



**Devon Sustainable  
Building Initiative**  
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# Low Carbon Existing Homes conference

The Corn Exchange, Exeter

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# **Low Carbon Existing Homes**

The regional perspective: challenges and opportunities in the South West

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**South West**

# What we do

Our Mission:

- **Lead 60 million people to act on climate change**

Our Vision:

- **Every home becomes a low carbon home**

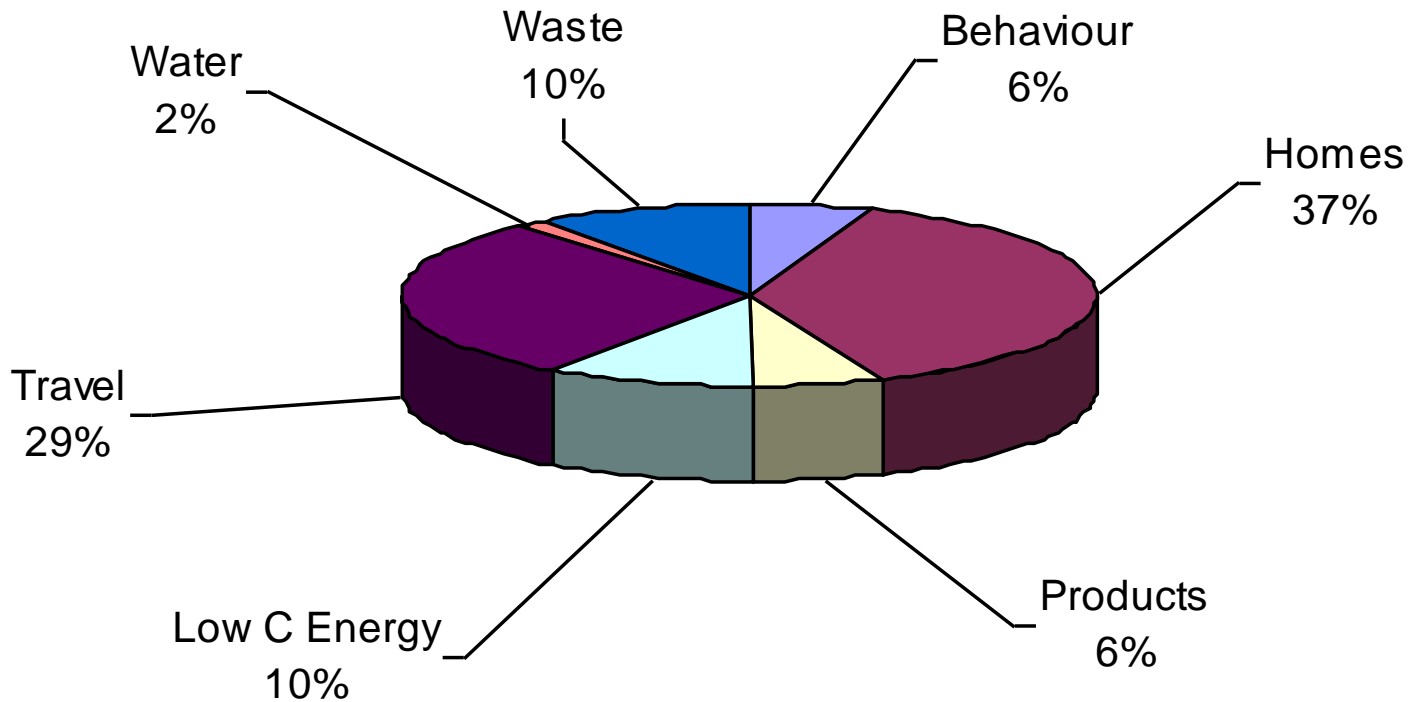
# Why low carbon homes?

## 43% of emissions; most cost effective

- More ***energy efficient housing***
- Lower energy ***consumer products***
- More ***renewable energy*** and more ***microgeneration***
- An increase in ***energy saving behaviour***
- Sustainable low carbon personal ***transport***
- More efficient use of ***water***
- Less ***waste*** generated

# Why these areas?

## Annual Savings Potential at 2020



# Context

- 34%+ reduction by 2020 – statutory UK target
- 80%+ reduction by 2050 – statutory UK target
- [www.onehundredmonths.org](http://www.onehundredmonths.org)
- Domestic Housing and Transport – frontline carbon reduction solutions: ‘quick’, cost effective
- economic and social benefits – jobs, fuel poverty
- SW ‘Road to 2020’ RE – use 26tWh less energy

# SW Context

- Relatively green region
- Good strategy, but capacity to deliver?
- Large, diverse region, low incomes, low funding
- Structural change pending – SNR, Local Government Reorganisations, general election
- **SW Carbon emissions, 2006** - 42.36mtonnes

## SW Housing Stock

- The most energy inefficient housing of all English regions
- Highest proportion of homes failing the decent homes standard on thermal performance
- 37% hard to treat properties (3rd highest region), 16% off gas grid, 6% protected buildings

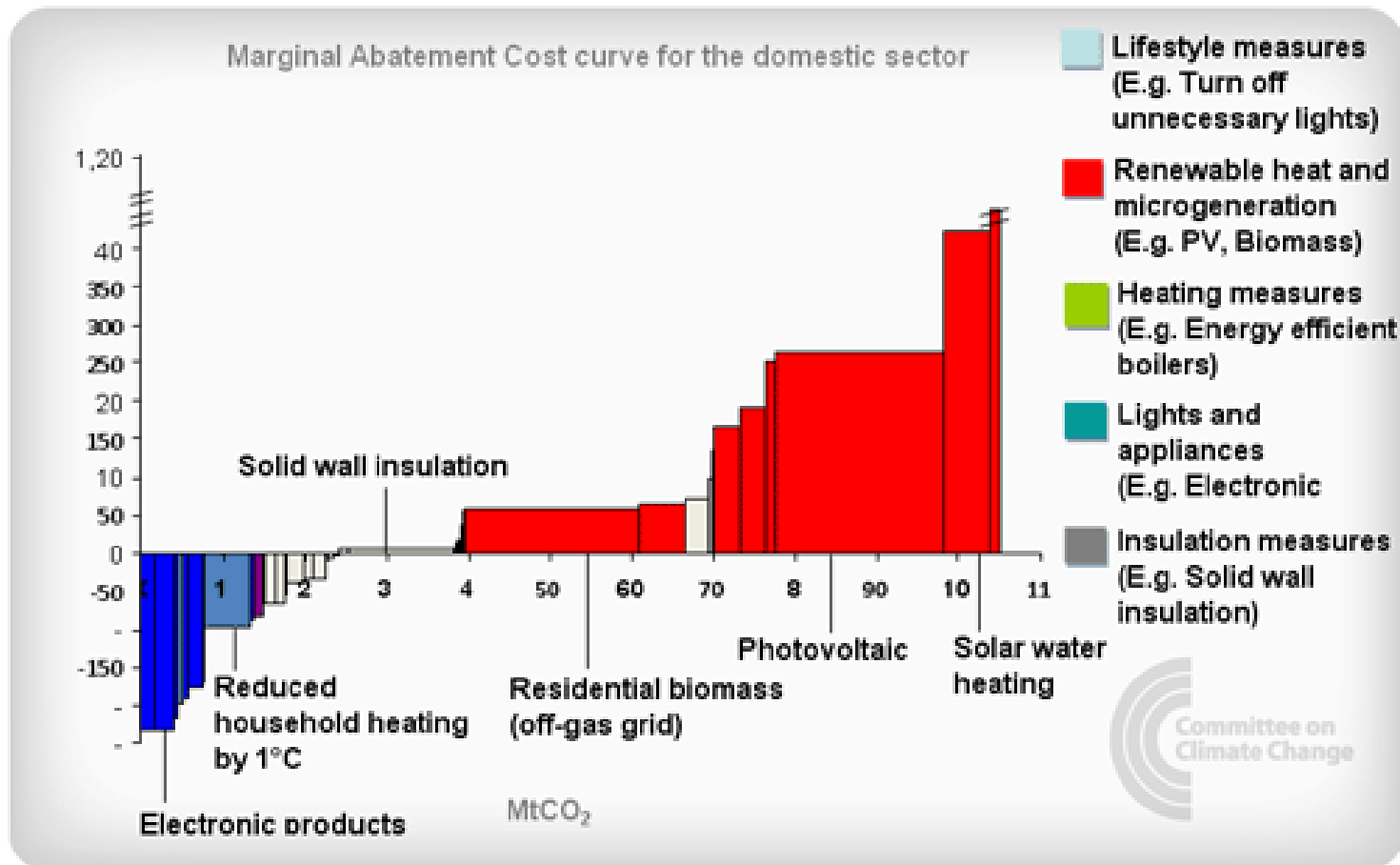
# SW Context

Measure	Number
Total number of households	2,121,100
Total adult population	5,067,800
<b>Wall Type</b>	
Cavity Walls	1,497,500
- Filled	691,200
- Unfilled	766,000
Solid (assume all uninsulated)	591,800
Other - includes cavity walls which cannot be filled due to possible rain penetration	72,100
<b>Loft Insulation</b>	
Estimated no's of lofts	1,906,600
- Uninsulated	49,400
- 100mm or less	1,114,900
- Over 100mm	742,300

# SW house type and tenure

<b>House type</b>	
Detached	625,700
Semi detached	596,000
Terraced	602,400
Flats - purpose built + converted	297,000
<b>Tenure</b>	
Owner occupied	1,608,300
Privately rented/other	209,800
Local authority	156,800
RSL	146,200
Vacant dwellings	143,500

# Carbon and £ - how much?



\*(Committee for Climate Change)

## Microgeneration – grants to SW households from 2006 (Low Carbon Building Programme)

South West	No. of applications	Grants Awarded
Air Source Heat Pump	50	£44,920
Biomass Room Heater/Stove (Automated Wood Pellet Feed)	5	£2,766
Ground Source Heat Pump	130	£155,527
Small Scale Hydro	2	£7,100
Solar Photovoltaic	390	£1,515,595
Solar Thermal Hot Water	1417	£566,181
Wind Turbine	114	£214,481
Wood Fuelled Boiler System	155	£229,682
<b>Total</b>	<b>2263</b>	<b>£2,736,255.56</b>

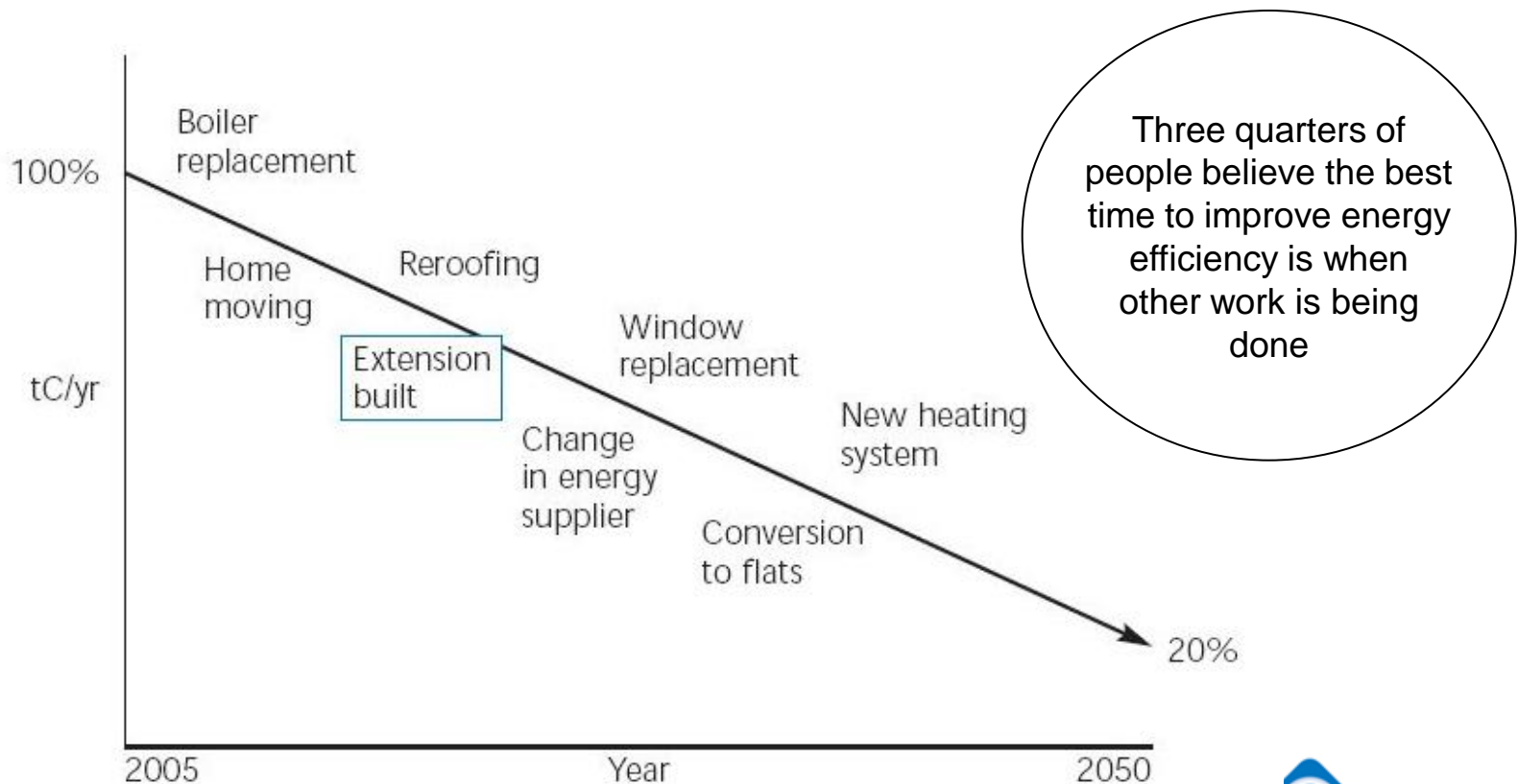
# SW costs & impacts

	Potential measures	Jobs	Total cost	GVA	Annual cost saving	CO2 saving	% SW total CO2
<b>Cavity Wall Insulation</b>	766,000	4,352	£344m	£120m	£89m	433,556	1.0
<b>Loft Insulation top ups</b>	1,164,300	7,099	£407m	£142m	£65m	241,010	0.6
<b>Solid wall</b>	591,800	67,263	£3,846m	£1,346m	£236m	1,124,420	2.7
<b>Micro-generation</b>	673,100	44,627	£3,365m	£1,178m	£134m	471,170	1.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,195,200</b>	<b>123,342</b>	<b>£7,962m</b>	<b>£2,786m</b>	<b>£524m</b>	<b>674,566</b>	<b>5.4</b>

# Routes to market?

- Whole house?
- Trigger points?
- Household demand driven?
- Area based?
- Community driven?

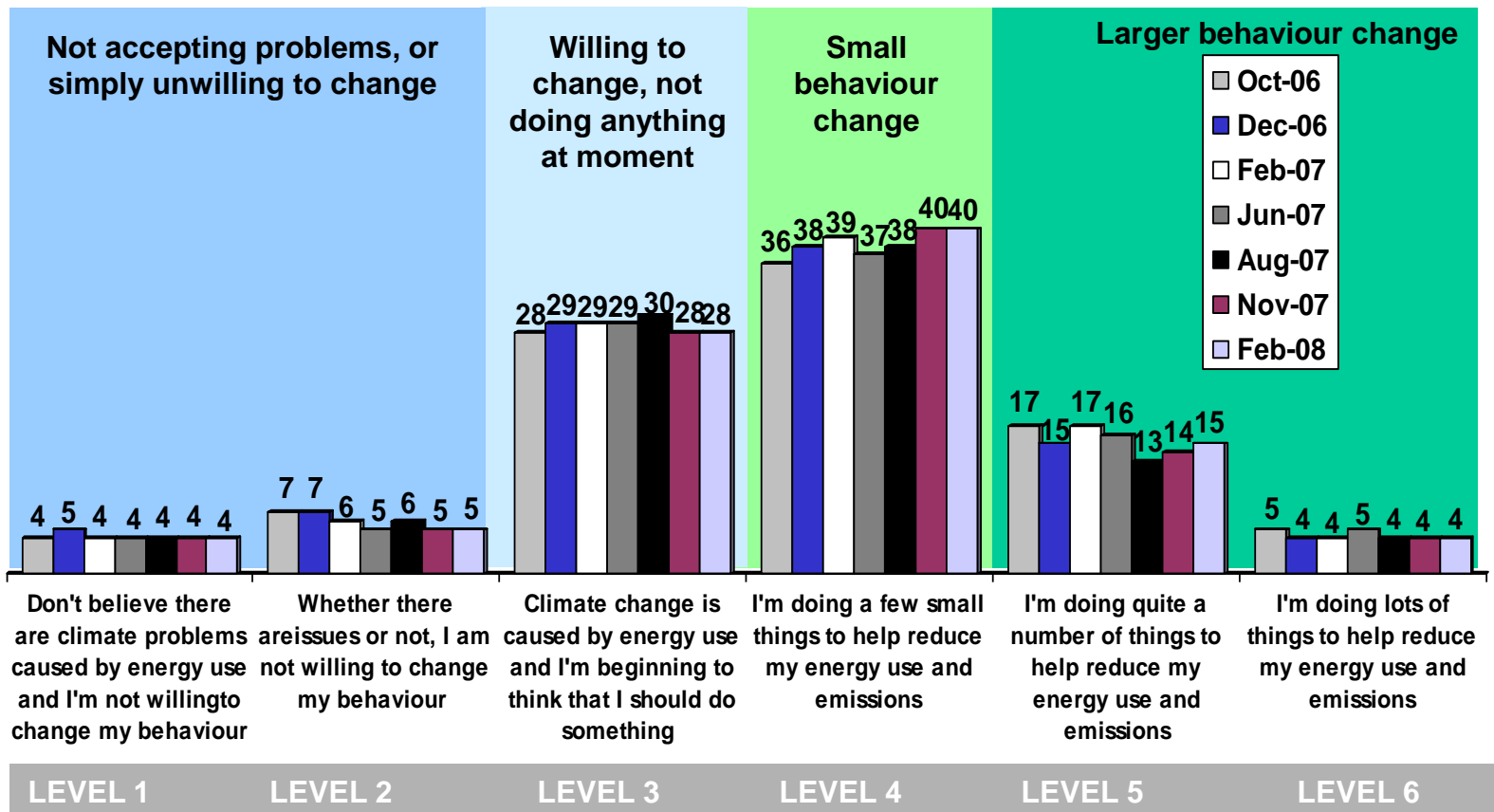
# Trigger points: opportunities for improvements over the lifetime of a home



Three quarters of people believe the best time to improve energy efficiency is when other work is being done

# All relies on attitudes and behaviour

Overall attitude to climate change and energy use over time



# How do we make it happen?

## Cheaper measures – CWI & LI

- Area based schemes
- Reduce cost - £99?
- Free insulation for all? The Kirklees model
- Local authorities critical

# How do we make it happen?

## Expensive measures – SWI & microgen

1. Demand stimulus and support
2. Supply chain development
3. Free, impartial customer advice
4. Actively managed, area based

## Active Management

- Independent, customer focused, area and community based

### Business support

- Practical, business focused

### Customer support

- Free, independent advice,
- home survey, on-going support

### Supply

- Know-how, training, Skills
- Accreditation, guarantees, Insurance,
- Access to markets

### Demand

- Financial mechanisms
- Marketing
- Demonstration sites

# SW pioneers

- Stroud Homes for 2050
- Ecos Renew
- Refit West
- SW EU Economic programmes

# Government help tomorrow?

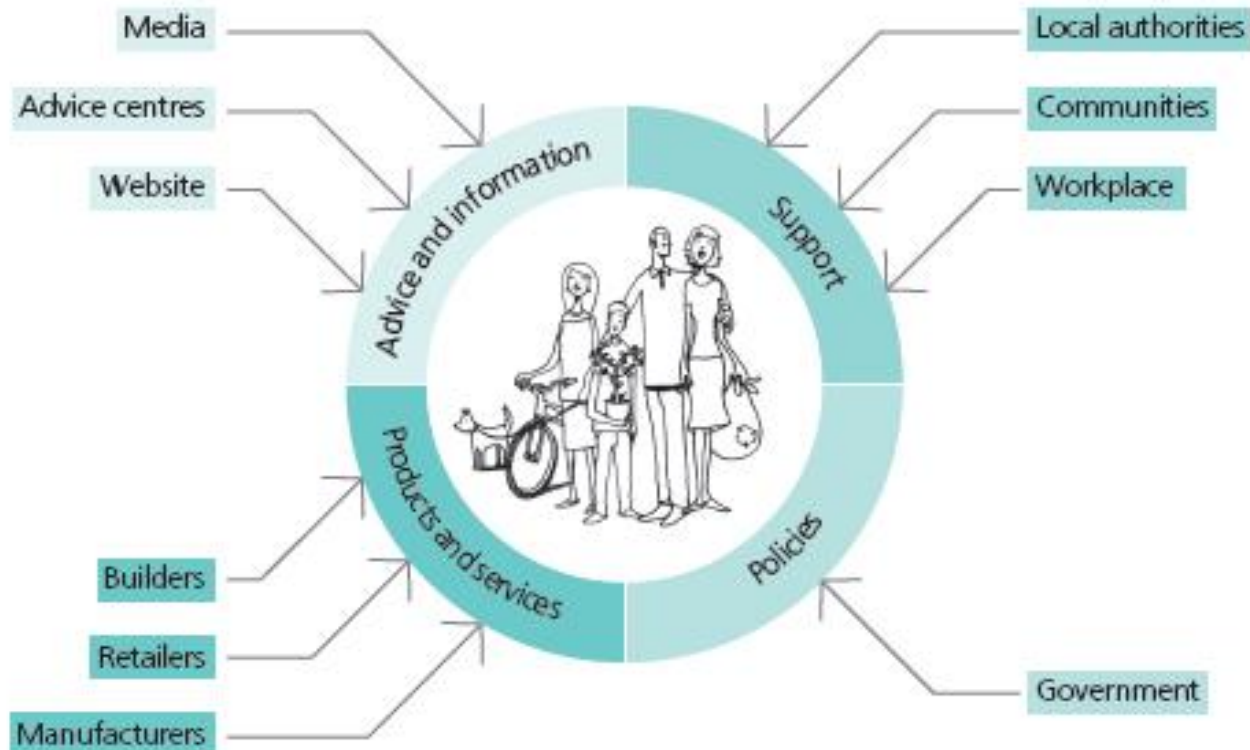
## - we want:

- **Consumer advice** from single trusted source – Energy Saving Trust advice centres
- **Help with capital costs**, e.g. low interest loans and PAYS
- **Feed in Tariffs** for microgeneration – including up front payments
- **Economic recovery** – recognise jobs from housing refurbishment, not just large scale industrial solutions
- **Transport** – importance of modal shift & behaviour change (drive less/ drive smart) as well car technology

Government documents to be launched 15<sup>th</sup> July 2009

- Low Carbon Transition Plan (DECC white paper aka summer package)
- Low Carbon Industrial Strategy (joint DECC and BIS – the new name for BERR)
- Carbon Reduction Strategy for Transport (DfT)

# What do we need to make a low carbon lifestyle a reality?



# SW Priorities

1. Increasing speed of delivery of 'cheaper' measures (i.e. Cavity wall and loft insulation)
2. Developing the market and supply chain for 'expensive' measures (solid wall insulation, micro-generation)
3. Low Carbon Living culture change

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