



Presentation to stakeholders – Workshop 2b

# Updated modelling results

FTI Consulting | Ofgem



**Welcome**

## Re-cap on scope

The UK Government's first Review of Electricity Market Arrangements consultation is now closed. The REMA programme is considering a wide range of options for updating GB electricity market arrangements to meet our 2035 target– decarbonisation of our power sector by 2035.

Alongside providing advice on the case for change and full suite of options, we are undertaking an assessment of zonal and nodal market designs for GB.

### Approach

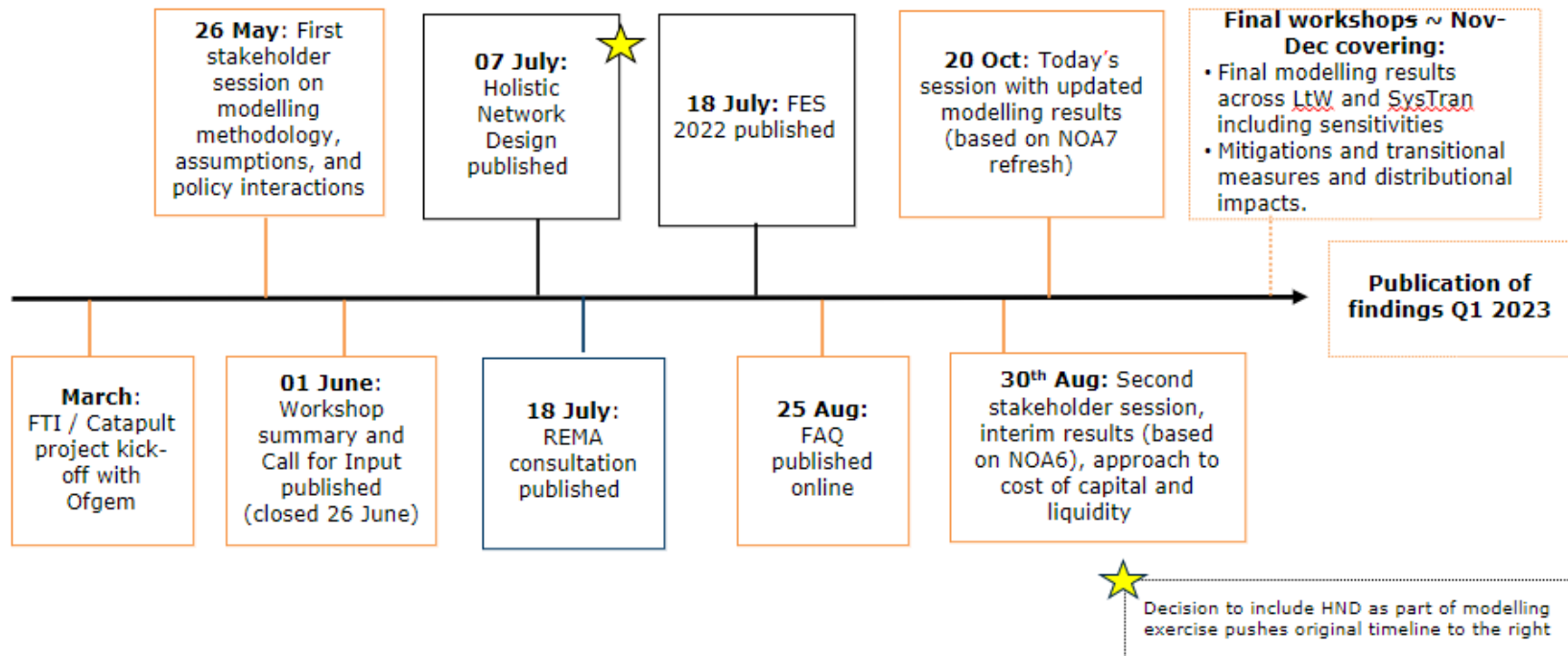
1. Identify (i) simplified market designs to model and (ii) how these markets could operate in GB
2. Economic modelling to provide a quantitative benefits analysis of different market designs
3. Assess likely implementation requirements and costs
4. Distributional impact assessment and potential mitigations (and impact on benefits)

### Outcomes

System modelling and analysis:

1. Supports BEIS decision-making on whether zonal and nodal market design should be short-listed for further consideration
2. Advances sector-wide market reform debate and capability in considering reform options

# Timeline



## Housekeeping

- Focus for today's session is presentations from FTI covering updates to the **modelling methodology and preliminary CBA results for the Leading the Way Scenario with and without Holistic Network Design**. This will be followed by an **Ofgem-led session which will present our thinking to-date on the market arrangements required to facilitate locational pricing**.
- **Same format as the last session** – presentation and Q&A as opposed to small break-out groups and discussion
- Attendees are welcome to use the **chat function for clarification questions**– we don't plan to respond to questions during the presentations but instead seek to address them at the end of each session
- **Chatham House Rule** – if we publish an overview of key discussion points, views will not be attributed
- **Break** at 15:30 for 10 mins

Today's workshop will be delivered by Ofgem's Wholesale Market Reform Team supported by FTI Consulting and ES Catapult



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*Project Director*



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*GB policy expert*



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*Modelling expert*



**Ljubo Mitrasevic**  
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*US market experts*



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*Project Team*



**Ben Shafran**  
*Project Partner*



**Nicole Tan**  
*Project team*



**Bence Kovacs**  
*Project team*

## Agenda for today's workshop

Welcome, purpose of session and housekeeping	14:00 – 14:10	10 mins	
Session 1: Methodology and assumptions update	14:10 – 14:25	15 mins	
Session 2: Updated modelling results	14:25 – 15:15	50 mins	
Q&A	15:15 – 15:30	15 mins	 
BREAK	15:30 – 15:40	10 mins	
Session 3: Cost-benefit analysis results	15:40 – 16:05	25 mins	
Q&A	16:05 – 16:15	10 mins	 
Session 4: Potential market arrangements	16:15 – 16:40	25 mins	
Q&A	16:40 – 16:50	10 mins	
Wrap up, thanks and next steps	16:50 – 17:00	10 mins	



## **Methodology and assumptions update**



# We have made several refinements to our modelling approach, partly based on your feedback from the August workshop

<b>A</b> <b>Planned model refinements</b>	1	Model design	Integration with <b>pan-EU model</b>
	2	Transmission	Incorporated all <b>NOA7 projects</b>
	3	Generation	Modelled a new scenario which includes <b>ESO's Holistic Network Design ("HND")</b> transmission investment plan  Applied <b>N-2 contingency constraints</b> and moved ratings from <b>post-fault to pre-fault</b>  <b>Added generator outages</b> to the model
<b>B</b> <b>Model refinements following stakeholder feedback</b>	1	Onshore wind siting	<b>Onshore wind can now be built</b> in E&W up to the FES21 capacity in each node
	2	Offshore wind siting	<b>Offshore wind siting decisions limited</b> to be more consistent with likely availability of offshore sites
	3	Battery siting	Updated our capacity expansion model to use a <b>more granular timescale for optimising battery siting</b>
	4	Bidding in the BM	Updated <b>storage and hydrogen offer price</b> assumptions
	5	Impact on financing costs	Updated impact on financing cost assessment
	6	Liquidity	Extended measures of liquidity analysis in the futures market

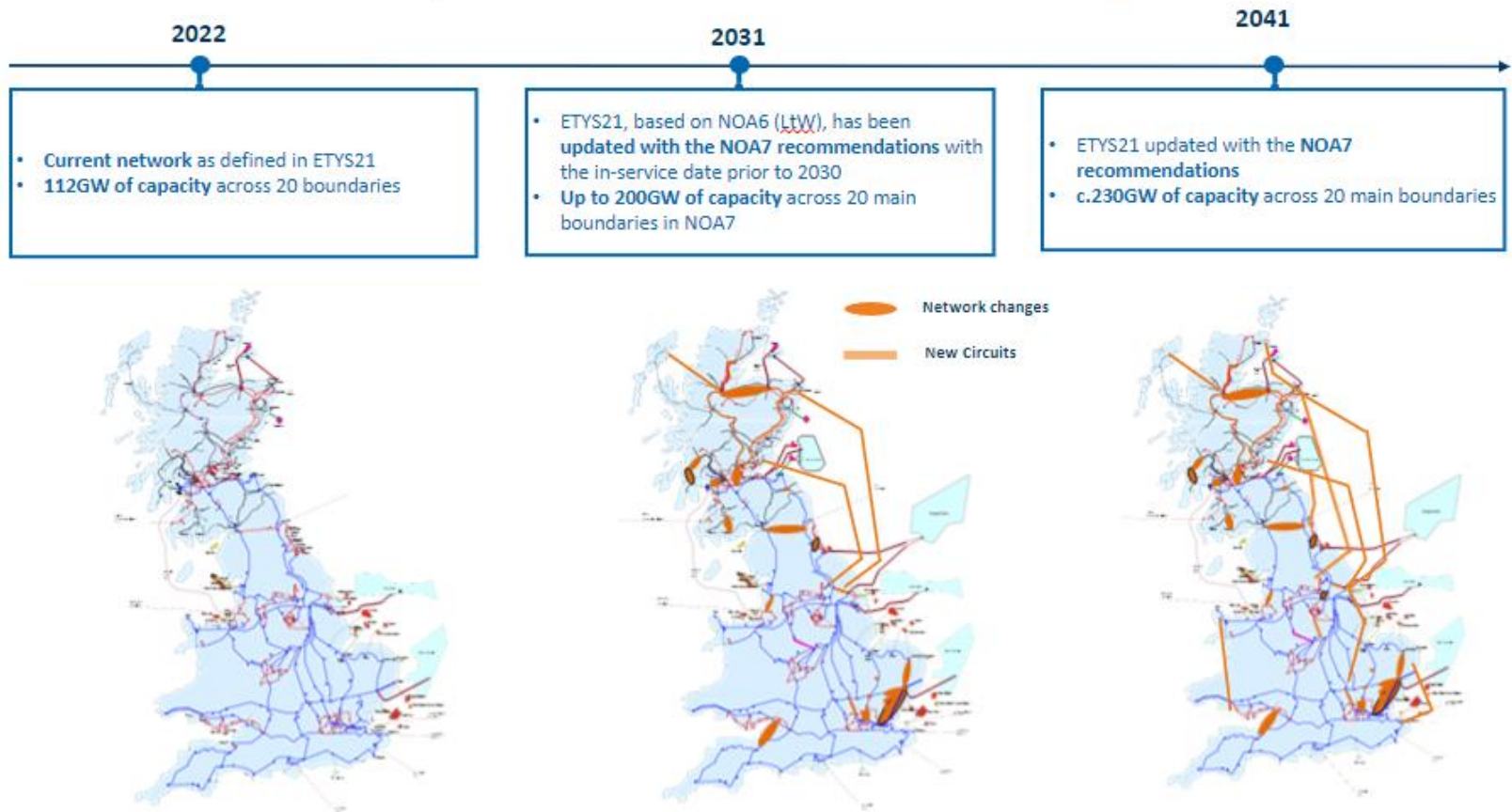
Today's presentation focuses on the same subset of the full impacts as the previous workshop, as well as a further assessment of costs

Type	Effect	Covered today
<b>Short-run impact</b> <i>(Operational)</i>	Changes in wholesale prices (lower in export-constrained areas and higher in import-constrained areas)	✓
	Reduced cost of congestion to be borne by consumers	✓
	More efficient dispatch across all resource types including flexibility resources	✓
	Surplus revenues from congestion rent (and losses)	✓
	Operational impacts from central dispatch system relative to the BM	
<b>Long-run impact</b> <i>(Investment)</i>	Greater price signals to incentivise generation and storage to site at more efficient locations	✓
	Greater price signals to incentivise demand to site at more efficient locations	
	Improved signals for transmission development (due to transparent wholesale prices between different nodes)	
<b>Costs / Other</b>	Changes to CfD payments	✓
	Other policy interactions	
	ESO system implementation costs	✓
	Market participant costs	✓
	Changing risk profiles of market participants including financing cost	✓

Updated results from August Workshop

Additional assessments presented today

As a recap, the evolution of the transmission network is an exogenous input based on ETYS and NOA, and is the same for all market design variants

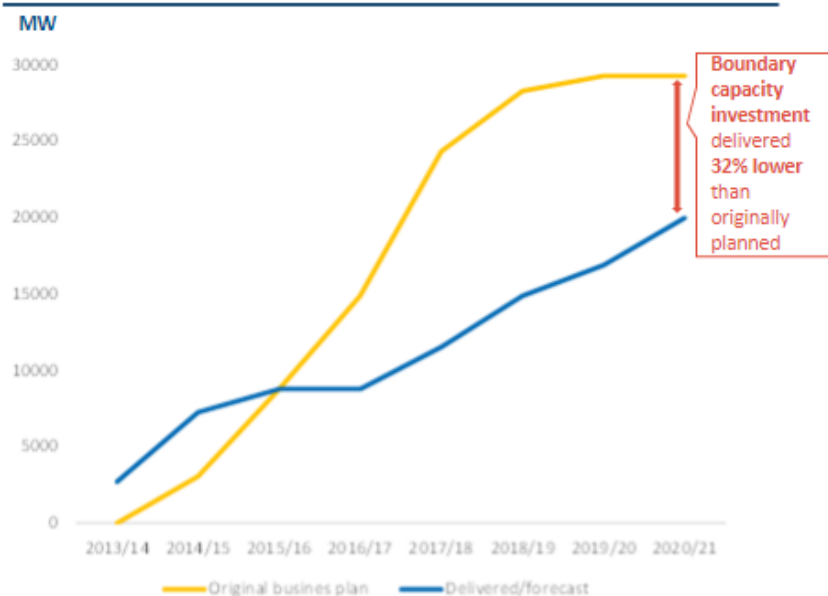


We have also modelled a separate scenario which incorporates the additional transmission investment under ESO's Holistic Network Design approach

## An 8-fold increase in the delivery of large transmission reinforcement is required to meet the capacities identified in ESO's HND

Historically, delivery of the new capacity has significantly lagged the initially proposed requirements

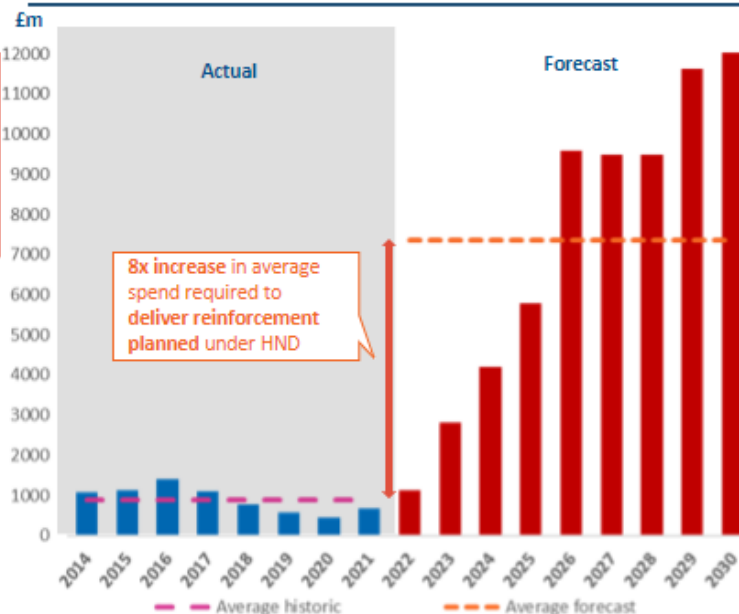
Comparison of planned vs. actual delivery of boundary reinforcement projects in GB over RII01



Sources: Ofgem - RII01 Performance summary documents; TOs Annual Performance Reports; FTI analysis.

Transmission reinforcement required to meet the 2030 generation target requires an increase of 8x the average annual spend across all TOs

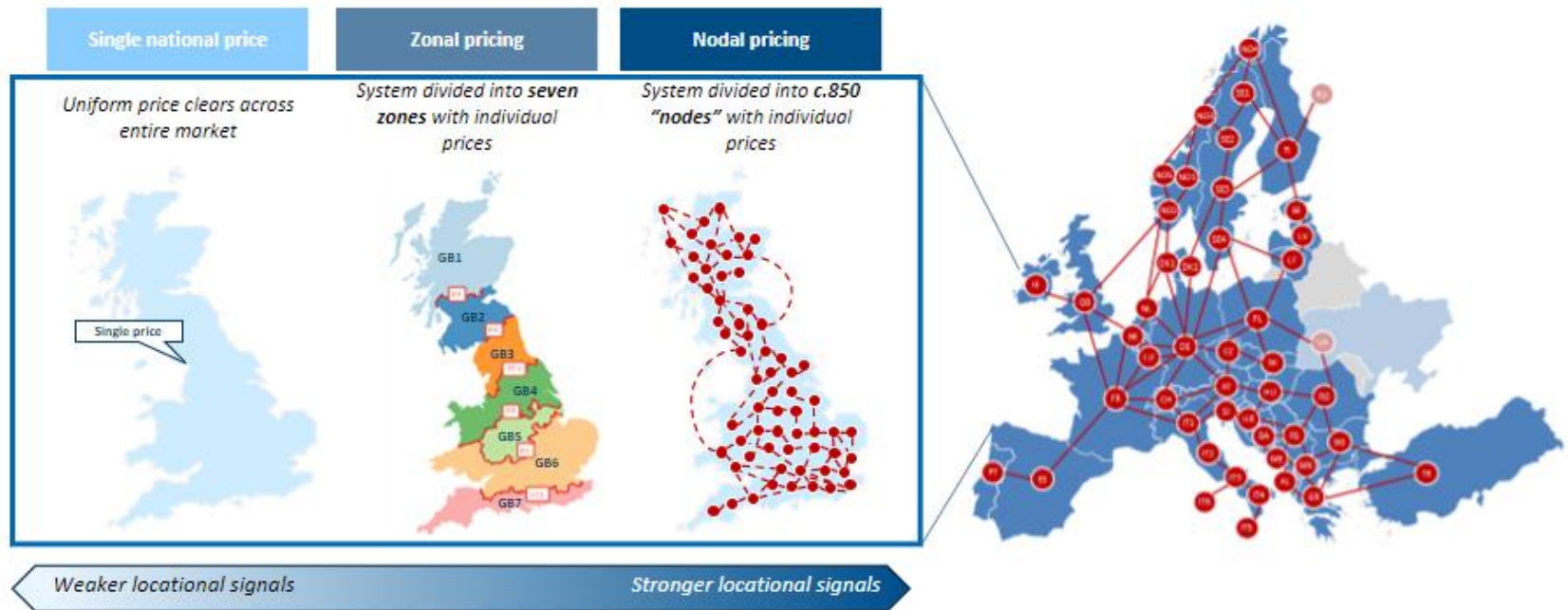
Comparison of average annual expenditure to delivered planned NOA7+ and HND reinforcements



Sources: Ofgem-RII0 Performance report; RII0 T2 PCFM; ESO-Pathway to 2030 Holistic Network Design and NOA Refresh; FTI analysis.

# Our overall modelling approach remains unchanged from our previous workshop

## Baseline geographical set-up of FTI's power market model



Our modelling is based primarily on public sources including FES 2021, NOA7, ETYS, and ENTSO-E data

Long term  
capacity  
expansion

Detailed price  
outcomes

Constraint costs

Intra-GB  
congestion rent

Nodal model  
results snapshot

CfD impact

Implementation  
costs



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## Updated modelling results: Long-term capacity expansion results



National design

Zonal design

Nodal design

For the **national market design**, generation is sited as defined by FES21

Wind Capacity 2030



● Offshore wind ● Onshore wind

Solar 2030



● Solar

Battery 2030

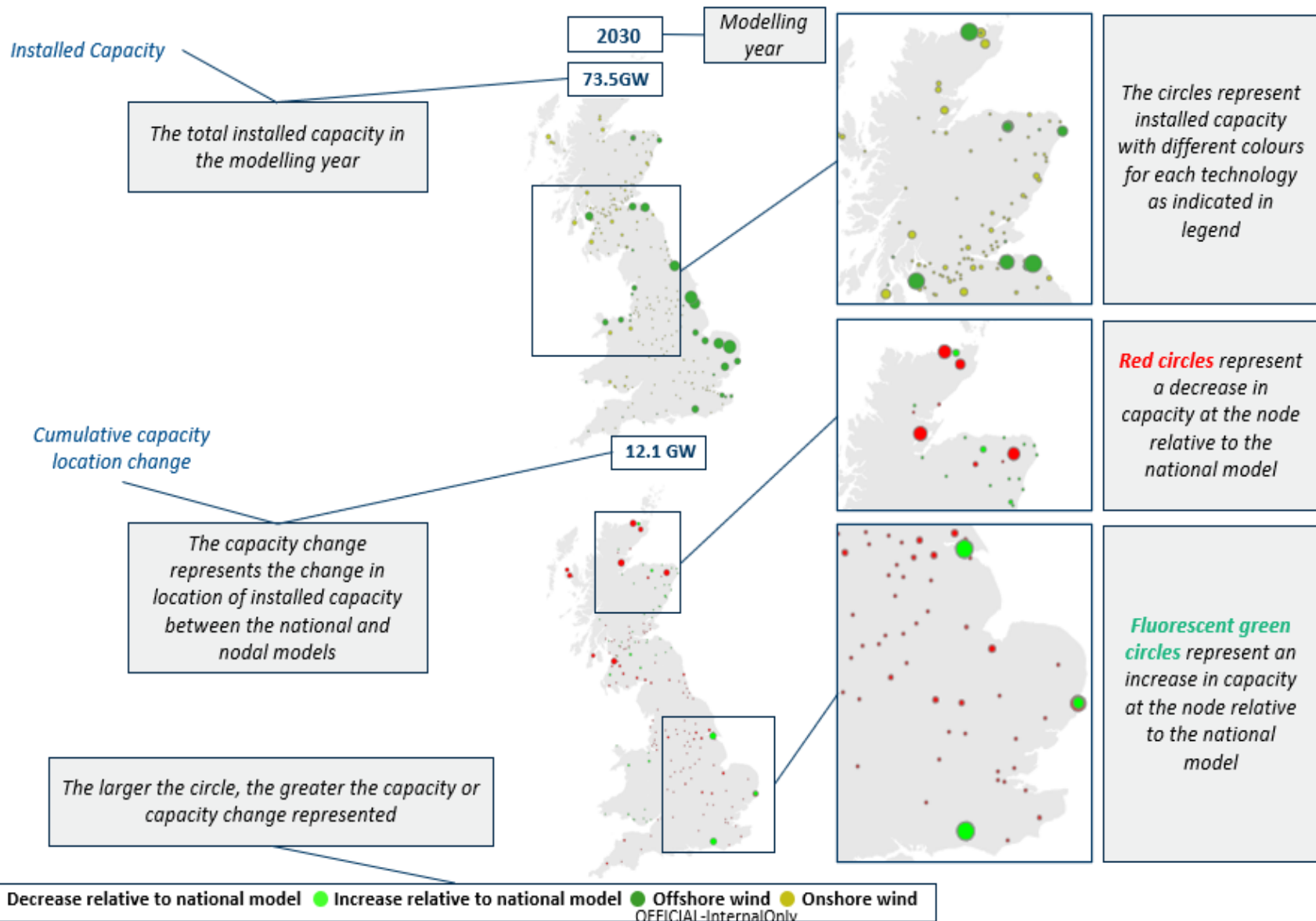


● Battery





# For the nodal market design, the capacity is reallocated in response to different price signals while keeping the total capacity by technology constant





# Approximately a third of projected wind capacity re-sites under a nodal market, in response to more granular pricing signals (NOA7)



Installed Capacity

2025

2030

2035

2040

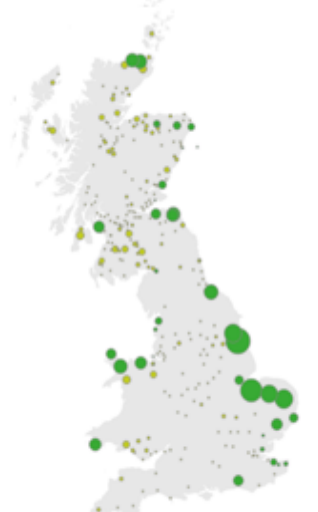
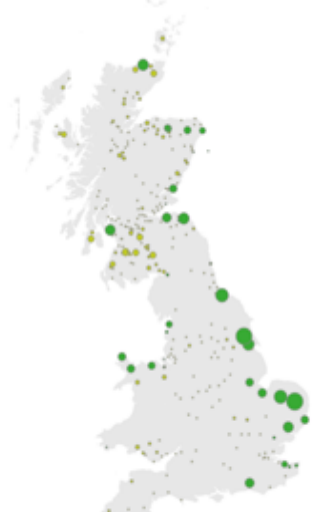
43GW

74GW

107GW

117GW

Increase in capacity of offshore wind in Humber and East Anglia



Cumulative capacity with a change in location

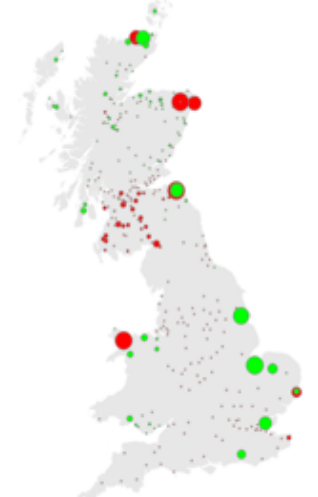
2GW

8GW

30GW

33GW

In comparison to the national market, we can observe a reduction in installed wind capacity in Scotland, North West of England and North Wales





National design

Zonal design

**Nodal design**

# The majority of projected large-scale battery capacity re-sites under a **nodal market** in response to more granular pricing signals (NOA7)



Installed Capacity \*

2025

2030

2035

2040

4GW

8GW

13GW

16GW

The nodal model estimates increasing build of batteries around London and in Scotland



Cumulative capacity with a change in location

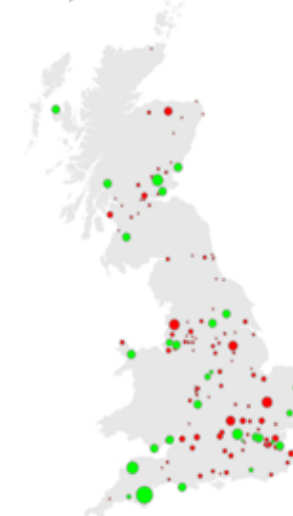
↻ 3GW

↻ 6GW

↻ 11GW

↻ 13GW

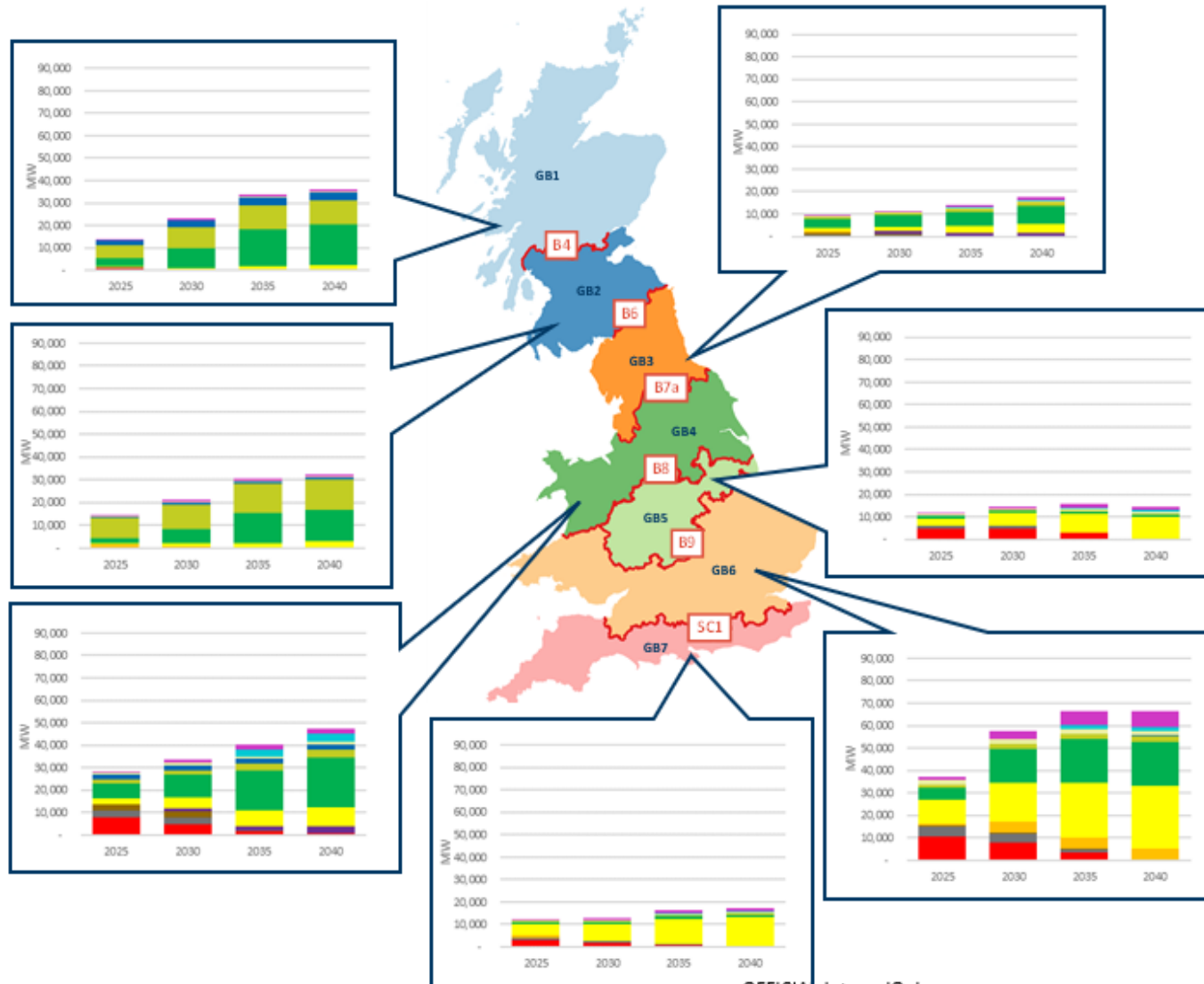
In comparison to the national market, we can observe a reduction in installed battery capacity in Midlands Anglia and South England



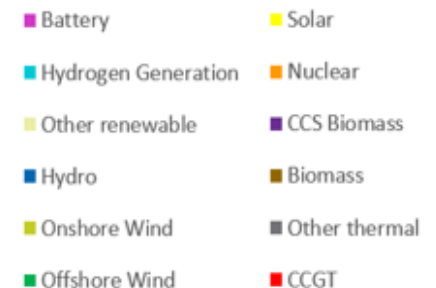
● Decrease relative to national model ● Increase relative to national model ● Battery

\*Total installed capacity presented here excludes the "Behind-the-meter" storage provided by domestic batteries and V2G (0.4GW in 2025 to 72GW in 2040), which do not re-site in the nodal expansion model.

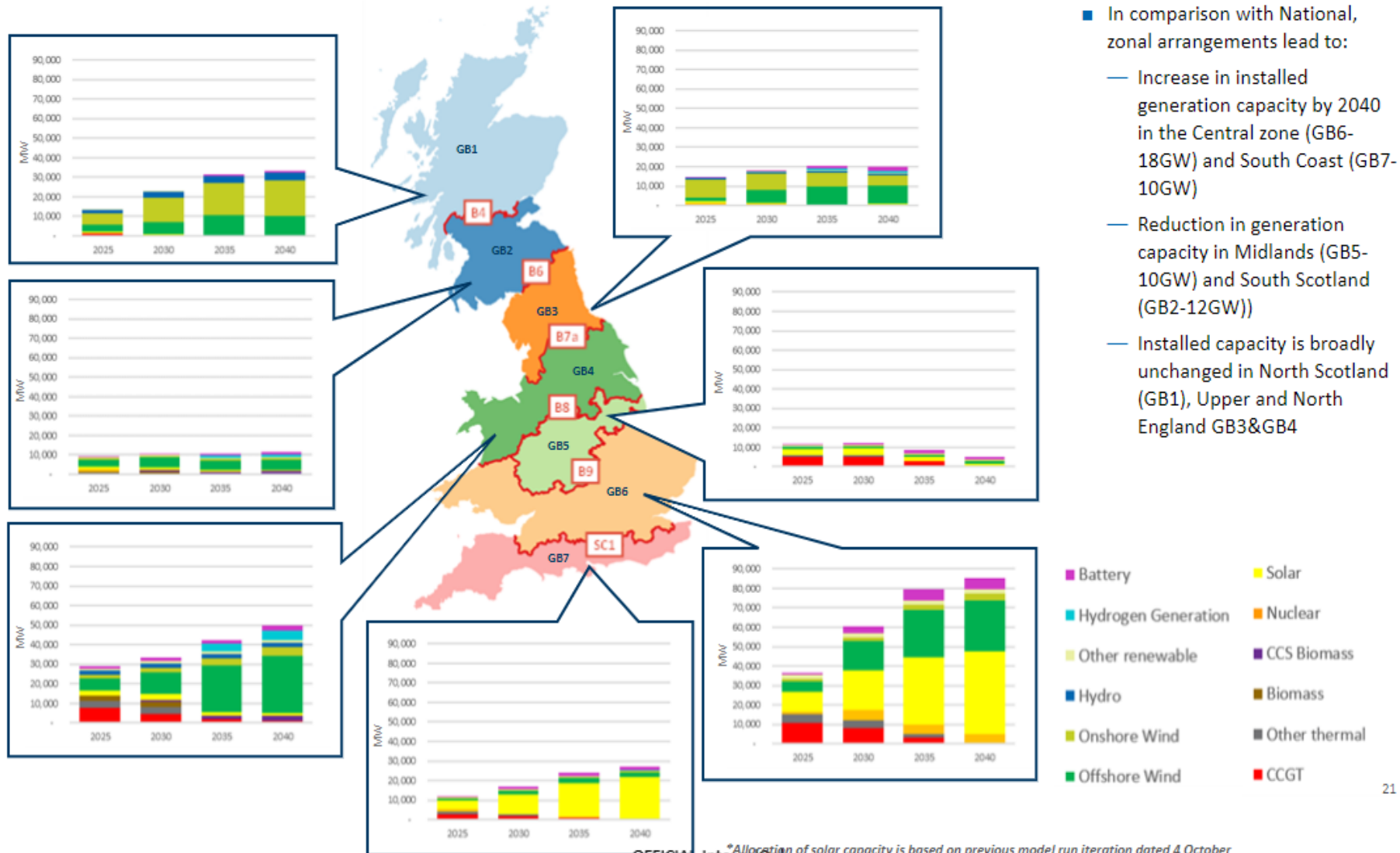
## The evolution of generation capacity under the **national market design** as per FES21 assumptions is displayed below



- Capacity for each technology allocated to individual node on the system as per FES 21 assumptions
- Each node, based on geographical location allocated to defined zones. Capacity on the diagram represent the sum of all the nodal capacity within the zone

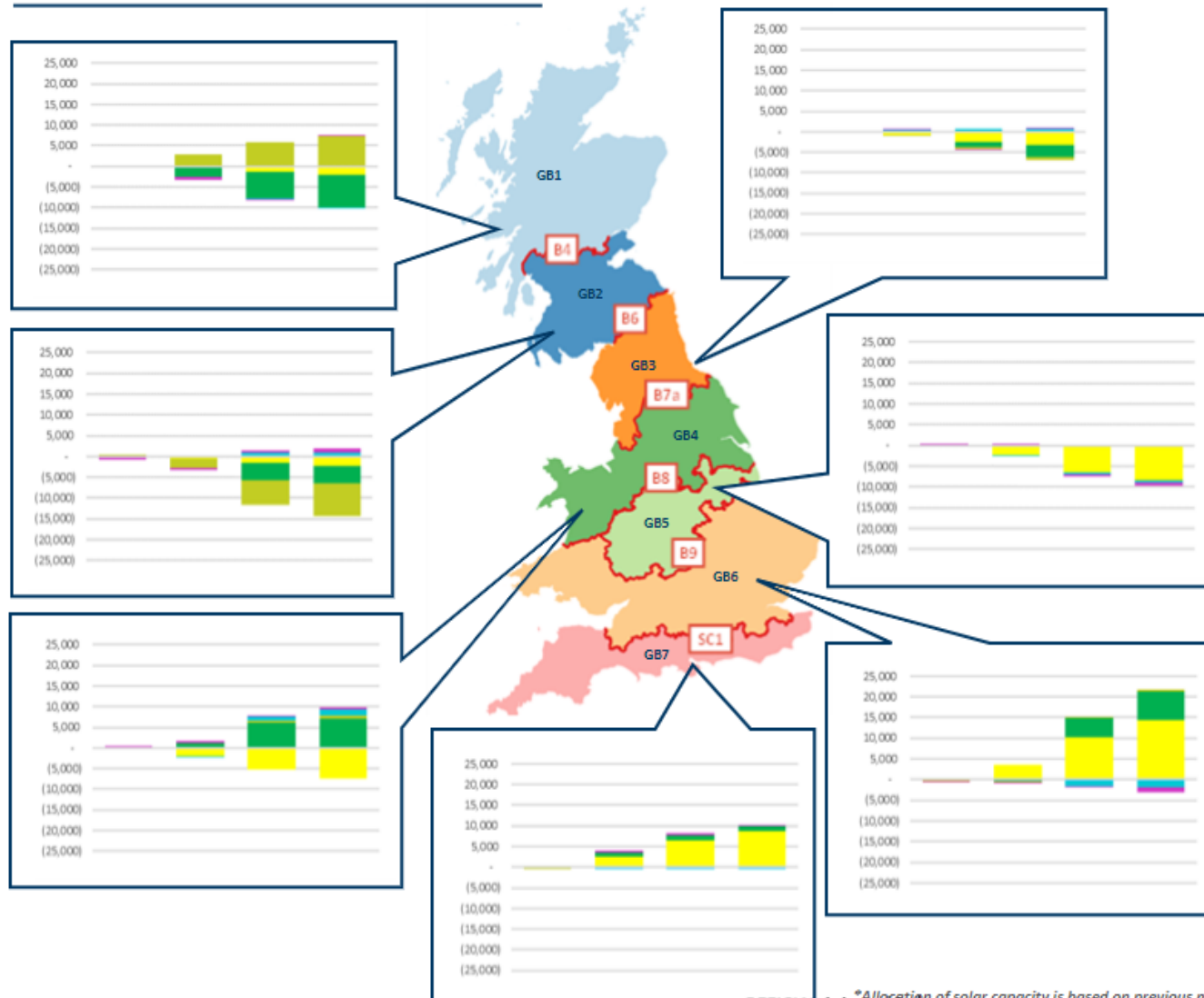


## Similar to our nodal assessment, we have modelled the projected evolution of generation capacity in a zonal market design

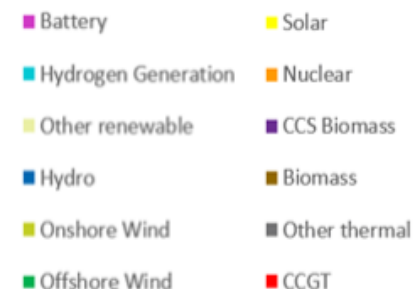


## Under the zonal model, wind (onshore and offshore) and solar capacities relocate across the GB zones

Difference in capacity relative to national model (MW)



- Results from modelling of zonal arrangements suggest:
  - Onshore wind re-allocates from South to North Scotland (GB2 to GB1)
  - Offshore wind capacity shift from Scotland to North England and North Wales (GB4) and Central (GB6)
  - Only marginal movements in battery capacity across the zones
- Majority of solar generation\* locates in the south (GB6 & GB7)





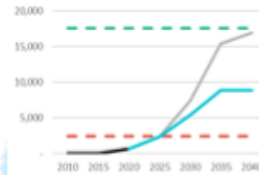
# As a cross-check, we have assessed the plausibility of the offshore wind build-out in the nodal model against projects in the pipeline in each offshore zone

- We have grouped existing wind farm projects and wind farms in the model to offshore regions

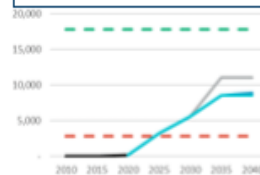
- We have used these offshore regions to compare offshore wind build-out to:

- **Committed projects** (under construction or awarded under a CfD contract)
- **Seabed leases** (currently awarded)

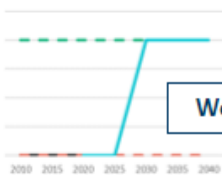
## North Scotland



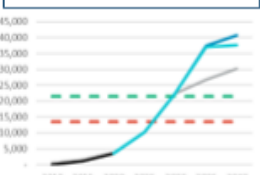
## North Sea - North



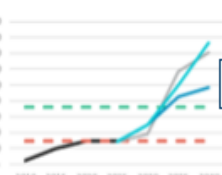
## Western Scotland



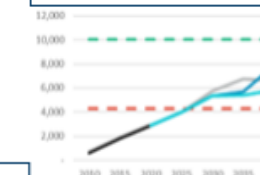
## North Sea - Mid



## Irish Sea



## North Sea - South



## Celtic Sea<sup>1</sup>



## South Coast

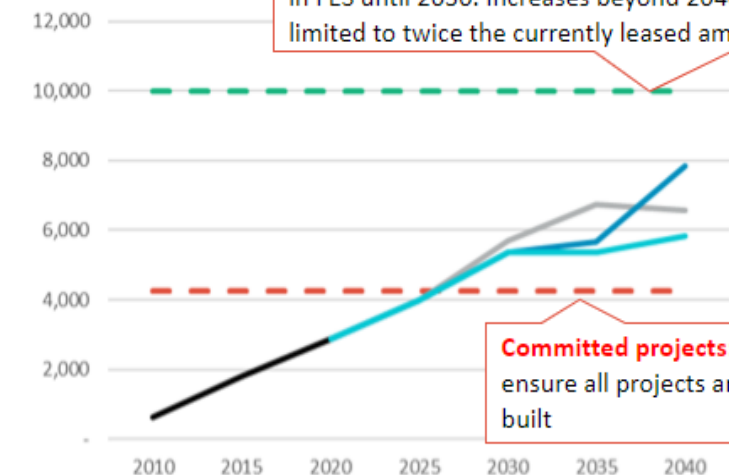


The 2040 constraint on offshore wind capacity is binding for the Irish Sea and the South Coast

— Historic — Committed  
 — Lease secured — FES2021  
 — Nodal LTW — Nodal HND

## Example:

### North Sea - South



**Seabed leases:** we ensure capacity do not exceed current seabed leases or the capacity in FES until 2030. Increases beyond 2040 are limited to twice the currently leased amount

**Committed projects:** we ensure all projects are built

Generation capacity under FES, nodal (NOA7), and nodal (NOA7 + HND) scenarios

1: The 2040 limit for the Celtic Sea is increased to 5GW, as the Crown Estate is due to hold auction for 4GW floating wind in this area in 2023

Long term  
capacity  
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**Detailed price  
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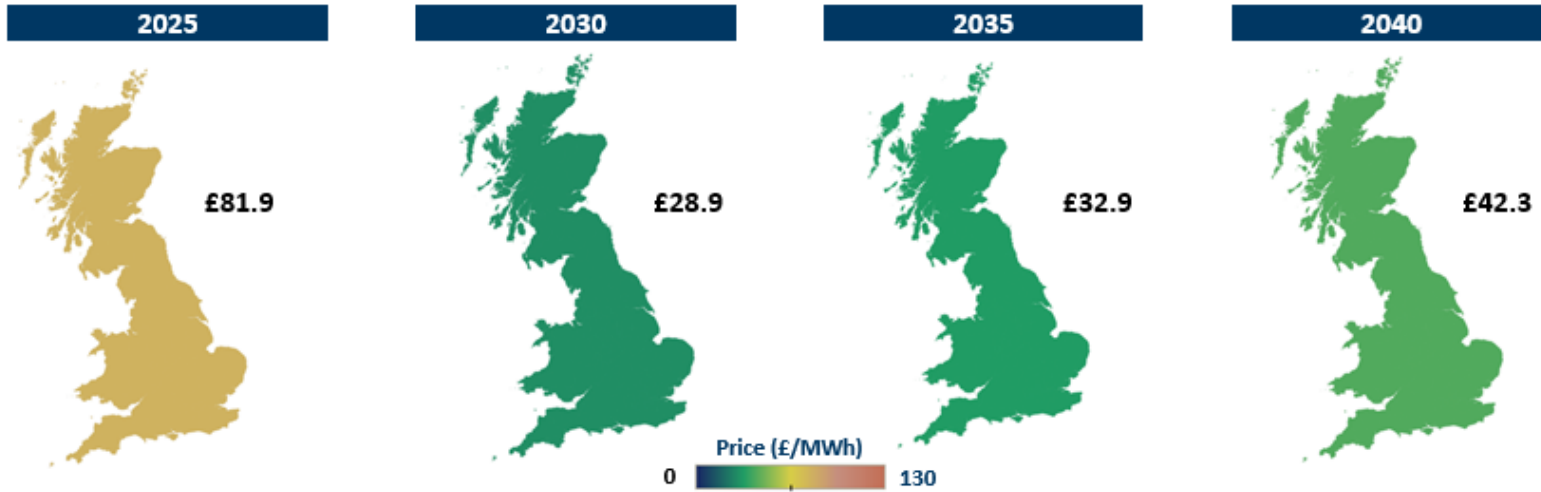


## Updated modelling results: Detailed price outcomes





# Pressure on wholesale prices is expected to ease in 2030 but increase again due to increased electrification, limited flexibility options and high carbon prices



Wholesale prices are **expected to be high** in 2025...

...reflecting **higher gas prices** in a system that is still **reliant on fossil fuels**.

These are **expected to fall significantly** by 2030...

...as **pressure on gas prices is expected to ease** and **more renewable capacity** is built.

Power prices **trend upward** again in 2035...

...as **increased electrification** drives electricity demand...

...and rising carbon prices increase the cost of some flexible generation.

Wholesale prices continue to increase into 2040...

...reflecting **high carbon prices** and **fewer options for flexibility** as gas capacity becomes increasingly limited...

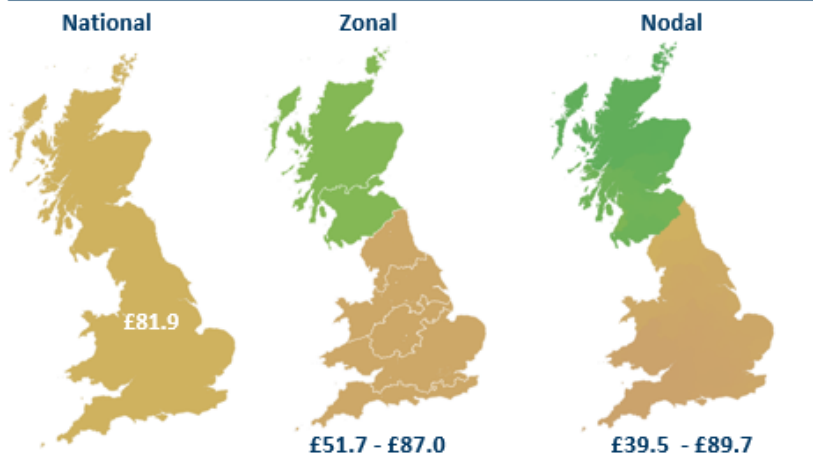
...with GB exposed to **higher prices in other countries** due to **increased reliance on ICs for flexibility**.

Note: A load-weighted annual average wholesale prices would produce similar results: £87.8 in 2025, £32.7 in 2030, £33.7 in 2035, and £42.3 in 2040

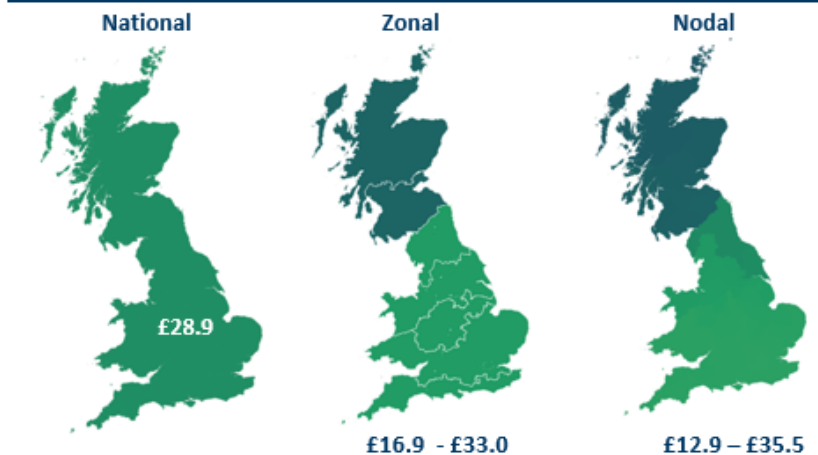


Average wholesale power prices across the three market design options are influenced both by 'macro' trends and by the locational granularity

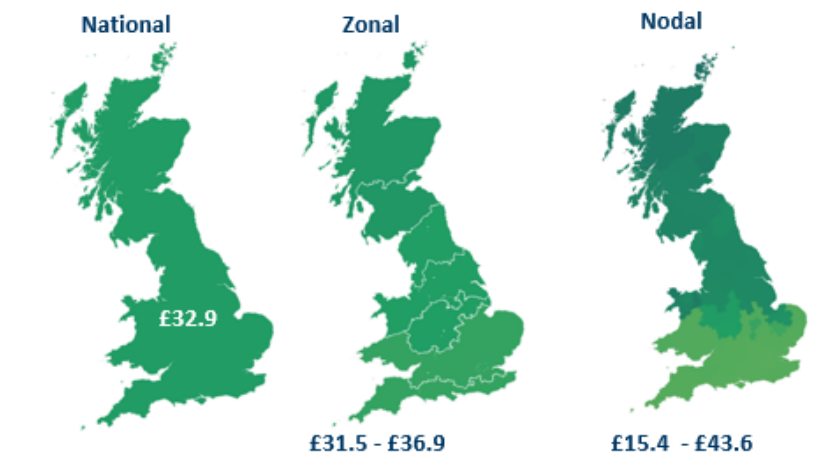
2025 - Annual average wholesale prices, £/MWh



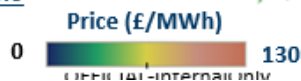
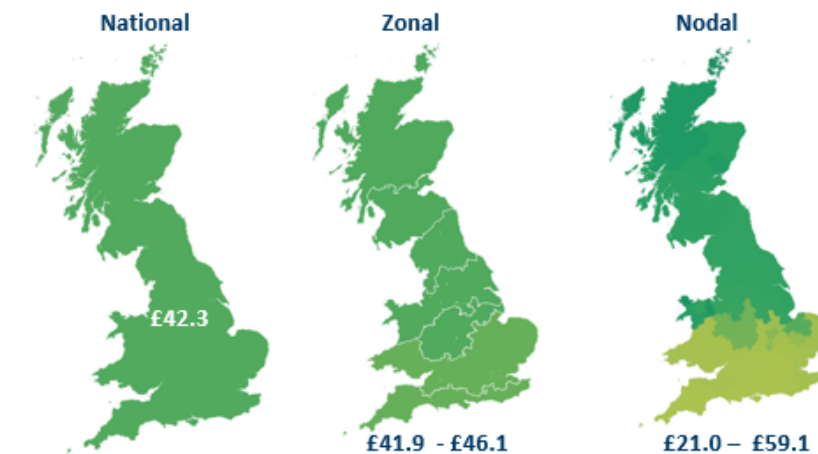
2030 - Annual average wholesale prices, £/MWh



2035 - Annual average wholesale prices, £/MWh



2040 - Annual average wholesale prices, £/MWh



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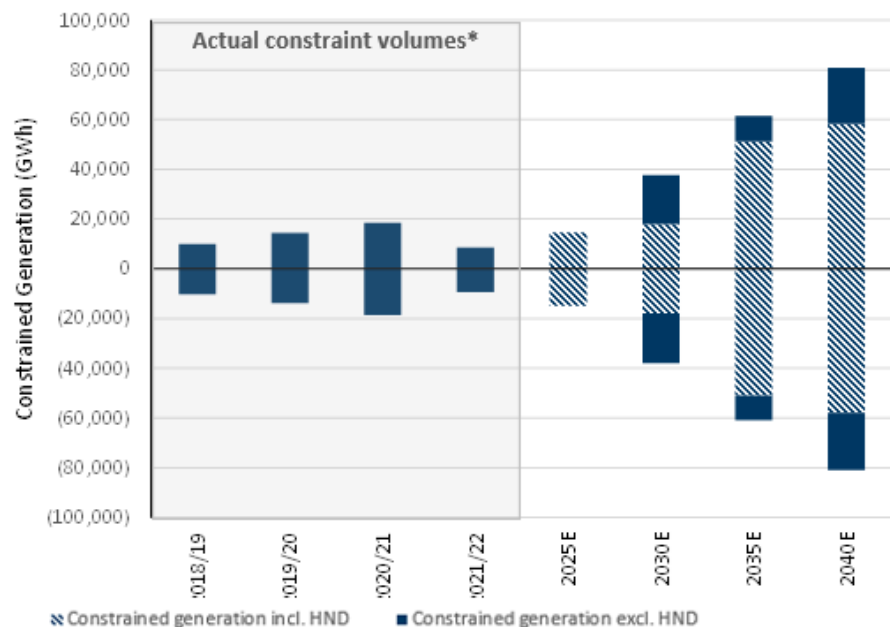


## Updated modelling results: Constraint management costs

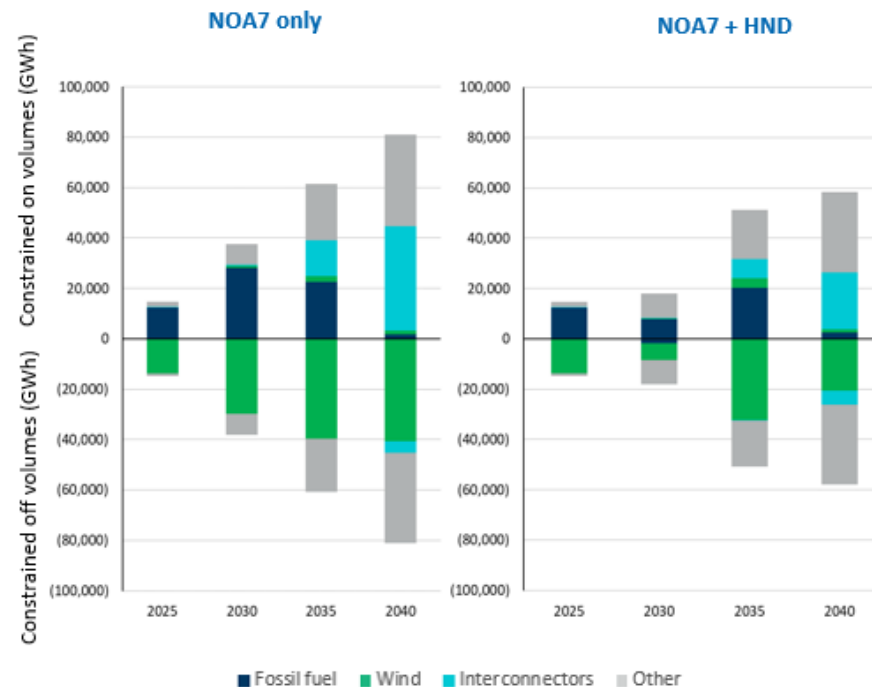


# We have updated our assessment of constrained on and off generation and include the results of an additional scenario with ESO's HND

**Actual and modelled constrained on/off volumes (National design, GWh/year)**



**Breakdown of constrained on/off volumes by technology (GWh/year)**



\*Source – ESO Data Portal.

- Our modelling results show congestion volumes increasing to **c.80TWh** by 2040 (or c.15% of total generation).
- The rate of increase in congestion volumes is lower under an alternative HND scenario to **c.60TWh** by 2040.
- As indicated in the last workshop the **constraint volumes increased in 2025 & 2030 driven by the inclusion of HND reinforcements, outages and N-2 security criteria.**

- The increase in congestion volume arises mostly from constrained-off **wind** generation.
- As expected, **curtailment is reduced** under the HND scenario.



## Our constraint cost assumptions for batteries and hydrogen generation now include a bid and offer spread, other assumptions are unchanged from August

Technology	Cost to ESO		Additional assumptions
	Bid	Offer	
Fossil fuel 	- Fuel cost - carbon cost	Offer Uplift + Fuel cost + carbon cost	• Multiplier uplift calculated using historical offer prices and historical commodity prices
Biomass 	- Fuel cost	Offer Uplift + Fuel cost	• 50% of the Absolute fossil fuel offer uplift as a proxy
CCS Biomass 	Carbon price – Fuel cost	Offer Uplift + (Fuel cost – carbon price)	• 50% of the Absolute fossil fuel offer uplift as a proxy
ROCs renewables 	ROCs*	(theoretical only so no price assumed)	-
CfD renewables 	CfD strike price – Wholesale price	(theoretical only so no price assumed)	-
Merchant renewables 	£0	Offer Uplift	• 20% of the Absolute fossil fuel offer uplift as a proxy
Storage technologies 	- Marginal value	Offer Uplift + Marginal value	• Marginal value calculated by Plexos • 50% of the absolute fossil fuel offer uplift as a proxy
Hydrogen generation 	- Marginal value	Offer Uplift + Marginal value	• Marginal value calculated by Plexos • 50% of the Absolute fossil fuel offer uplift as a proxy
Interconnector 	Cost of reversing flow €130 / €100**	Cost of reversing flow €130 / €100**	• Integrated with our pan-EU model

\*- The number of ROCs will depend on technology. For simplicity, we assumed 1.9ROCs for OfW and 0.99ROCs for Onshore which is the average per technology from BEIS [\[link\]](#)

\*\* - Cost of reversing flow of €130 assumed in 2025 and 2030

Technologies not participating in the BM

Demand side response 

Nuclear 

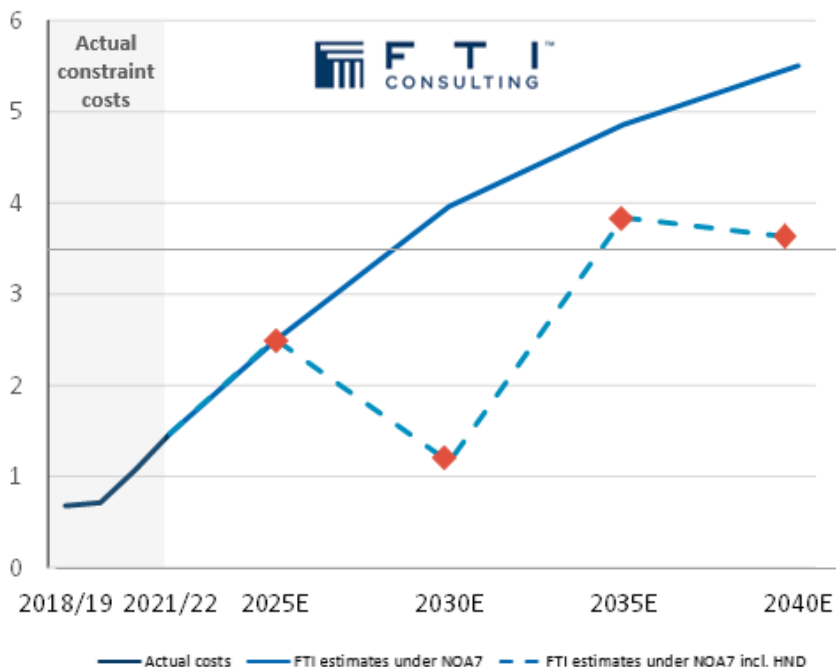
Hydro (run-of-river) 

Small-scale thermal

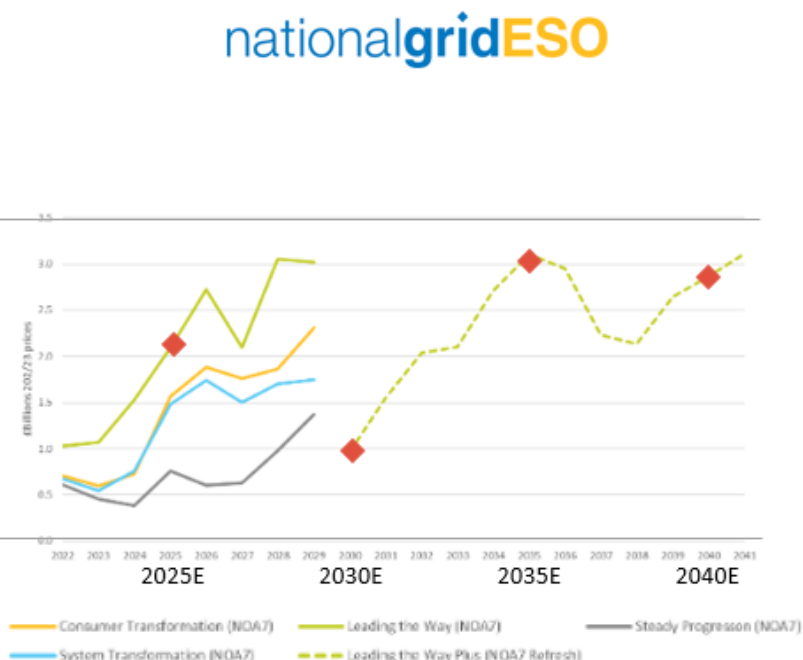


# Our updated estimate (with and without HND) maintains a significant increase in constraint costs post-2030, in line with the ESO's August revised forecast

Constraint cost estimates, Leading the Way, 2018-2040, £bn



ESO constraint costs, NOA7 + HND, 2022-2041, £bn



Source: FTI analysis

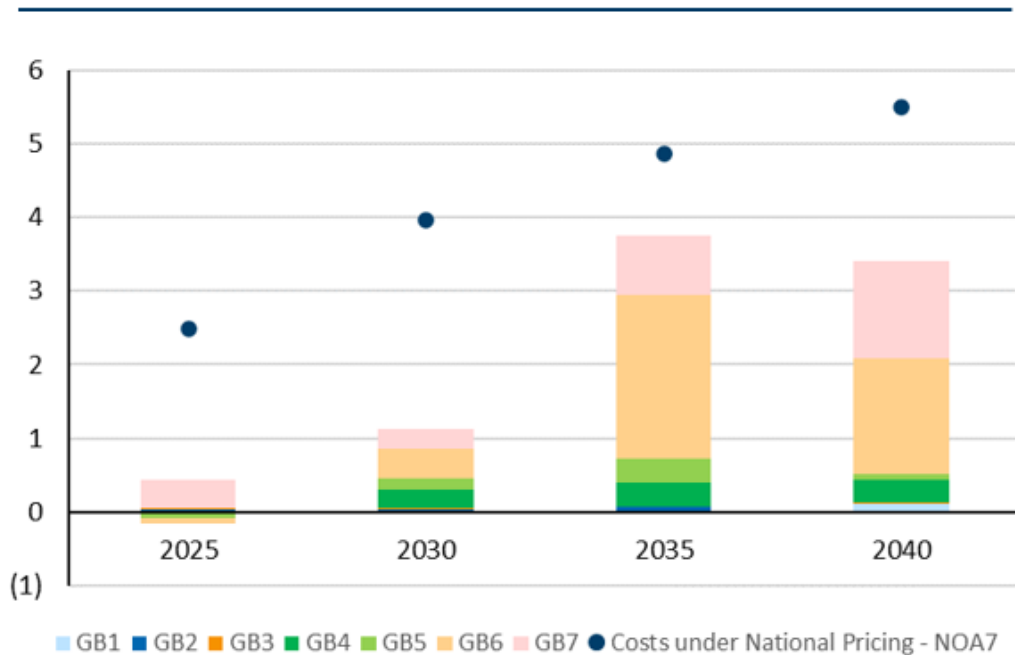
Source: ESO (2022) Modelled Constraint Costs – August 2022 [\[link\]](#)

- Our **updated assessment** indicates that constraint cost under the national market design option **could exceed £5bn by 2035**.
- **HND transmission projections** would slow down the increase in constraint cost by 2035 **to just under £4bn**.
- This broadly follows the trajectory of the latest ESO forecasts of NOA7 + HND congestion costs published in August 2022...
- ... albeit ours are c.20-25% higher (which could be explained by our more locationally granular approach to assessing constraint volumes).



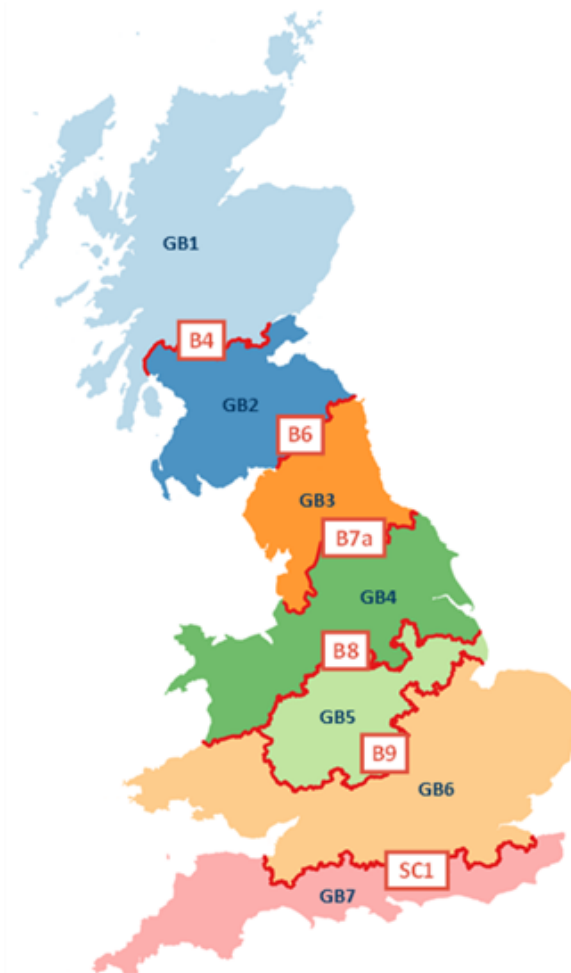
# Under zonal design, constraint management costs could be lower in period up to 2030 after which they are projected to increase to near £4bn

Constraint cost estimates, Leading the Way, NOA7, 2025-2040, £bn



Source: FTI analysis

- Under the zonal market design option **constraint cost projections up to 2030 are lower than costs currently observed under national market design.**
- Post 2030 constraint costs are **forecasted to increase to just under £4bn** and broadly stay at that level for the remainder of the modelling period.
- GB6 and GB7 zones illustrate the need for policymakers to consider and evaluate the benefits of **re-zoning** as the system evolves.



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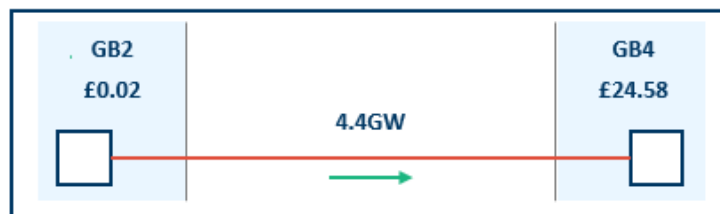
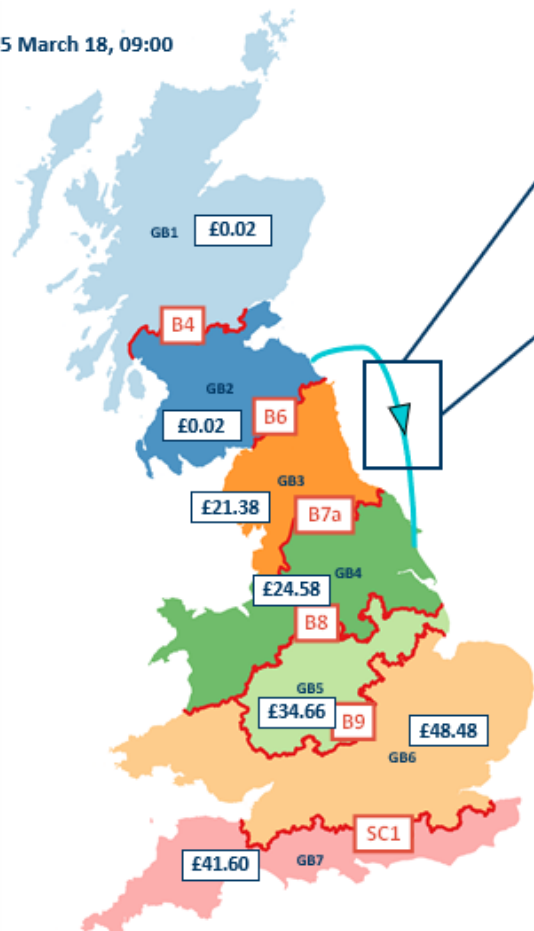
## Updated modelling results: Intra-GB congestion rents





# Transmission owners would earn congestion rents, based on the wholesale electricity price differential between the two price zones they are connecting

2035 March 18, 09:00



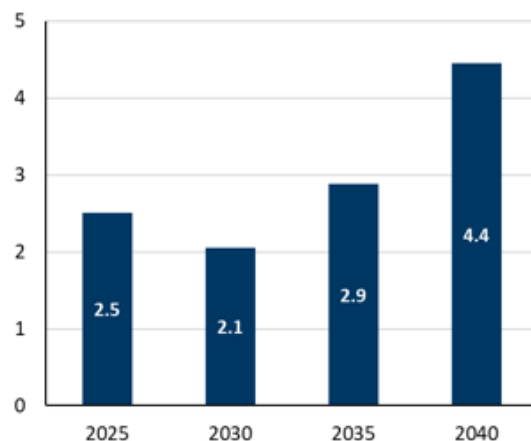
- Suppose, in a **given hour**:
  - The **wholesale price** of electricity in **GB2** is **£0.02/MWh**;
  - The **wholesale price** of electricity in **GB4** is **£24.58/MWh**; and
  - There exists **interconnection capacity** of **4.4GW** connecting GB2 and GB4.
- Assuming no losses, in settlement, this results in a rent of £108,064 (4.4GW\*£24.56/MWh) in this hour.
- We refer to these revenues as **congestion rents, which arise on all zone boundaries** under a zonal market and **between all nodes on the network** under a nodal model. **Congestion rents do not exist under the national model.**
- The rights to these rents are so-called “financial transmission rights”...
- ...they are equivalent in concept to congestion rents in **interconnectors**



# In zonal and nodal markets, congestion rents arise in the settlements process from price differentials between connecting price zones or nodes



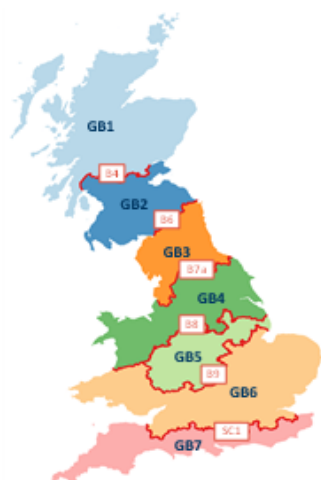
Nodal congestion rents (£bn/year)



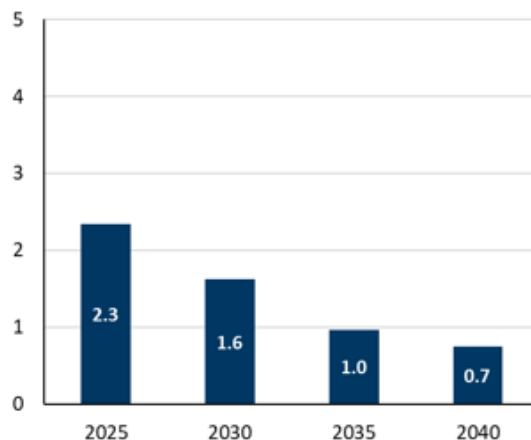
- In **nodal markets**, congestion rents and loss surpluses are earned on all transmission lines between nodes.
- We estimate these revenues to be between **£2.1bn** and **£4.4bn** across the modelled years

Congestion rents **arise in the settlement process** and we assume that they would, as a default option, be **used to reduce transmission costs** (ultimately borne by consumers).

We therefore treat **congestion rents** as a **net benefit to GB consumers...**



Zonal congestion rents (£bn/year)



- In **zonal markets**, congestion rents are only earned on inter-zonal transmission lines.
- We estimate these revenues to be between **£0.7bn** and **£2.3bn** across the modelled years...
- ... reflecting lower zonal spreads relative to nodal spreads

...in practice, **alternative options** for distribution congestion rents are possible, e.g. by allocating FTRs to other stakeholder as part of a transition process (this has not yet been considered in our analysis).

Long term  
capacity  
expansion

Detailed price  
outcomes

Constraint costs

Intra-GB  
congestion rent

**Nodal model  
results snapshot**

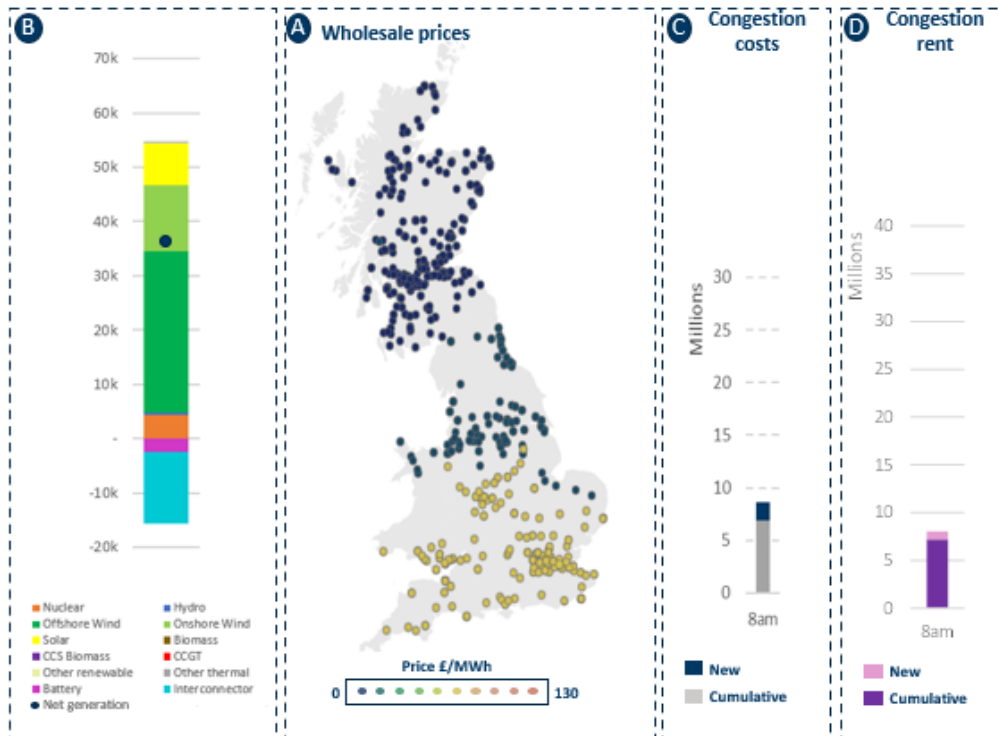
CfD impact

Implementation  
costs



## Updated modelling results: Snapshot of nodal model results

# Introduction to detailed nodal price outcomes: Presentation of the wholesale prices, generation mix and congestion costs



## A Wholesale prices

1. Each circle represents a node on the system
2. The colour of the circle represents the wholesale price in £/MWh

## B Generation mix

1. Bar chart next to the map represents the generation mix in the same hour as the wholesale prices
2. Colour of the bar segment represent relevant technology as indicated in the generation mix legend
3. Height of the bar represents the capacity of the technology that generates at the time (negative figures reflecting IC exports)

## C Congestion cost

1. Bar chart next to the map represents the cumulative congestion costs on the day up to and including the hour shown
2. Colour of the bar segment differentiates between current hour (dark blue) and the cumulative prior hours on the same day (grey)

## D Congestion rent

1. Bar charts represent the cumulative congestion rent between all nodes on the network under a nodal model, or between zone boundaries under a zonal market. This represents net benefit to GB consumers



With high volumes of RES generation across GB, wholesale prices are lower under national, but the cost of meeting demand under national design is higher

National



8am

Nodal

Generation mix (MW)

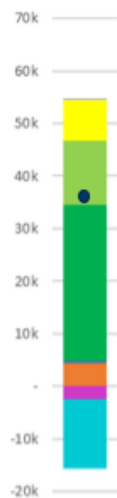
Wholesale prices

Congestion costs

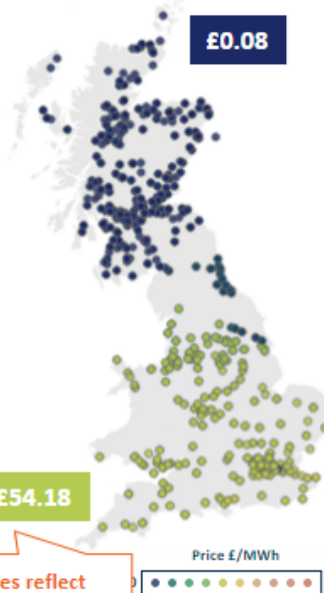
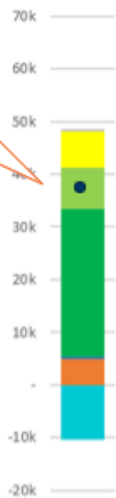
Generation mix (MW)

Wholesale prices

Congestion rent (benefit)



Under nodal, generation is predominantly from wind & solar



Nodal prices reflect physical network limitations for the generation available

The need for re-dispatch is minimised, and the congestion rent brings additional benefits leading to lower costs to serve demand

The wholesale price under national pricing is lower due to large volumes of low marginal cost generation

However, network capacity limitations require large volumes of re-dispatch ...

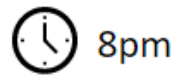
... which leads to £1.5m of congestion cost

- Nuclear
- Offshore Wind
- Solar
- CCS Biomass
- Other renewable
- Battery
- Hydro
- Onshore Wind
- Biomass
- CCGT
- Other thermal
- Interconnector



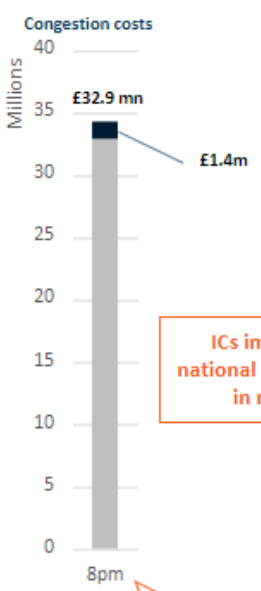
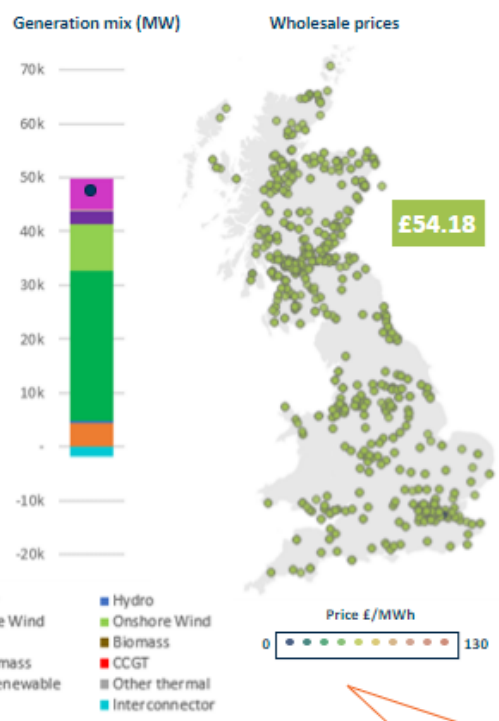
# Nodal prices reflect the real-time transmission network constraints, whereas these are obscured in a national price

## National



## Nodal

Generation in the North is unable to serve demand in the South due to transmission constraints...

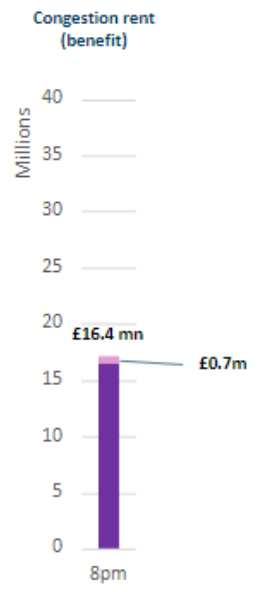
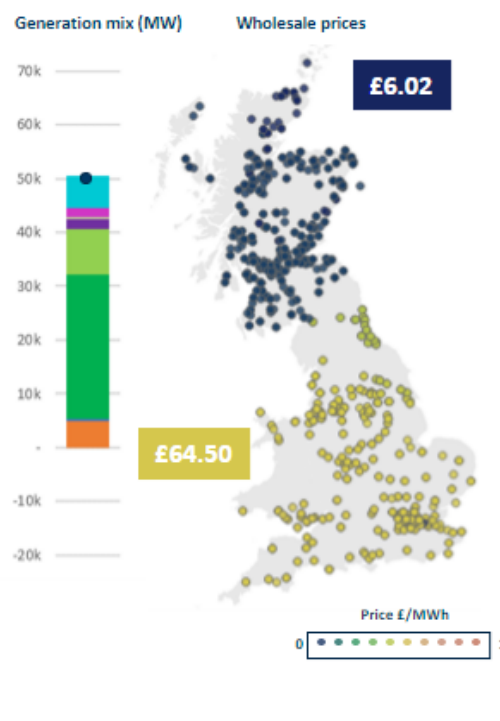


ICs import in national and export in nodal

...leading to £1.4m congestion costs

Uniform price obscures transmission constraints...

Generation is predominantly from wind



...and these real-time network conditions are reflected in the nodal price differentials

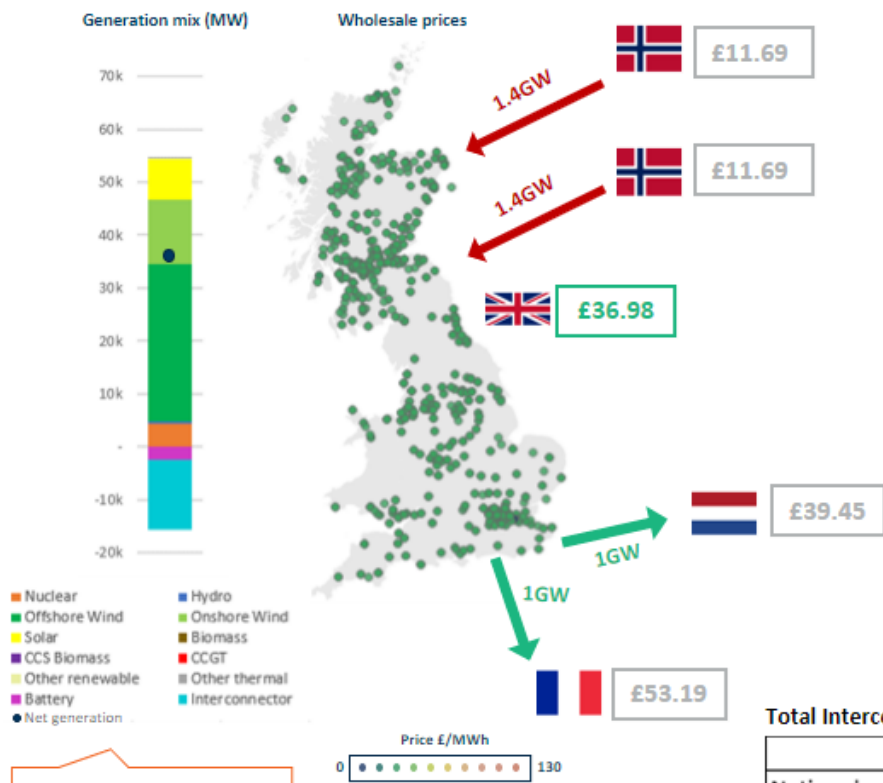


# Interconnector flows respond differently to price signals in the nodal market which could alleviate constraints

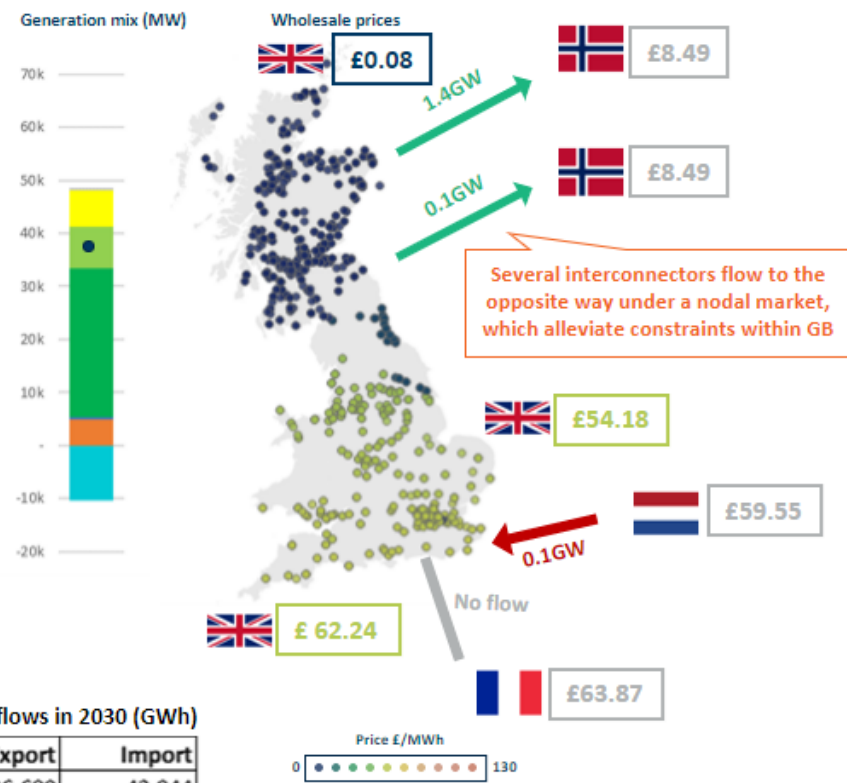
## National



## Nodal



CCGT generation required to balance the system



Total Interconnector flows in 2030 (GWh)

	Export	Import
National	96,680	43,944
Nodal	82,614	48,415

Long term  
capacity  
expansion

Detailed price  
outcomes

Constraint costs

Intra-GB  
congestion rent

Nodal model  
results snapshot

CfD impact

Implementation  
costs



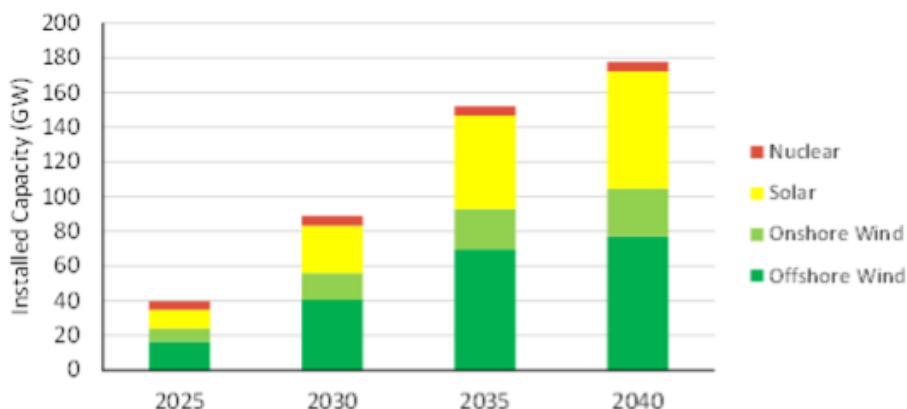
# Updated modelling results: CfD analysis





# Our methodology in assessing the cost of CfDs is based on our CfD capacity projections and assumptions on the future CfD regime design

## Projected capacity of CfD holders



### Technologies included:

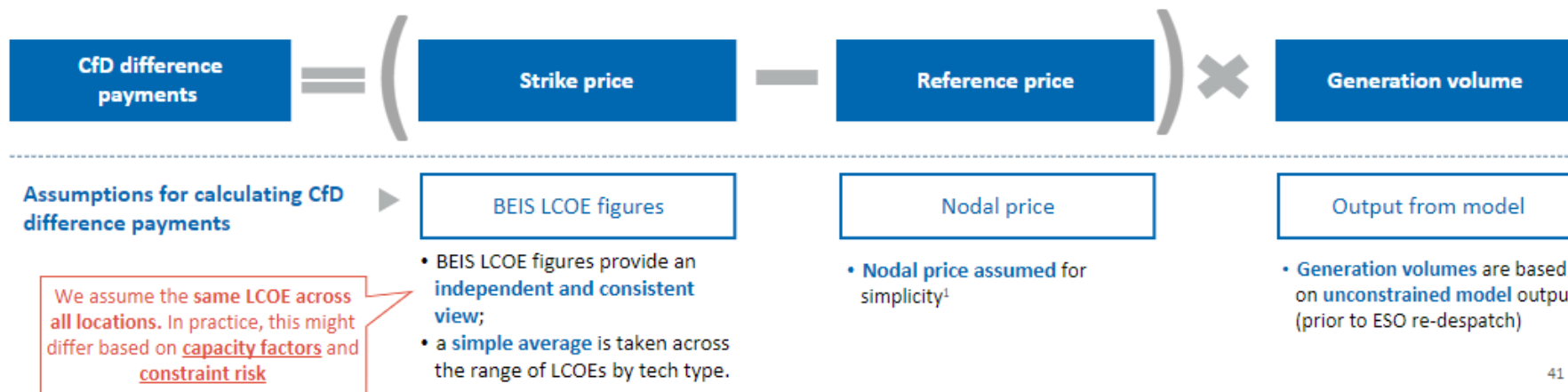
1. Existing projects with CfD contracts
2. All proposed offshore wind projects awarded CfDs in AR1-4
3. Hinkley Point C
4. All future offshore wind projects
5. 50% of future solar projects
6. 50% of future onshore wind projects

FTI assumptions based on limited data sources

All other technology types are excluded due to immateriality and / or uncertainty.

Sources: FES 21, BEIS Generation Cost Report 2020, FTI analysis

## Methodology for calculating the CfD top ups

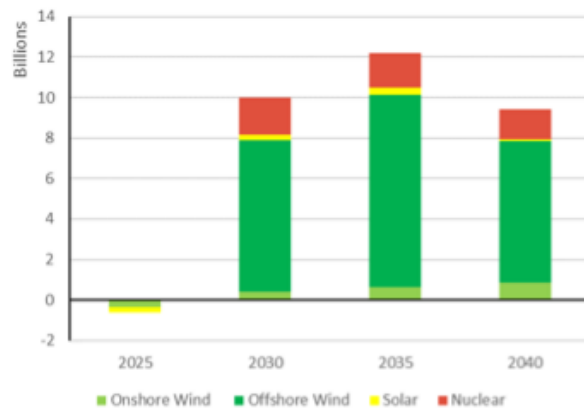


Note: In practice, the reference price could be defined in a number of alternative ways (e.g. a hub price or national price + FTRs to node). For simplicity, we have assumed that the reference price would be based on the individual nodal price.

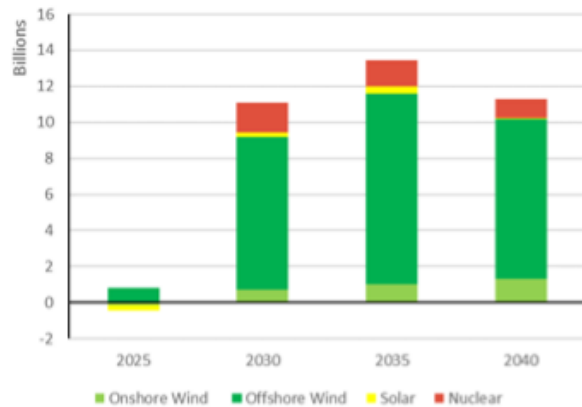


Our calculations show that a **nodal market** would increase total CfD difference payments (across 2025-2040) relative to a national market

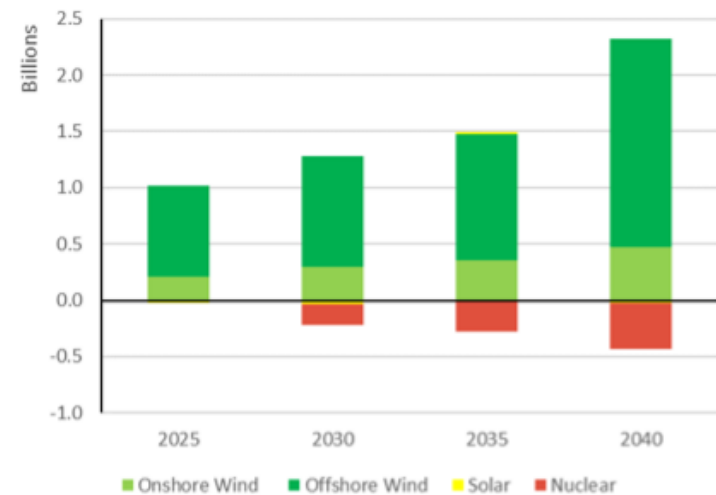
CfD difference payments (National) (£bn)



CfD difference payments (Nodal) (£bn)



CfD difference payments (Nodal – National) (£bn)



- We estimate that CfD difference payments will steadily increase under a nodal market reaching up to c.£2bn in 2040.
- This is driven predominantly by lower wholesale prices particularly in the North, and in part by a moderate increase in generation volumes.
- CfD difference payments for **Hinkley Point C** falls due to an increase in average wholesale prices in that locality.

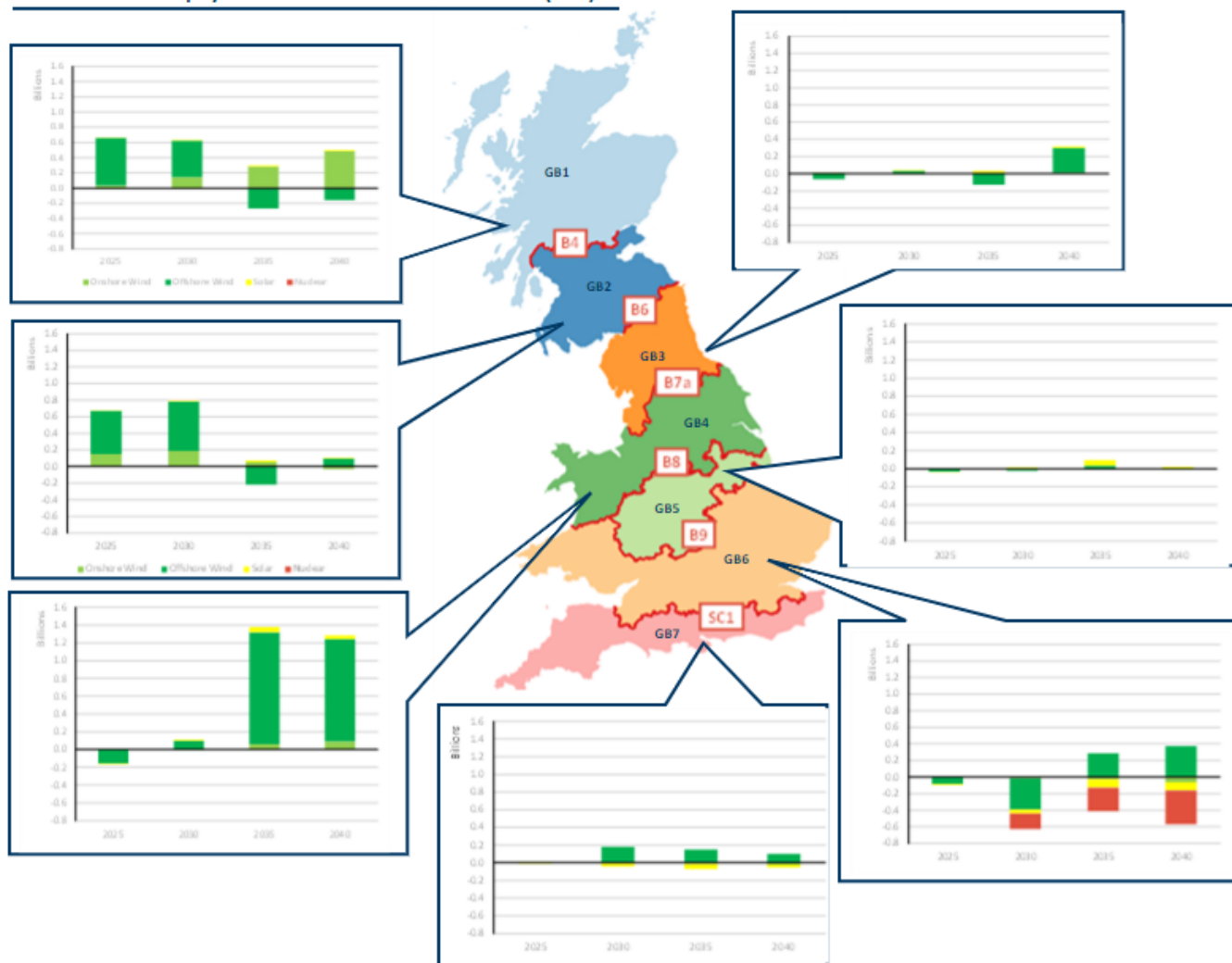
We observe similar results for the HND scenario

Note: We have not considered the potential savings from the lower cost of RAB-based financed projects



# In line with wholesale price changes, Northern generators receive higher CfD payments with nodal pricing, whereas payments to Southern generators decrease

Difference in CfD payments relative to national model (£bn)



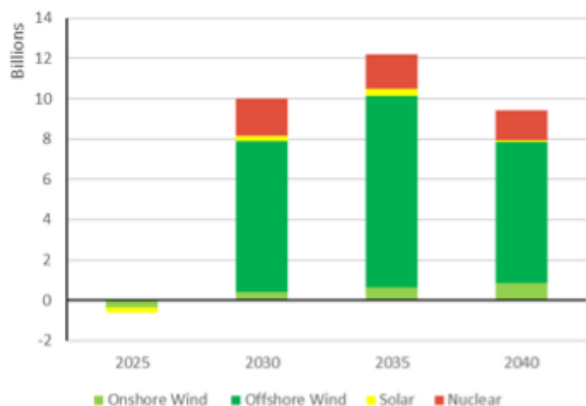
- Generators in most regions see an increase in CfD payments with largest increase observed in **GB4 (£2.3bn)** driven by greater level of installed offshore wind capacity and increase in volume of energy produced.
- Scottish wind generation in **GB1 & GB2** also see a significant increase (**£1.6bn** offshore and **£1.3bn** onshore).
- GB6** is the only zone where CfD difference payments are lower under nodal market driven by higher wholesale prices. Notably, CfD payments to HPC also reduces (**£0.85bn**).

- Onshore Wind
- Offshore Wind
- Solar
- Nuclear

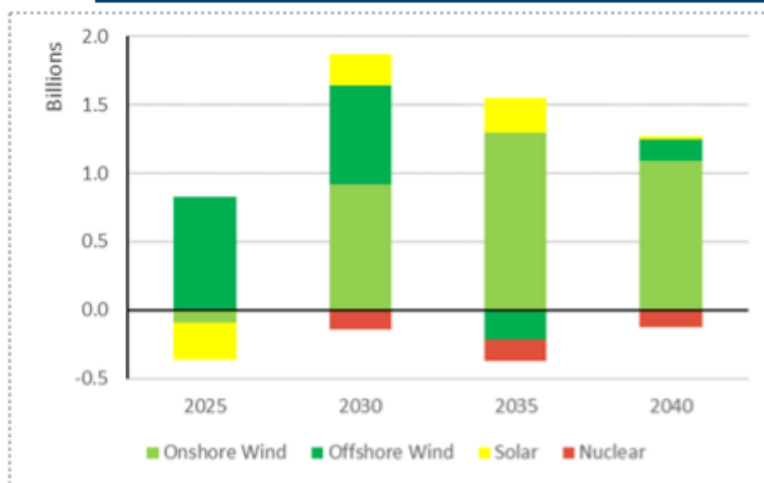


Similar to nodal, a **zonal market** would increase total CfD difference payments relative to a national market, albeit with different levels of impact to each tech

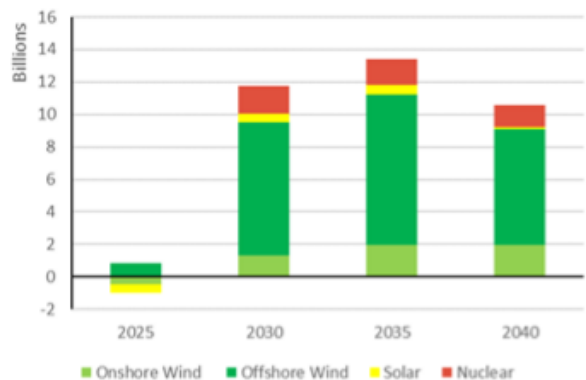
CfD difference payments (National) (£bn)



CfD difference payments (Zonal – National) (£bn)



CfD difference payments (Zonal) (£bn)



- Under the zonal market model, we estimate that CfD difference payments will reach up to c.£1.7bn in 2030 and then steadily reduce to £1.1bn.
- This is driven predominantly by lower wholesale prices, particularly in the GB1 zone where the bulk of onshore wind capacity is sited.

The same analysis for the HND scenario produced similar results

Note: We have not considered the potential savings from the lower cost of RAB-based financed projects

Long term  
capacity  
expansion

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outcomes


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congestion rent

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costs



## Updated modelling results: Implementation cost



# We triangulate from several sources to provide an indicative estimate of a range of implementation costs

One-off implementation costs predominantly consists of the two items below...

**System implementation costs**

One-off costs to enhance ESO and/or Elexon processes, new IT & software systems and capabilities

**Market participant implementation costs**

One-off costs to update system and capabilities of market participants



## Approaches

**1 Conversations with ESO to understand cost of running existing systems**

**2 International case studies, including recent (IESO) and older examples (ERCOT, CAISO)**

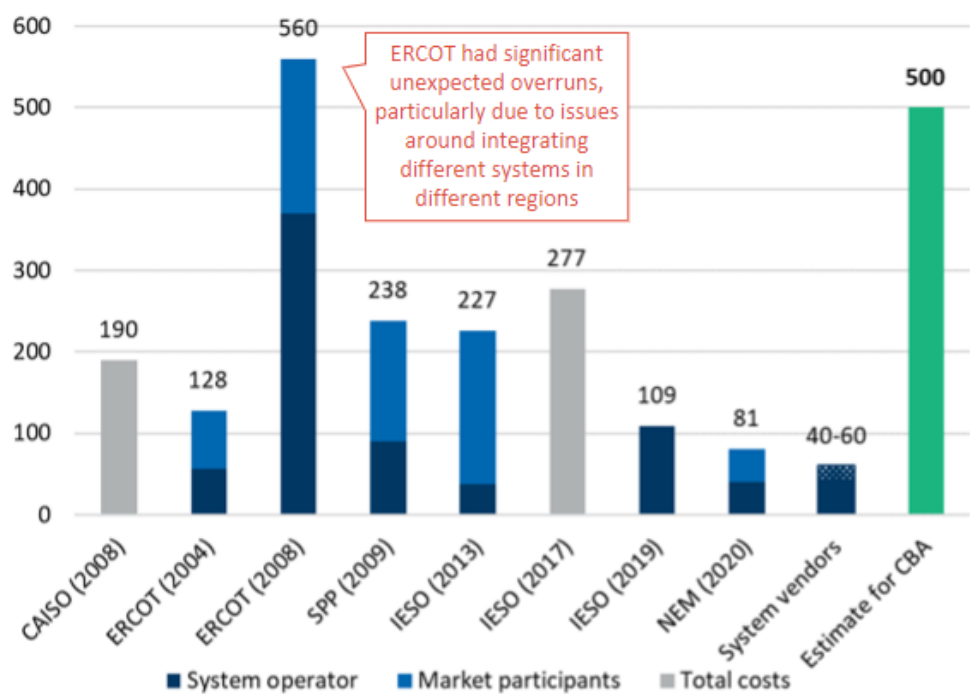
**3 Direct conversations with system vendors & market participants**

ESO was not in position to provide an estimate of costs at this stage



# International case studies indicate one-off implementation costs of £81m to £560m and are consistent with system vendor estimates

### Implementation costs from international case studies (£m)



Notes: 2019 IESO and ERCOT were conducted mid-implementation.  
Source: RIIQ2 BP2 – Annex 3, CAISO, ERCOT, SPP, IESO, Hard Software.

### Assumptions

- We **adjust market participant costs** based on the **relative installed capacities** of the jurisdiction (in the year the CBA was conducted) and in GB as at 2021.
- As a conservative assumption, we assumed **no additional investment** is required under the **National market design**.

### Limitations

- We **do not adjust SO costs** for relative installed capacities. This implicitly assumes that system costs are **not proportional to the size of the electricity market** in each jurisdiction.
- This is a high-level analysis and we have not adjusted the implementation costs for **differences in the level of reform required** in each jurisdiction relative to GB. This is outside the scope of our work.

**For the purposes of this CBA, we assume implementation costs of £500m, which is at the upper end of our estimated range<sup>1</sup>**

Note: For our zonal CBA, we maintain our conservative assumption of £500m implementation costs.



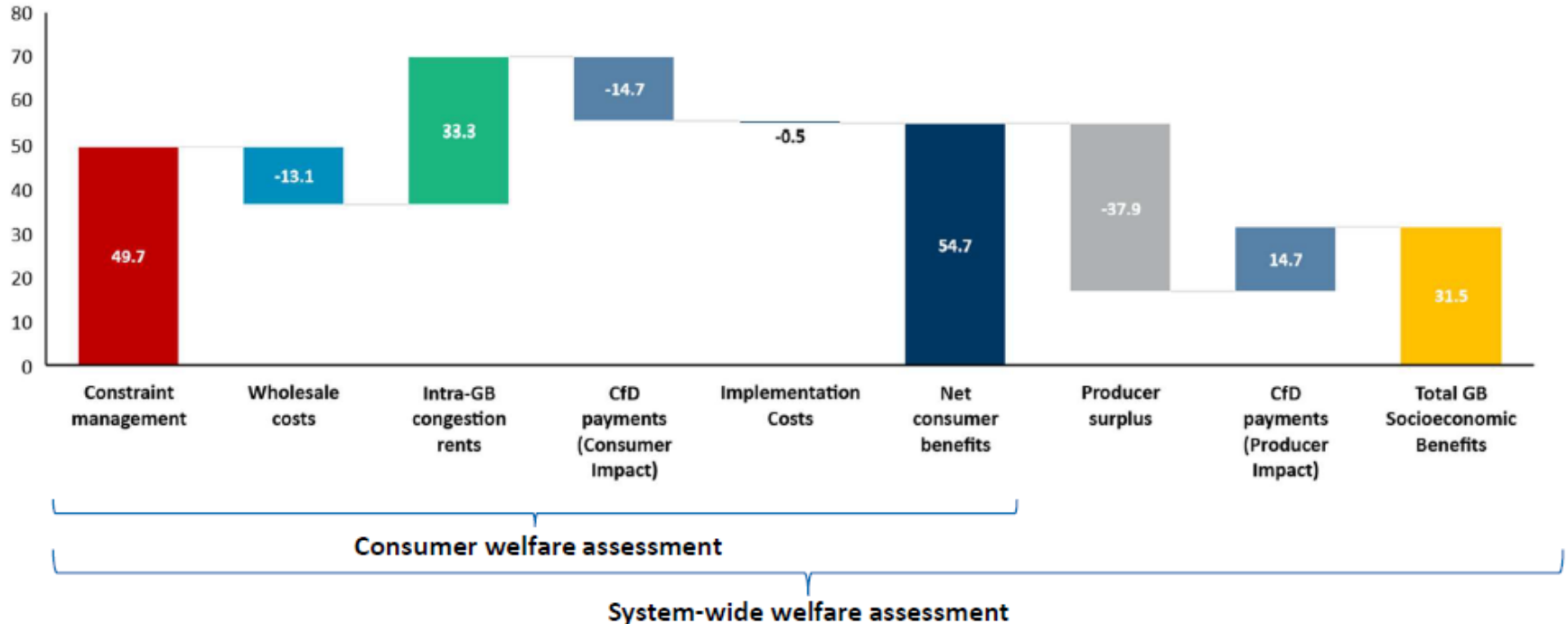


# Cost-benefit analysis results



Our analysis shows a **nodal market** produces a net consumer benefit of £55bn and socioeconomic benefits of £31bn over the 2025-40 modelling period

Breakdown of consumer surplus and welfare (£bn, Present Value 2025-40, Nodal – National, NOA7)



Our assessment is based on several key assumptions, some of which are conservative...

- Keeping the same capacity mix – more granular pricing could potentially trigger a change in the capacity mix.
- Commodity prices based on 2021 trends – higher fuel prices would affect pricing outcomes and constraint costs
- No demand portability – demand may relocate in response to greater price signals in locational market designs

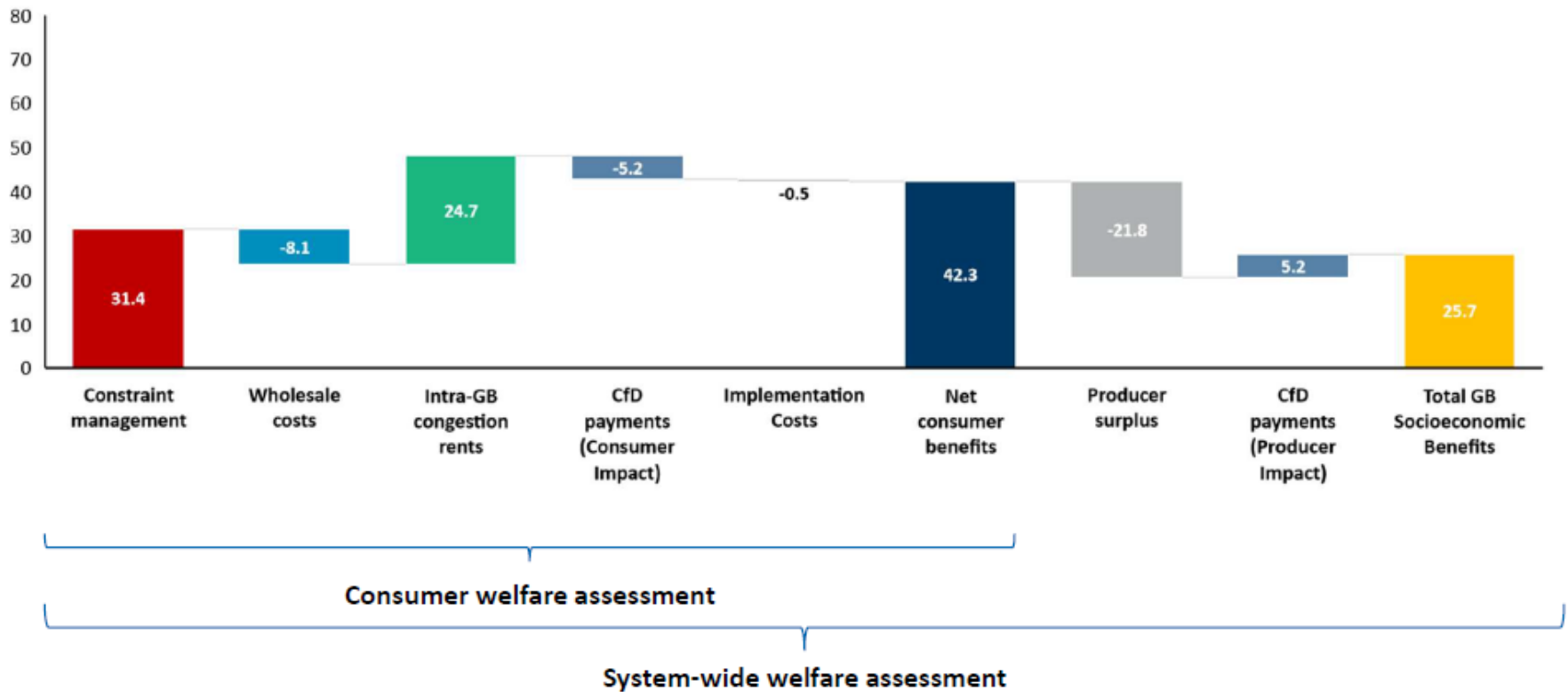
... while others may reduce total socioeconomic benefit

- Demand shielding – policymakers could “shield” consumers from experiencing locational wholesale electricity prices
- Transitional measures – measures to mitigate impact of locational pricing on market participants will represent a transfer of consumer benefits to producers



Under the HND scenario, a **nodal market** would continue to deliver a net consumer benefit of £42bn and socioeconomic benefits of £26bn

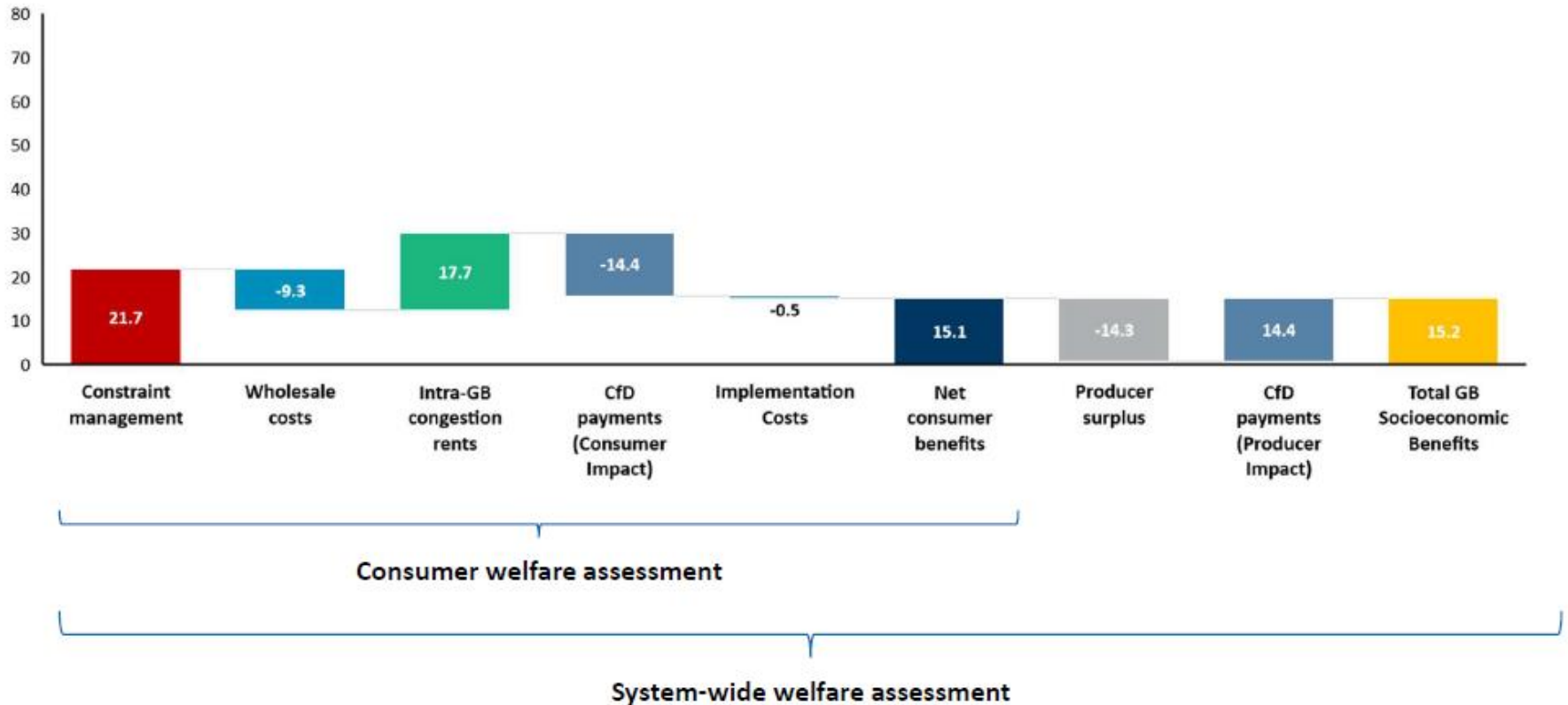
Breakdown of consumer surplus and welfare (£bn, Present Value 2025-35, Nodal – National, NOA7 + HND)



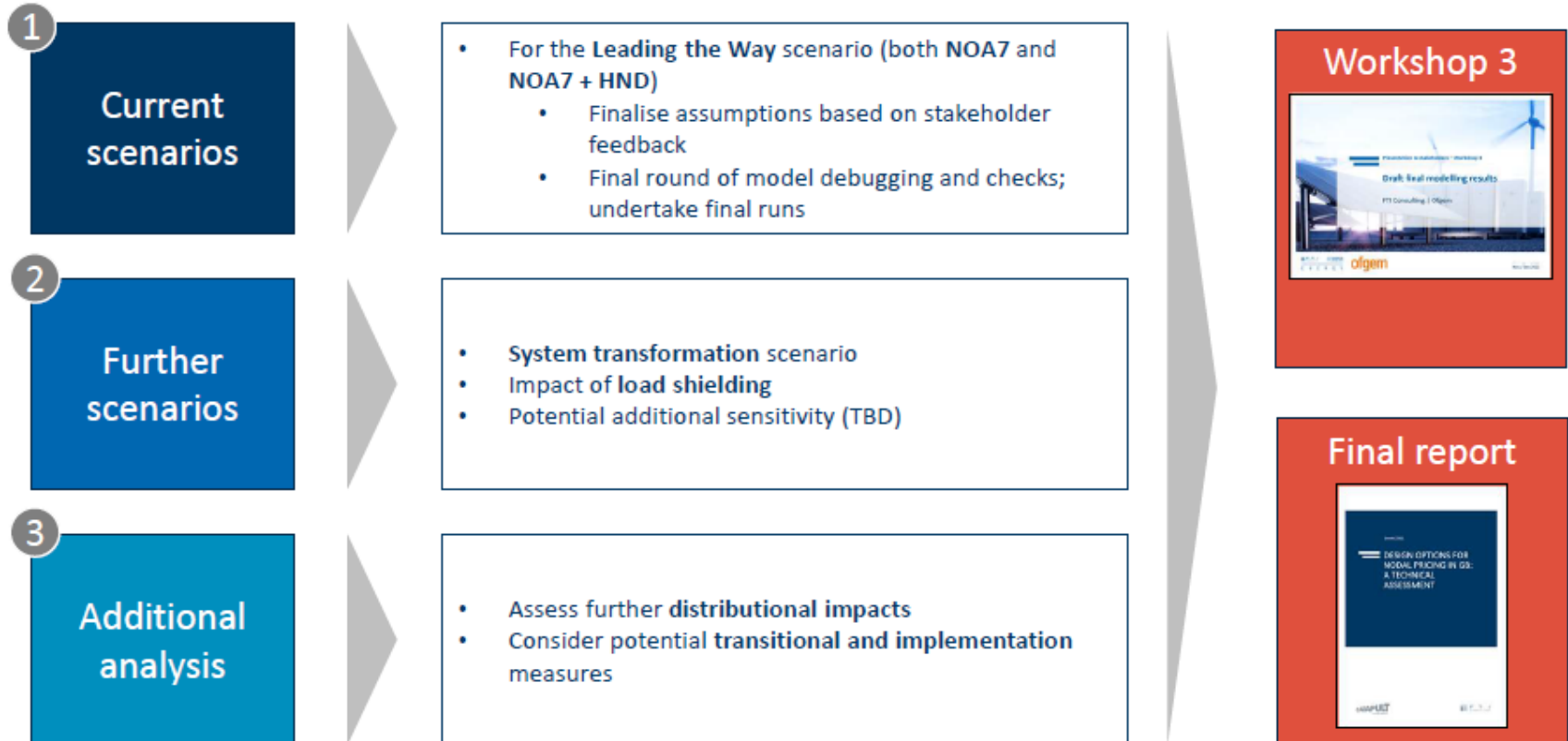


Our analysis shows that a **zonal market** would produce a net consumer benefit of £15bn and socioeconomic benefits of £15bn over the 2025-40 modelling period

Breakdown of consumer surplus and welfare (£bn, Present Value 2025-40, Zonal – National, NOA7)



For the **next workshop** and our **Final Report**, we will include results for the System Transformation scenario, further sensitivities, and mitigation options





# Additional analysis



## Additional analysis: Impact on financing costs



## We have found limited evidence that moving to nodal or zonal pricing will impact the cost of capital for market participants



### Risk assessment

- Risks may change for market participants depending their location, but the magnitude and direction of the **overall impact on beta, cost of debt and gearing is uncertain**
- In particular, the **impact on the cost of debt** will largely depend on **support mechanisms**, such as CfDs for wind/solar and RAB mechanism for nuclear. We expect **limited change in price risk** for market participants that are supported by such mechanisms.
- Within the CAPM framework, the **impact on beta** (and in turn the cost of equity) will largely depend on the **correlation of returns with general market conditions**. This could **fall** if returns become **less correlated to fossil fuel prices**, but could also **increase** if electricity prices become **more correlated with demand**.



### Stakeholder input

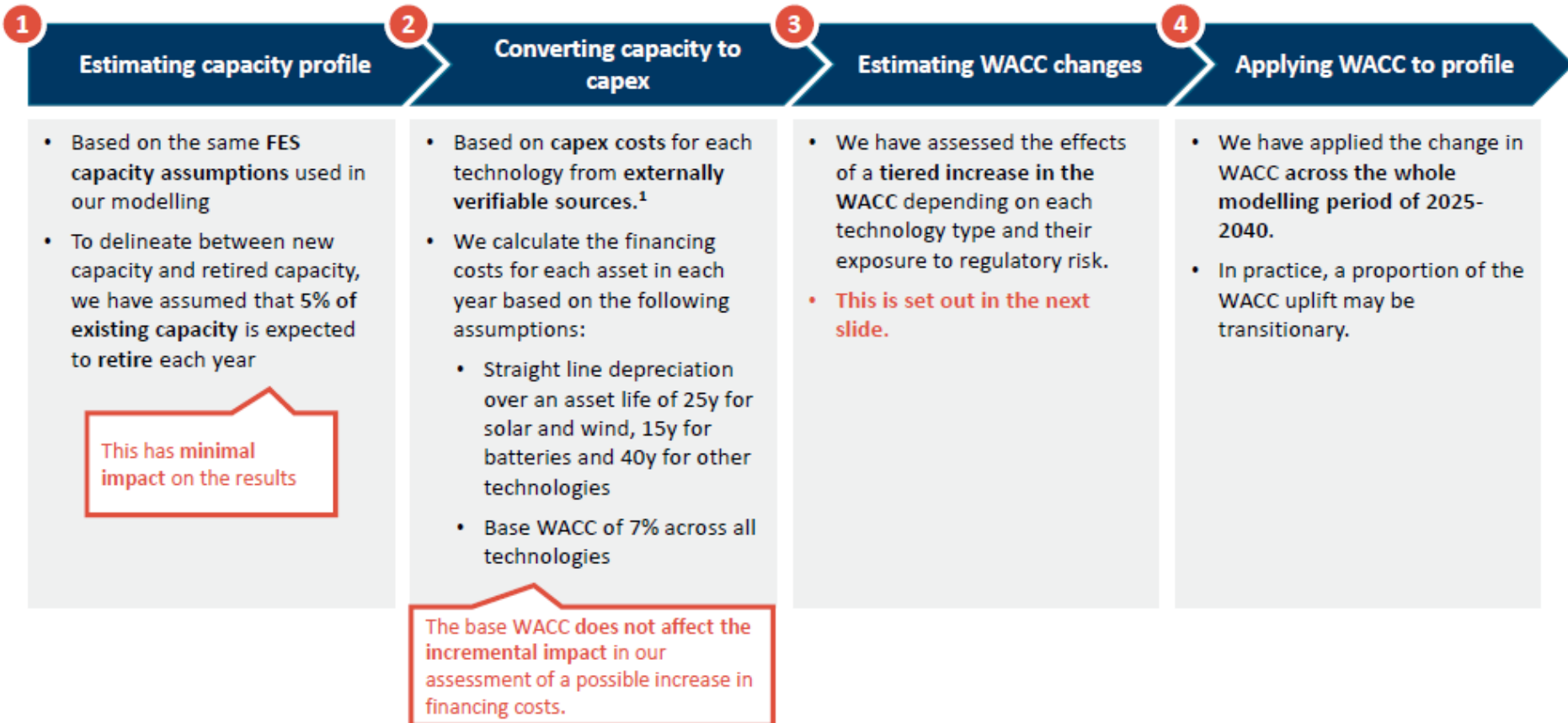
- We have **not received substantiated quantitative evidence** from stakeholders, but the **general perception** amongst market participants is that they might expect some **increase in risk and WACC** from locational pricing
- However, based on several conversations with investors, the **magnitude on the impact on WACC is highly uncertain**.
- As a sensitivity, we assume an uplift to the WACC by **50bps** for merchant market participants.



### International evidence

- We found limited direct evidence examining the impact of locational pricing on WACC, in particular in previous CBAs...
- ...however the indirect evidence shows that **locational pricing has become more popular** in liberalised markets over time...
- ...and that **investment in generation capacity** appears to be driven by factors other than market design, in particular the **geographical characteristics of a region and policy incentives**.

# For the sensitivity on the impact on financing cost, our methodology involves the following four steps



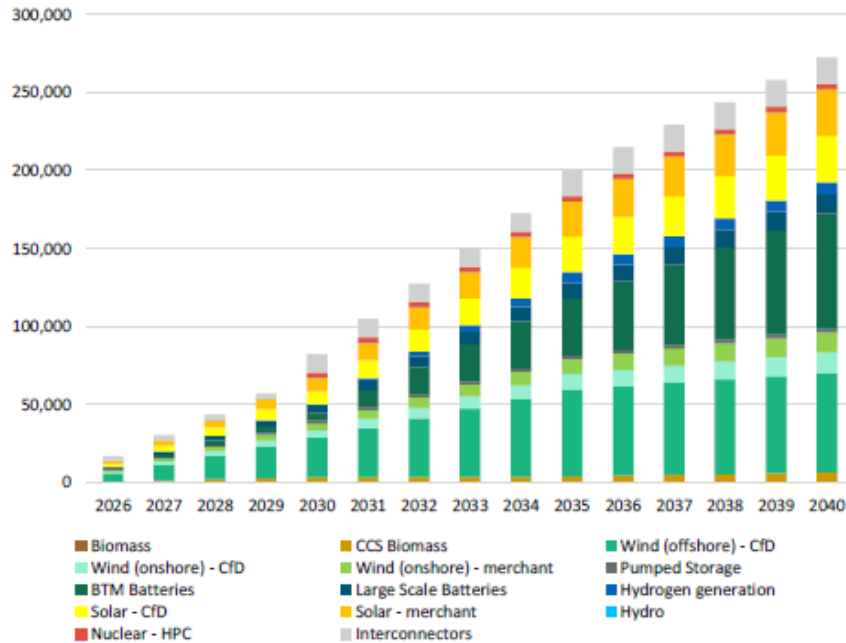
Note: (1) These are: (i) European Commission ASSET study on Technology Pathways in Decarbonisation Scenarios; and (ii) BEIS Electricity Generation cost report. (2) includes offshore wind (CfDs), interconnectors (Cap & Floor), and batteries (benefits from volatility)

## While our Base Case assumes no change to the cost of capital, we test a sensitivity to assess the impact of the following WACC uplifts

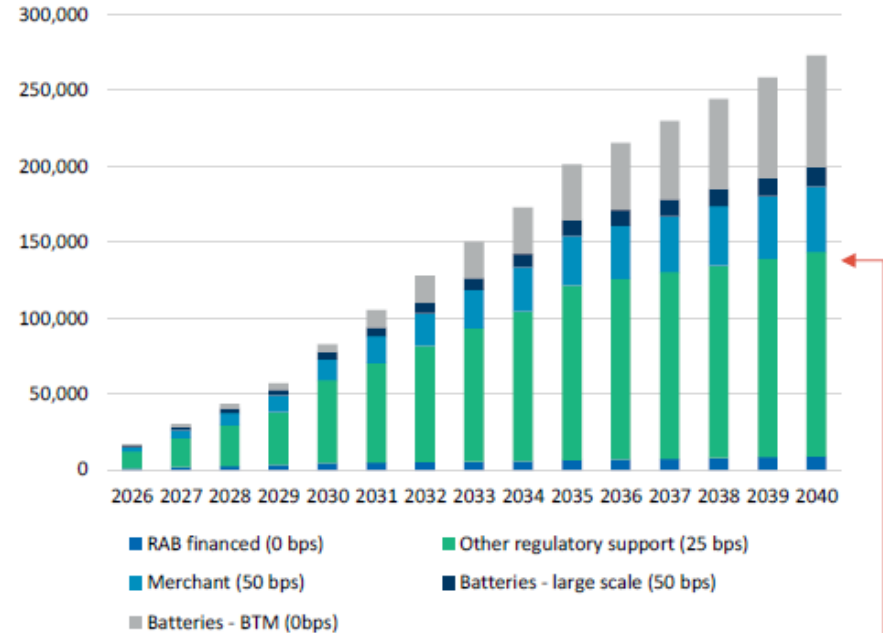
	Price risk	Volume risk	Rationale	Assumed uplift
<b>RAB financing</b> <i>Non-HPC nuclear; CCS</i>	↔	↔	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Market participants that are RAB financed are <b>guaranteed a return on investment</b>...</li> <li>....and therefore will <b>not be affected</b> by the potential change in price or volume risk...</li> </ul>	0bps
<b>Contract for Difference</b> <i>Wind; Solar; HPC</i>	↔	↑	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Market participants with regulatory support are <b>protected</b> against some change in risk.</li> <li>CfDs provide price certainty <b>for debt financing</b> in the <b>first 15 years</b>, but some volume risk to generators located behind constraints</li> <li>Floor arrangements provide revenue certainty <b>for debt financing</b> in the <b>first 25 years</b></li> </ul>	25bps
<b>Cap and Floor</b> <i>Interconnectors</i>	↑	↑ ↓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cost of equity impact for CfD holders is likely minimal as the beta of renewable assets have <b>limited correlation with the market</b>. Returns to equity are mostly derived beyond 15 years.</li> <li>For assets with a C&amp;F, the <b>cap serves to limit returns to equity</b>.</li> <li>A 25bps uplift is considered as a midpoint between limited and high risk exposure.</li> </ul>	25bps
<b>Merchant</b> <i>Merchant renewables; Thermal</i>	↑ ↓	↑ ↓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Merchant market participants may experience a change in their risks...</li> <li>...and the direction and magnitude of the impact will largely depend on whether the market participant is located in an <b>area of high demand relative to supply (likely decrease)</b> or areas of <b>low demand relative to supply (likely increase)</b>.</li> <li>Some market participants will also benefit from <b>reduced volatility of BM revenues</b>.</li> <li>We assume a 50bps uplift for merchant technologies.</li> </ul>	50bps
<b>Batteries</b> <i>Large scale</i>	↑ ↓	↑ ↓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Like other merchant technologies, batteries may also experience a change in their risks that affects their bankability.</li> <li>However, batteries are exceptions in that they could <b>benefit from the greater price arbitrage opportunities</b> due to the additional price and volume risk...</li> <li>Notwithstanding these potential additional benefits, we apply the same 50bps uplift to the WACC as other merchant market participants.</li> </ul>	50bps
<b>Batteries</b> <i>BTM</i>	↔	↔	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We apply a 0bps uplift for BTM batteries as their capital costs are <b>unlikely to be affected</b> by wholesale prices.</li> </ul>	0bps

# We based capacity expansion on the FES capacity assumptions

Capacity expansion by technology by year (MW)



Cumulative expansion by type of regulatory arrangements (MW)



On a cumulative basis, this implies an capacity increase of:

- 9 GW for RAB financed market participants (e.g. CCS and SMR)
- 134 GW for market participants covered by regulatory support such as CfDs, C&F
- 43 GW for merchant market participants (e.g. merchant renewables and biomass)
- 86 GW for batteries (of which 74GW are behind-the-meter (BTM) batteries)

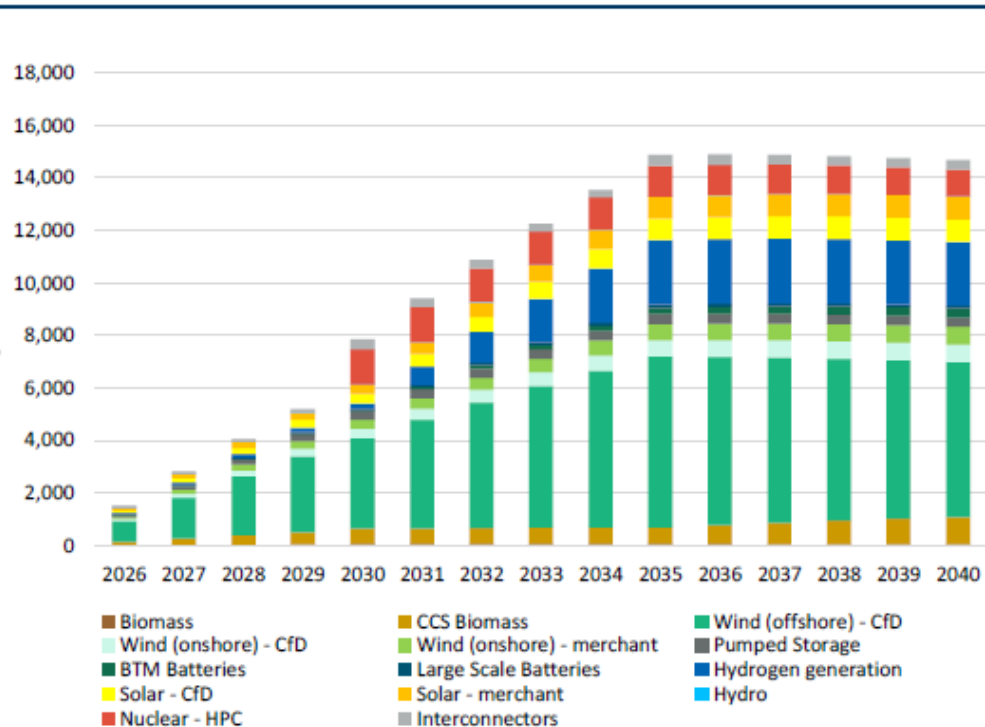
Source: FES2021 (Leading the Way)

# Financing costs in the Base Case assume a uniform WACC and a straight line depreciation of Capex investment over the asset life for each technology

Asset life and estimated cost by technology

	Economic asset life (years)	Estimated 2035 cost per MW (£'000)
Biomass	40	1,689
CCS Biomass	40	3,157
Wind (offshore) - CfD	25	1,920
Wind (onshore) - CfD	25	1,048
Wind (onshore) - merchant	25	1,048
Pumped storage	40	2,896
BTM Batteries	15	104
Large Scale Batteries	15	231
Hydrogen generation	40	5,068
Solar - CfD	25	571
Solar - merchant	25	571
Hydro	40	2,293
Nuclear	40	5,792
Interconnectors	25	N.A

Annual financing cost in the Base Case (£m)



Straight line depreciation assumed

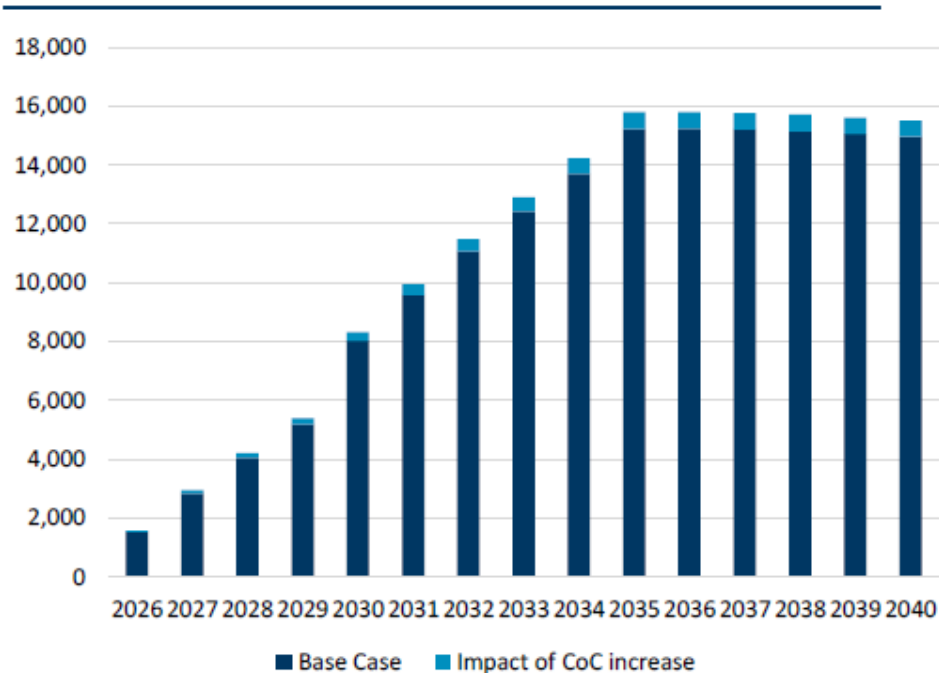
Estimated based on the expected project costs of individual interconnectors

We use a base WACC of 7% which does not affect the incremental impact on financing costs.

# The impact of an increase in the cost of capital in our sensitivity scenario affects our Base Case by £6.0bn over the modelling period of 2025-2040

RAB financing <i>Non-HPC Nuclear; CCS</i>	0bps
Contract for Difference <i>Wind; Solar; HPC</i>	25bps
Cap and Floor <i>Interconnectors</i>	
Merchant <i>Merchant renewables; Thermal</i>	50bps
Merchant <i>Large scale batteries</i>	50bps
Merchant <i>BTM batteries</i>	0bps

Annual financing cost in the Base Case (£m)



**Impact of WACC uplift over 2025-2040 is £6.0bn.**

- As an extreme sensitivity, a uniform WACC increase of:
  - 240bps is required to negate all consumer benefits from nodal pricing;
  - 138bps is required to negate all welfare benefits from nodal pricing.

Applied across all technologies, across the modelling period

Financing costs

Liquidity



## Additional analysis: Liquidity



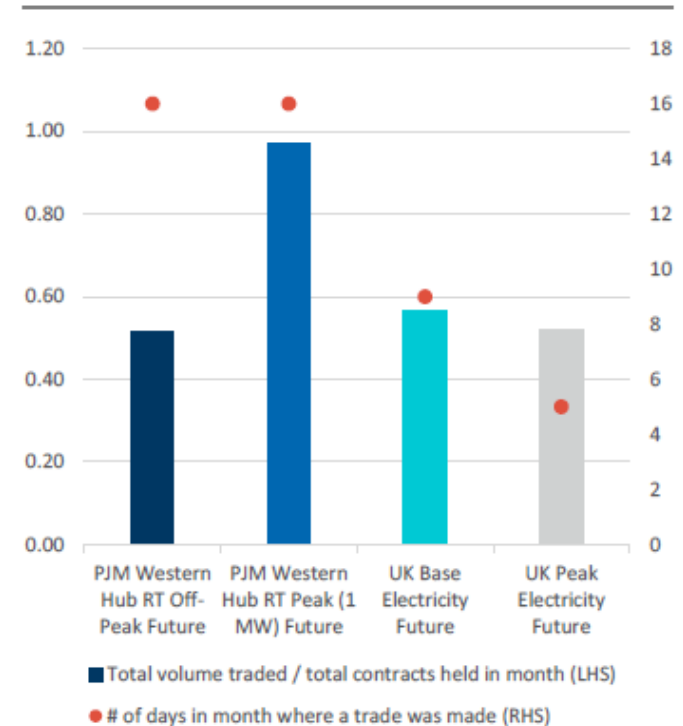
# Based on energy futures exchanges, nodal markets have trading hubs which has a comparable degree of liquidity as GB

## Concerns expressed by some stakeholders

- Lower liquidity is predominately related to trading in futures and not short-term.
- The frequency at which the trades occur in the market should be considered in addition to trading volumes.

- As a measure of liquidity, we have analysed forward trading volumes on electricity future exchanges for the following:
  1. **Measure #1:** The total number of trades made in a month as a proportion of the total available stock (defined as open interest)
  2. **Measure #2:** the number of days in that month where trade was made
- The comparable products we have assessed are:
  - UK baseload and peakload electricity futures
  - PJM Western Hub Real-Time off-peak and peak futures
- The evidence we found is that **nodal markets have comparable liquidity to GB power markets** based on our assessment on electricity futures.\*
- This could a potential option for GB, where **trading is not constrained at a particular node**, but rather via **liquid hubs...**
- ... and market participants will manage **price differentials** between the hub and their node **via FTRs**.

Total volume traded as a proportion of total contracts available in Sept 2022 (for Dec 2023 delivery)



Source: The ICE (product codes are OPJ, PDA, UBL, UPL)

Note: Each product has slightly different contract definitions (size, pricing and relevant hours)

\*(Note this does not include trades within vertically-integrated entities nor bilateral contracts).



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