fees.



Expert support, with a personalised detailed offer based on your home.



Dorset is participated in Scheme 4 (Autumn 2025 registration, mid 2026 installation).

1,609 EOIs
leading to **241 installations**

2,386 solar panels
installed, total capacity of **1.07 MW**

208 battery installations,
total battery capacity of **4.2 MWh**

£1.6m private investment
saving **152 tCO₂e p/a**

**Scheme 6 – Launched
August 2026**

Large-scale clean energy



8MW Alaska
Wind Farm
now
operational
near
Wareham

37 sites
>5MW, 12
10MW+ solar
farms
(>840MW given planning
consent in last 5yrs)

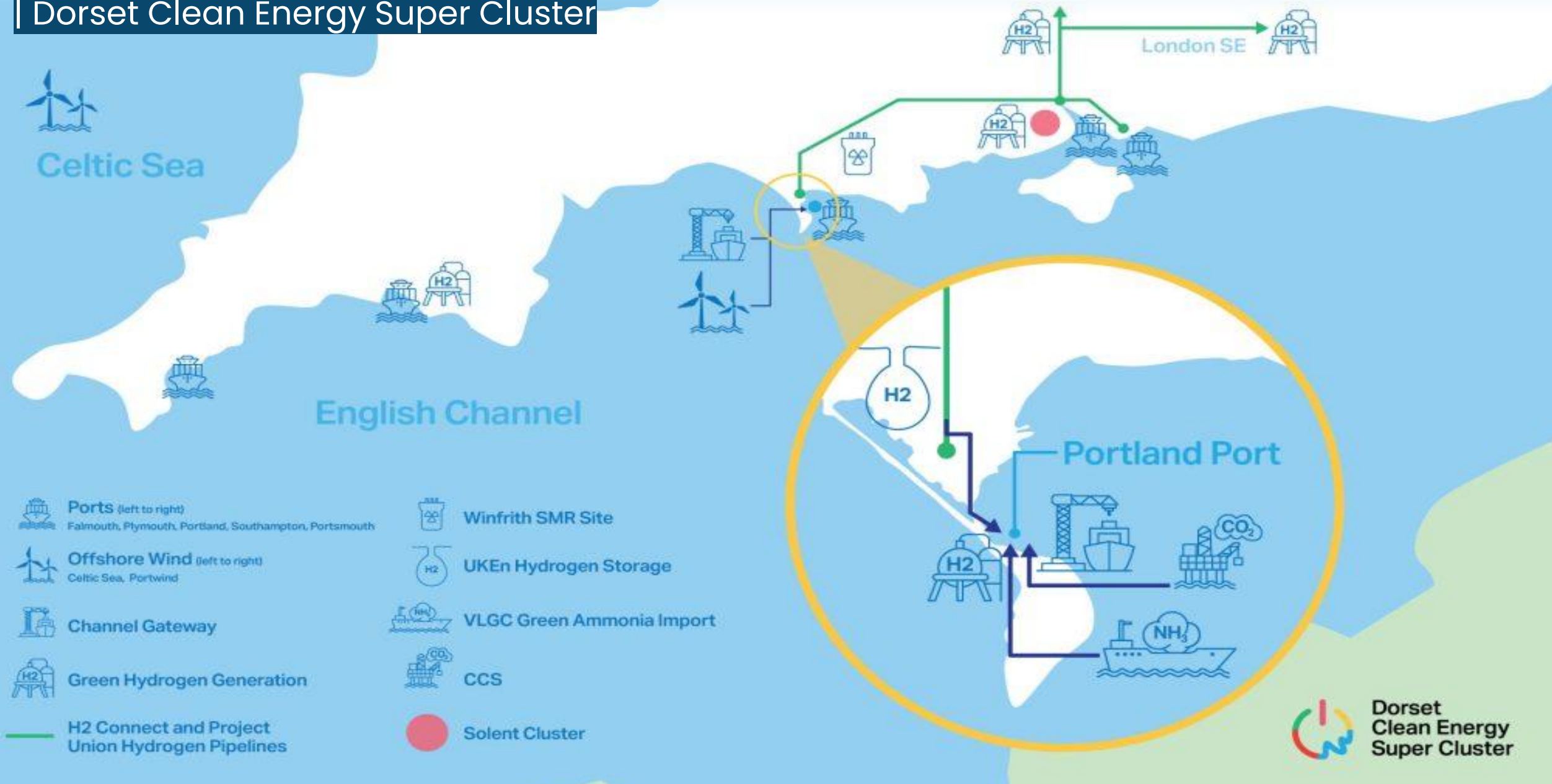
UK's first
biomethane
-to-grid AD
& SW's first
commercial
green H₂
electrolyser

**Dorset Clean
Energy Super
Cluster
formed**
(offshore wind, wind
hub, hydrogen,
CCUS & SMRs)



Large-scale clean energy

| Dorset Clean Energy Super Cluster



Community energy

| Dorset Community Energy projects



Where next?

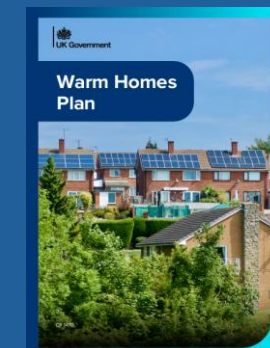
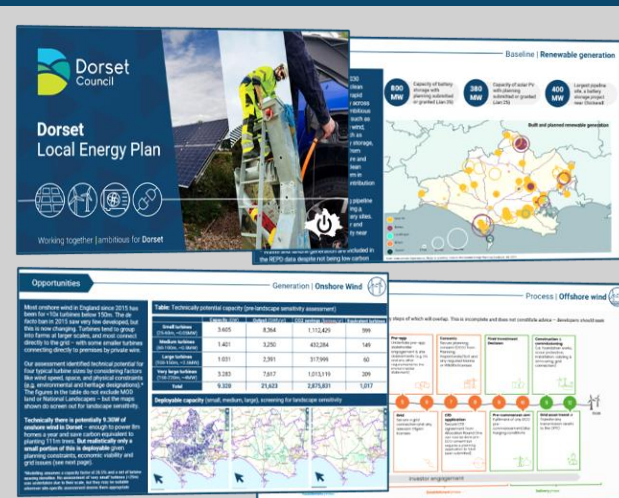


Finalise
Dorset's **Local
Energy Plan**

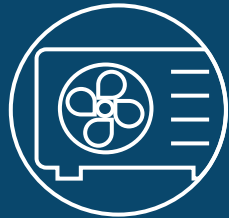
Next phase
of **estate
mounted
solar PV**
(5MW)

Progressing
**farm estate
opportunities**
(e.g.
Bucklands)

**Warm
Homes Plan
& Local
Power Plan**
opportunities



Thank you!
Any questions?



Hazelmead: Solar & micro-grid project

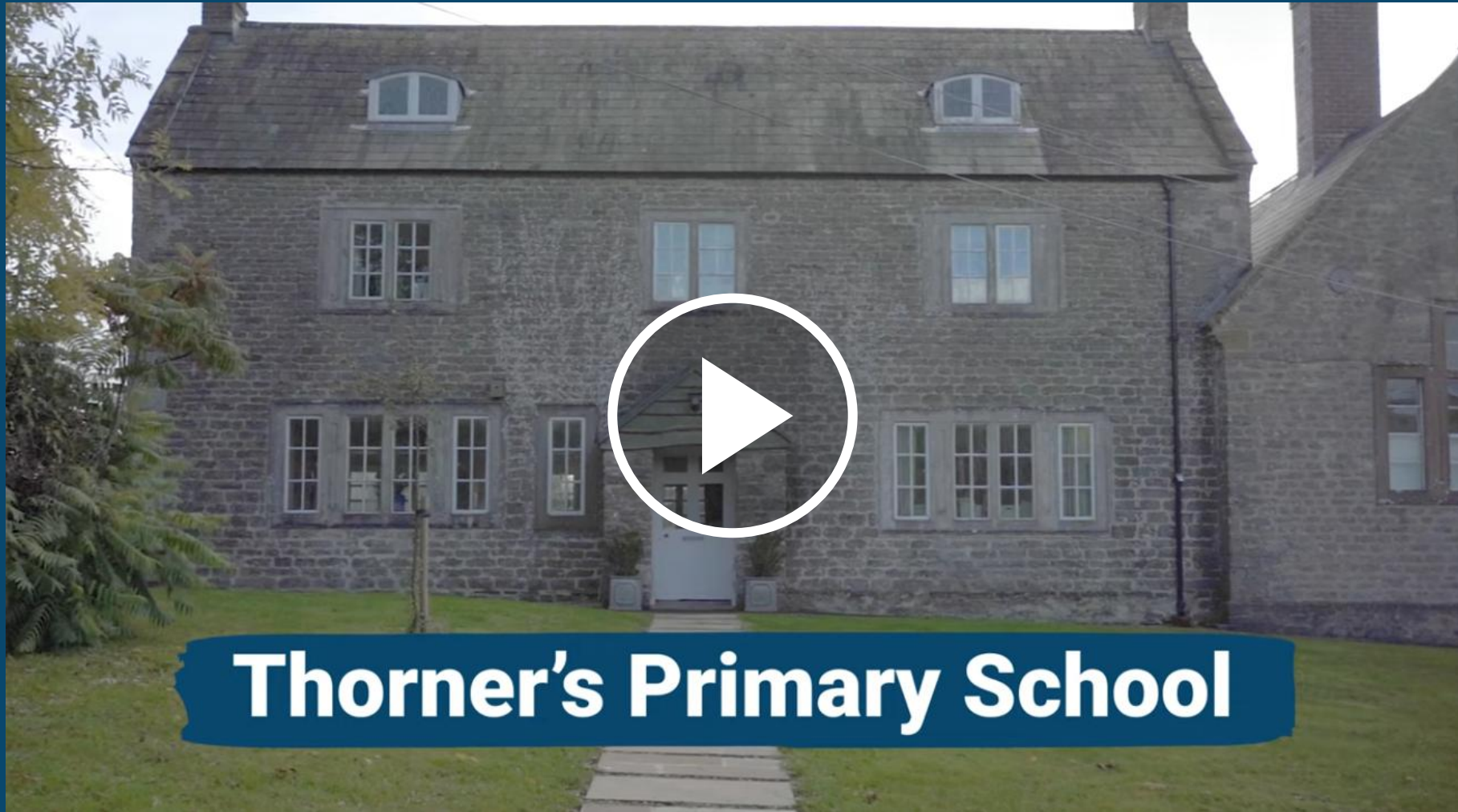


Damon Rand

Cepro

which is one of the largest housing estates in the UK with a microgrid.

Thorner's Primary School: Solar project



Thorner's Primary School

Dorset's PSDS programme: Solar projects



Print Team: Solar project



Sherborne Abbey:

