

Local Area Energy Planning

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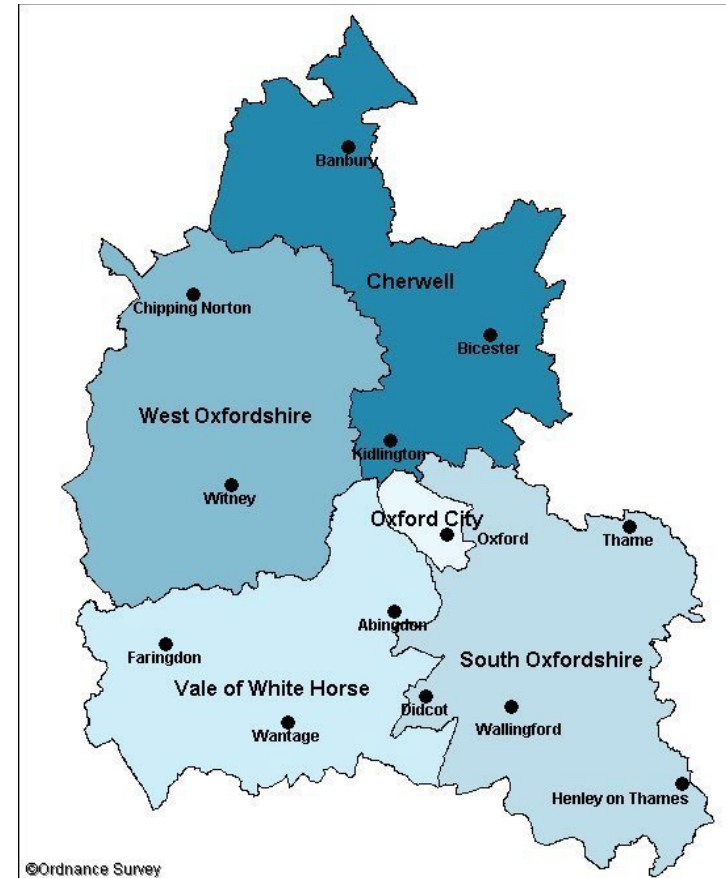


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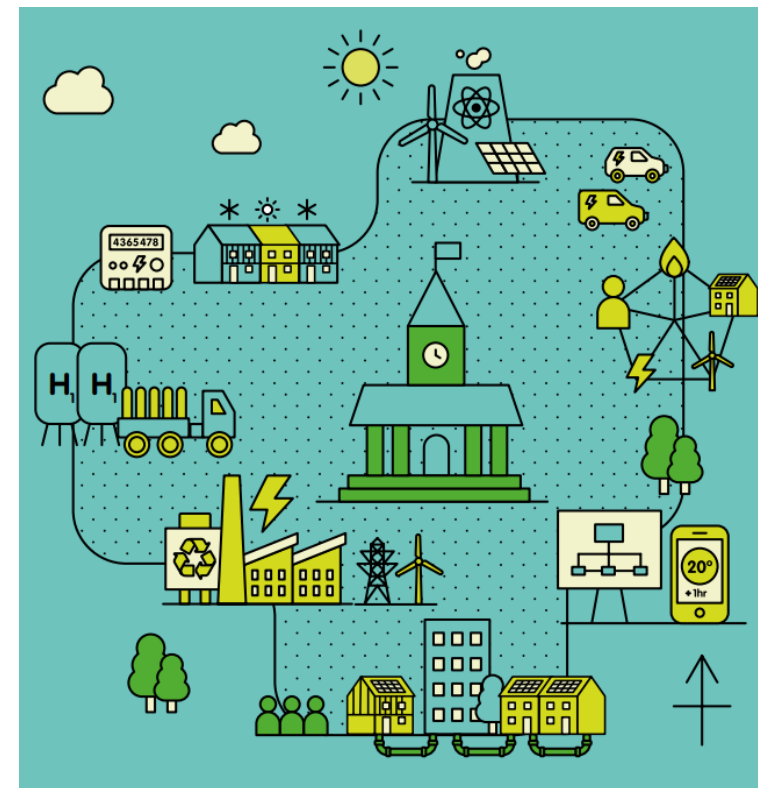
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2. Oxfordshire LAEP Programme Update



Overview

- LAEPs are an emerging concept, they are a structured process providing the evidence, guidance and framework to enable the long-term transition to a low carbon energy system
- Concept, framework and guidance has been created by Energy Systems Catapult UK
- LAEPs offer a cost-effective whole systems approach to decarbonisation
- They are locally led, rather than being imposed on local places through a national, top-down approach
- These plans are not currently mandated or funded in a central way
- As of May 2024, around 25% of local authorities have or are in the process of creating a LAEP



What are Local Area Energy Plans (LAEPs)?

At their core, LAEPs provide a highly granular place-based plan that shows what needs to be done, where it can be done, and when it can be done.

- Demonstrate the chosen pathway to net zero with sequenced interventions
- Consider the unique characteristics of the local area and existing energy system
- Fully costed, providing a breakdown of investment needed to decarbonise
- Provide an energy/ low carbon project pipeline which are in alignment with local strategies and policies

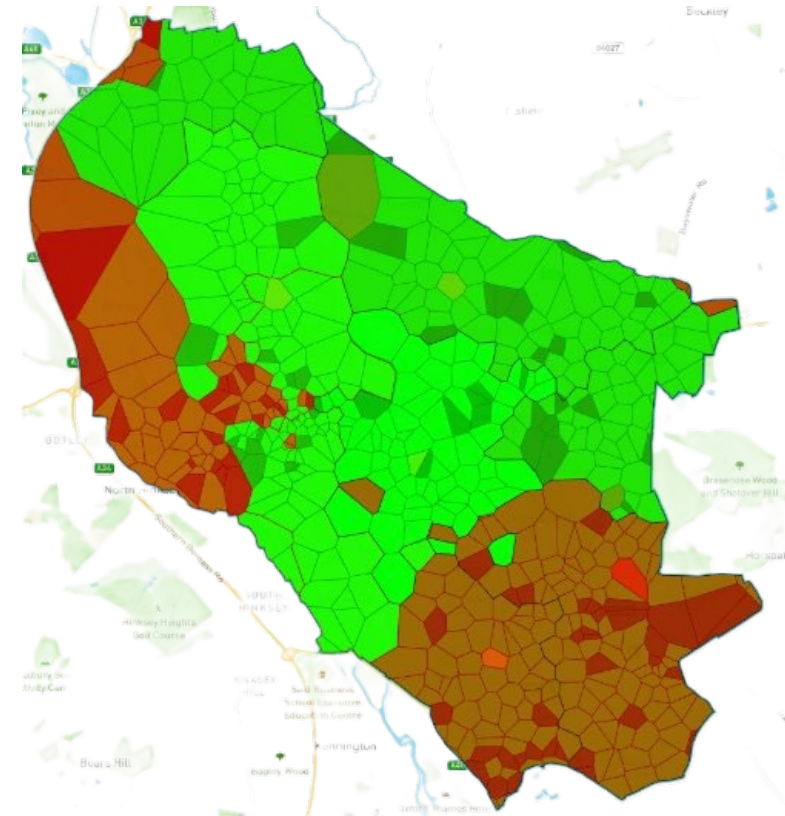
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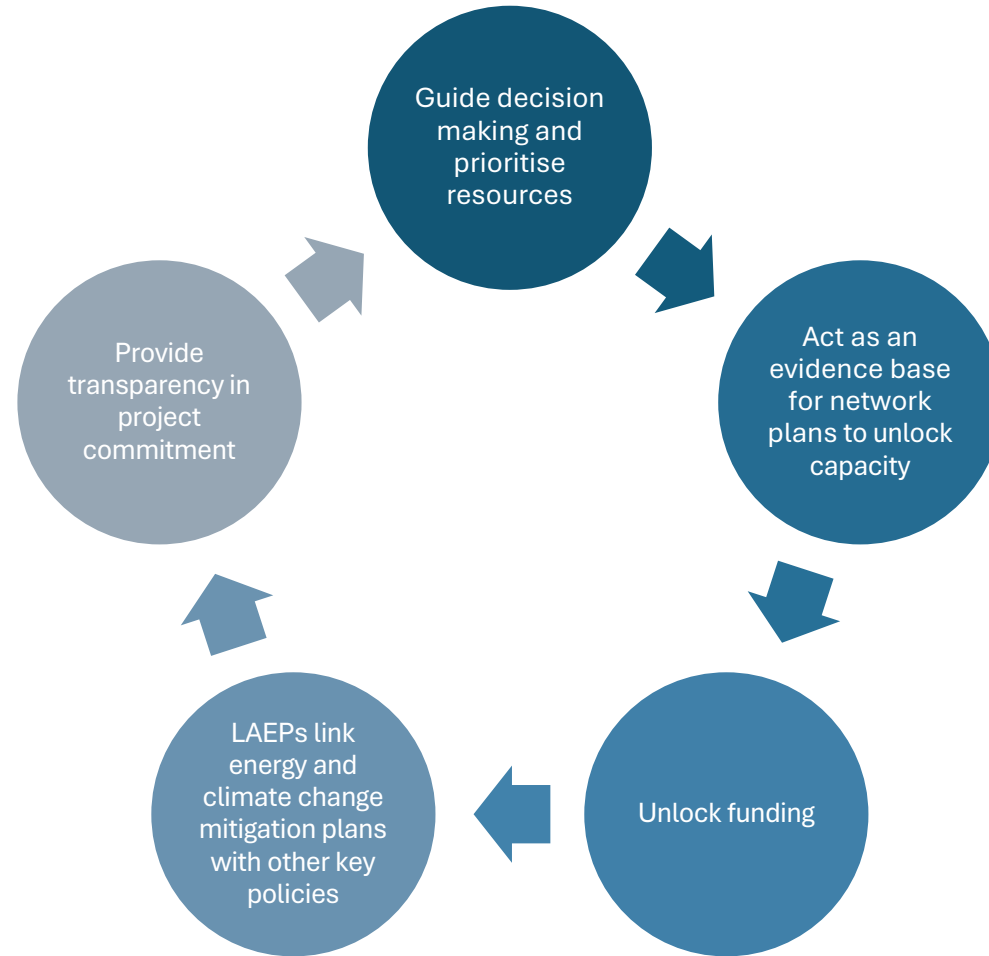
Why do we need LAEPs?

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- The rapid transition to new forms of energy generation, consumption and technology mean that the current funding regime and electricity network capacity will not be able to keep pace with local and national policy targets without significant change
- If not addressed, this will lead to project delays, exposing communities and businesses to energy supply issues; delaying decarbonisation, reducing economic growth and increasing inequalities
- Oxford is already feeling the impacts of energy supply issues, this is particularly prevalent because our local policy goes beyond national standards in terms of low carbon technology deployment within housing developments



LAEP Function



Oxfordshire LAEP Programme

Oxfordshire LAEP (OxLAEP) programme is being led by County Council in collaboration with the 5 District Councils under a FOP directive.

Outcome:

- 5 individual District level LAEPs and a County-wide summary report (WS1: 12 months)
- The development of a LAEP function within LAs; supporting capabilities to navigate the impacts of grid constraints and coordinate the net zero project pipeline (WS2: 24 months)
- OxLAEP will recommend costed solutions in the form of Action Plans and a Project Pipeline, with a mix of options supported by an Outline Business Case
- OxLAEP will establish a hierarchy of measures that can be implemented in defined spatial areas such as neighbourhoods. Measures include heat networks, strategic storage, community micro grids, heat pumps, rooftop solar PV, neighbourhood EV charging hubs. This will consider interplay with existing project pipeline and programme commitments, cost and network capacity constraints and upgrade schedules

Delivery:

- Phase 1 (LAEP Modelling): County-wide modelling (ESC stages 1 to 4)
- Phase 2 (LAEP Production): District-level action planning (ESC stages 5 – 7)
- Phase 3 (LAEP Activation): Adoption and preparation for delivery

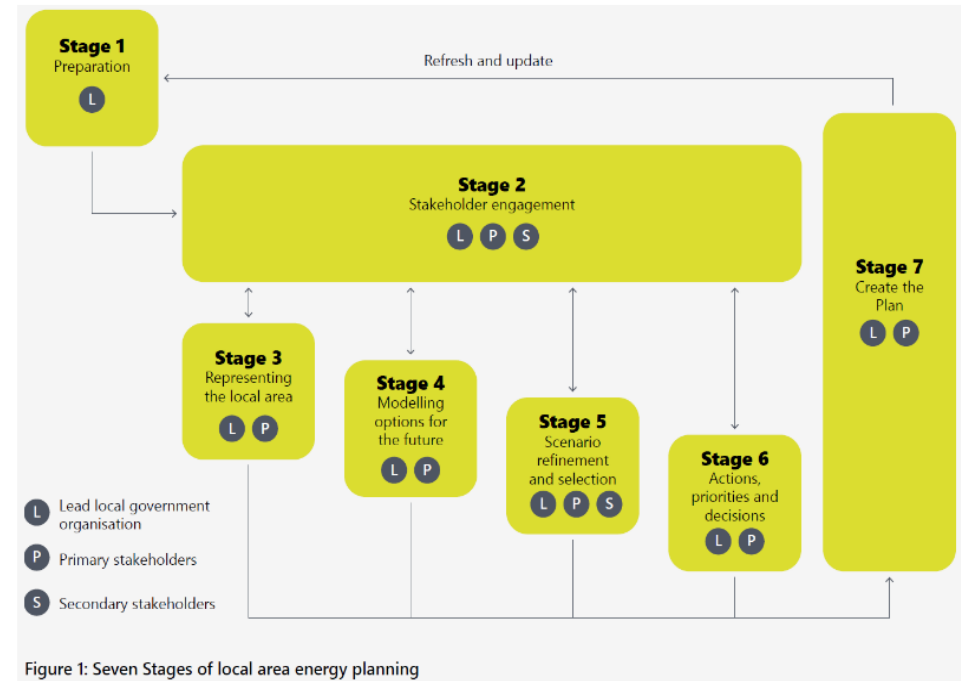
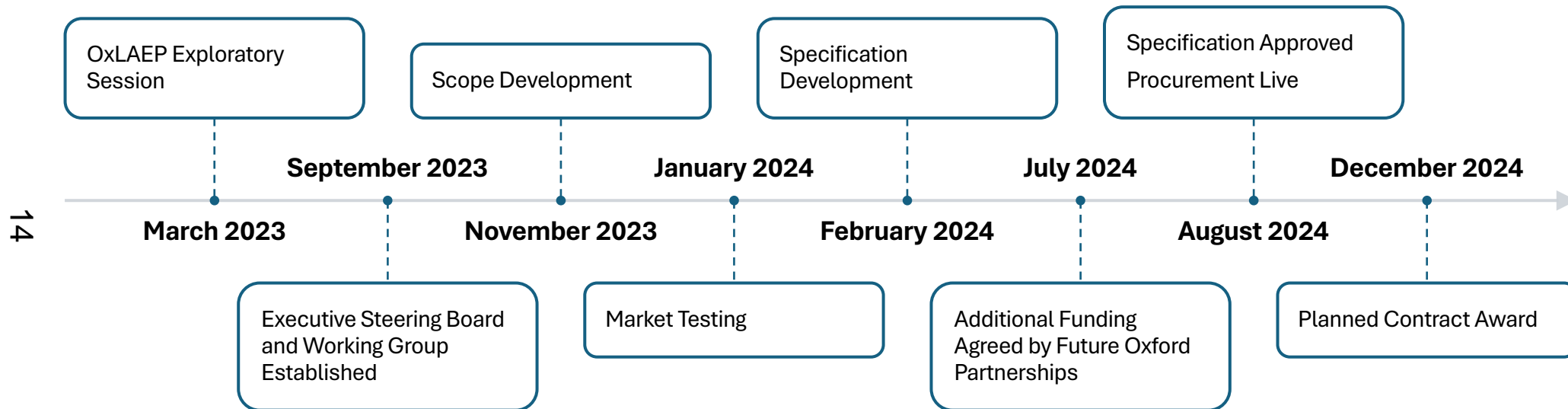


Figure 1: Seven Stages of local area energy planning

Figure 1: The 7 stages of Local Area Energy Planning



OxLAEP Progress to Date



OxLAEP Timeline & Programme - WS1

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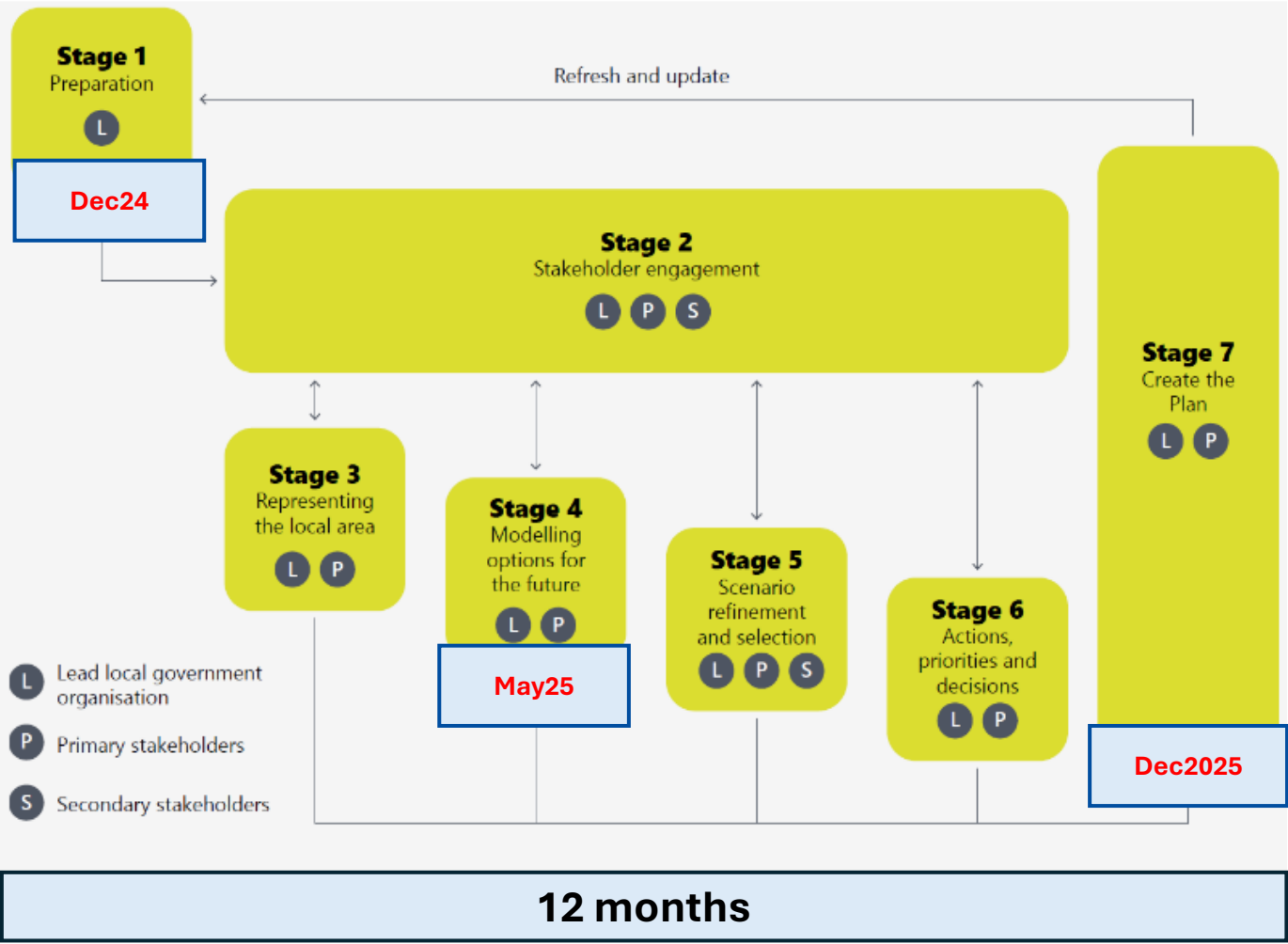


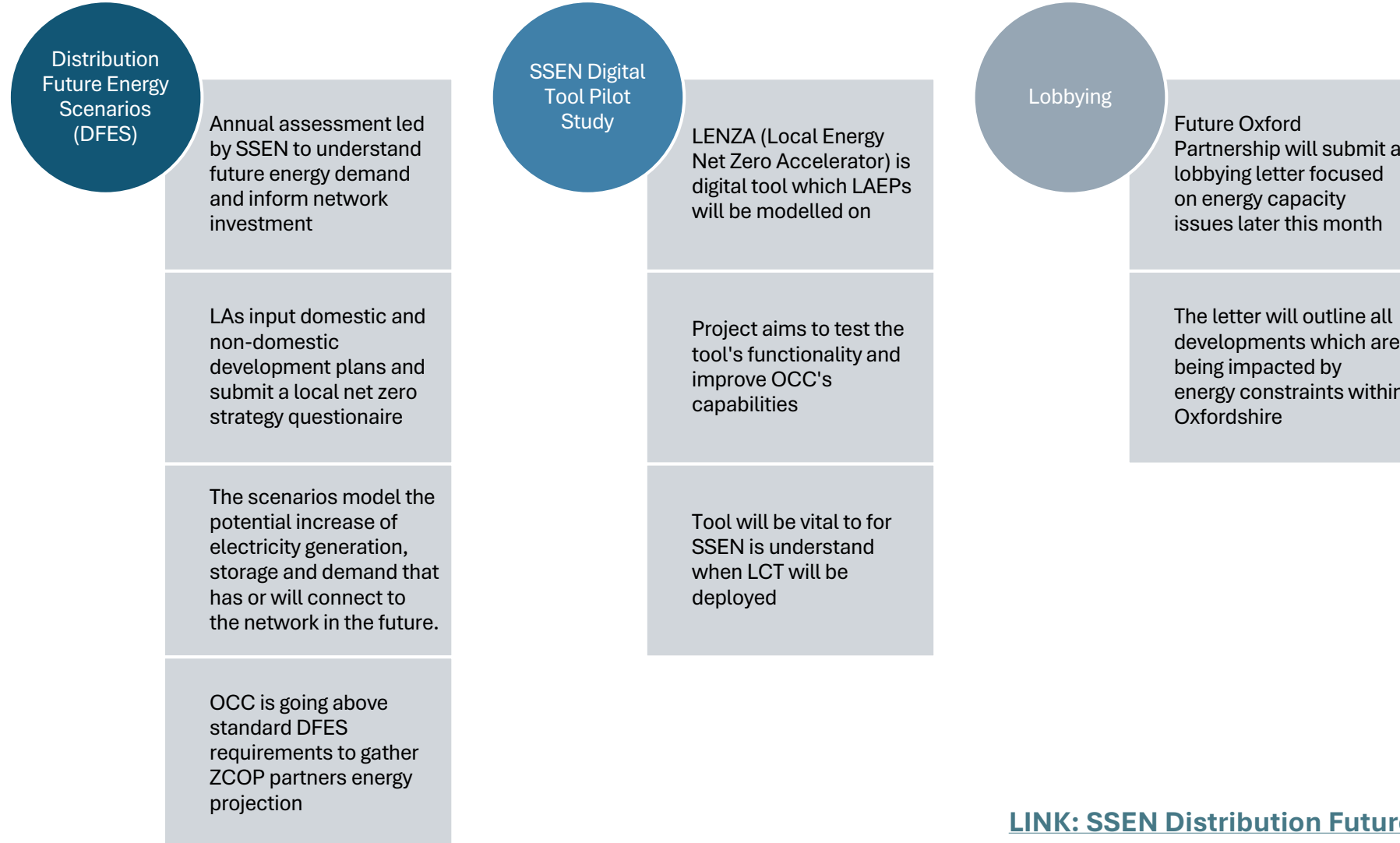
Figure 1: The 7 stages of Local Area Energy Planning

REF: [Guidance on creating a Local Area Energy Plan - Energy Systems Catapult](#)



Other Grid Constraints Mitigation Measures

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