

# Using innovative capital finance solutions to drive net zero delivery

LGA Local Government Finance Conference

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## West Suffolk's Community Energy Plan and Energy Framework



Community Energy Plan - laid groundwork for renewable energy investment based on achieving the following outcomes:



A long term, sustainable source of revenue for the Council



Support households, businesses and communities in West Suffolk to become less reliant on fossil-based energy



Locally-owned renewable energy generation to the benefit of the local taxpayer







#### The Council's Net Zero Fund includes:



## Travel and transport

Move Council fleet to
Electric and alternative
fuel solutions. EV chargers
- 70 EVs can charge
simultaneously on council
installed chargers and
these delivered enough
electricity to drive 421,490
miles.



## Use of renewables

Invest in renewables generation projects. Solar PV.

Council have installed 8MW of roof mounted solar, 12MW solar farm more of both in the pipeline.



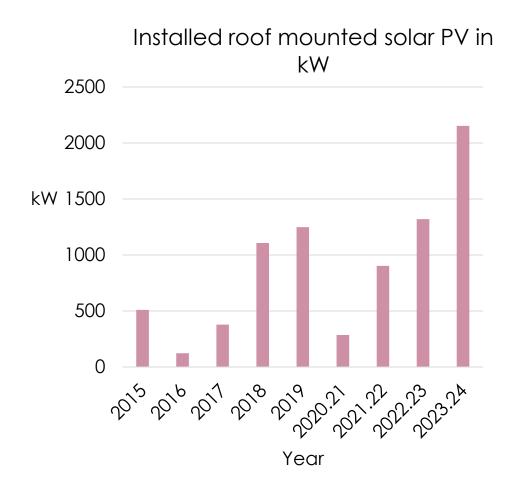
Reduce emissions from existing buildings.
New developments deliver on low carbon ambition.





#### West Suffolk Solar for Business – launched in 2015

- Invested (to date) £7 million in roof mounted solar across 100 sites with a total installed capacity of 8.2MW.
- Delivering savings on electricity expenditure to a range of businesses and organisations.
- Council fully funded, own and install the solar with a 25-year lease signed between the council and landlord.







#### NWF's Loan to West Suffolk

#### **NWF** parameters

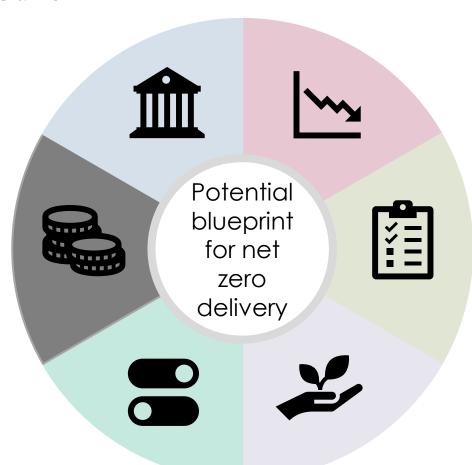
Minimum loan size of £5 million

#### **Loan facility**

£17m to cover a range of eligible net zero projects

#### Flexible terms

3 year availability period with interest rates fixed at point of drawdown



#### **NWF** interest rate

Gilts + 40bps Lowest cost finance available

#### Portfolio approach

Leveraging revenue generating projects to finance a portfolio

#### Carbon savings

Projects tbc but estimated 37,000 tCO2e saved





## Working with the National Wealth Fund: what to expect



Compared to PWLB, the £17m facility delivers £68k savings p.a. or £1.2m over the 20 year life of the loan



#### **Validation**

Due diligence process to provide an independent assessment of commercial viability



#### Reporting

Requirement to demonstrate project impact with NWF support to shape reporting





## How the National Wealth Fund could help you

### Our mandate



Help tackle climate change and meet the UK's 2050 net zero target



Support regional and local economic growth

## Our products and services



Impartial local authority advisory services at no charge



£4 billion for **local** authority lending on flexible terms