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Network for Sustainable Digital Research Infrastructure - Vision and Expertise

CIUK Discussion December 2025

Speaker: Dr Alex Owen - NetDRIVE Champion
Queen Mary University of London

NetDRIVE

Key Facts

- Grant: £3,959,793 (FEC, without indexation)
- January 2025 to March 2028
- Core team at Oxford:
  Lead by Dr Martin Juckes and Prof Sarah Sparrow

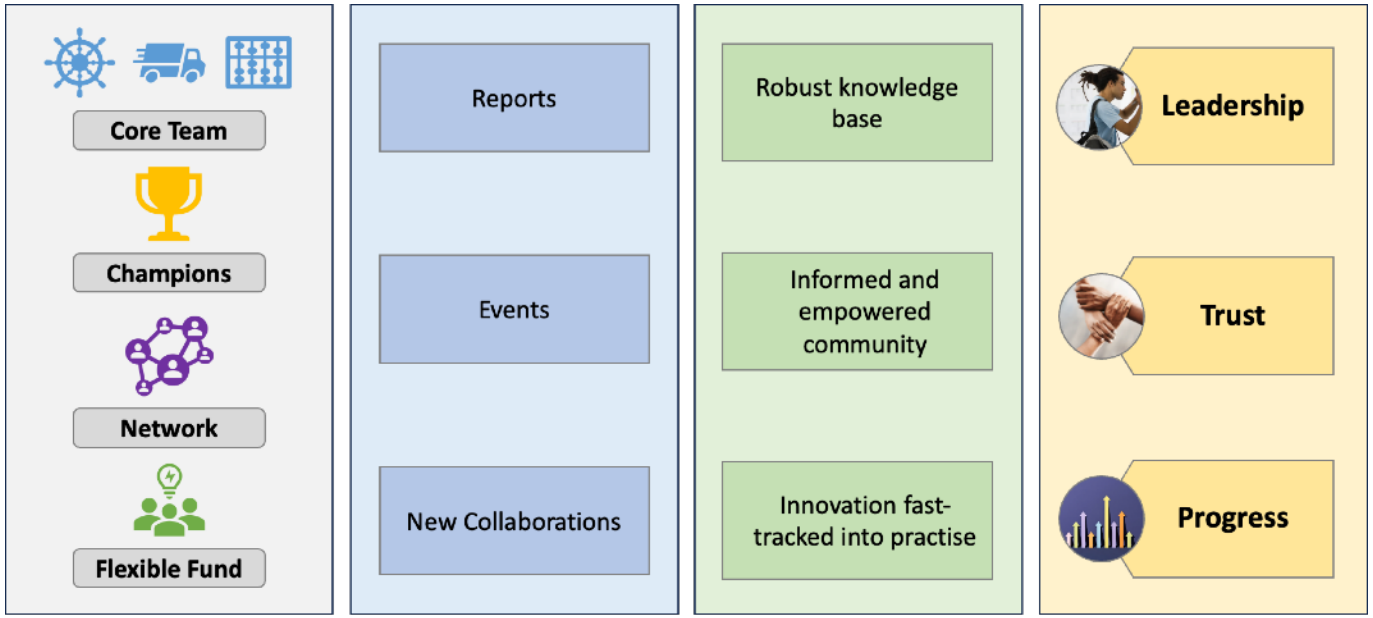
Ambition

Immediate and tangible progress towards net zero

National and international thought leadership

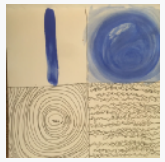
Confidence in our pathway to sustainability

Theory of Change



My NetZero History

NetDRIVE Champion!



NetZero DRI Scoping Project

https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.8199984

Measuring Data Centre Carbon Costs

IRISCAST Audit of Carbon Costs

CHEP 2023

https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.7692451

Allocating Carbon Costs to Payloads

iris CMP

CHEP 2024

https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10966001

Allocating GPU Carbon Costs

Lay in foundations (identify long lead times) → **policy processes technology systems**

Identifying relevant, equitable, quantifiable and practical metrics → **federated carbon accounting and reporting system**

Add Value → **Group Synthesise Prioritise Challenge?**

Network for Sustainable Transformation

Activities

Workshops

February - Queen Mary UoL
Priorities and Ethics of Research Computing Investments
https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.14999697

June - University of Oxford
NetDRIVE Workshop
https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.17160867

September - Durham University
NetDRIVE Community Meeting

October - Birmingham
Early Career Sandpit

Working Groups

Short Format Training Material

Supply Chain Environmental Sustainability Clauses

Metrics

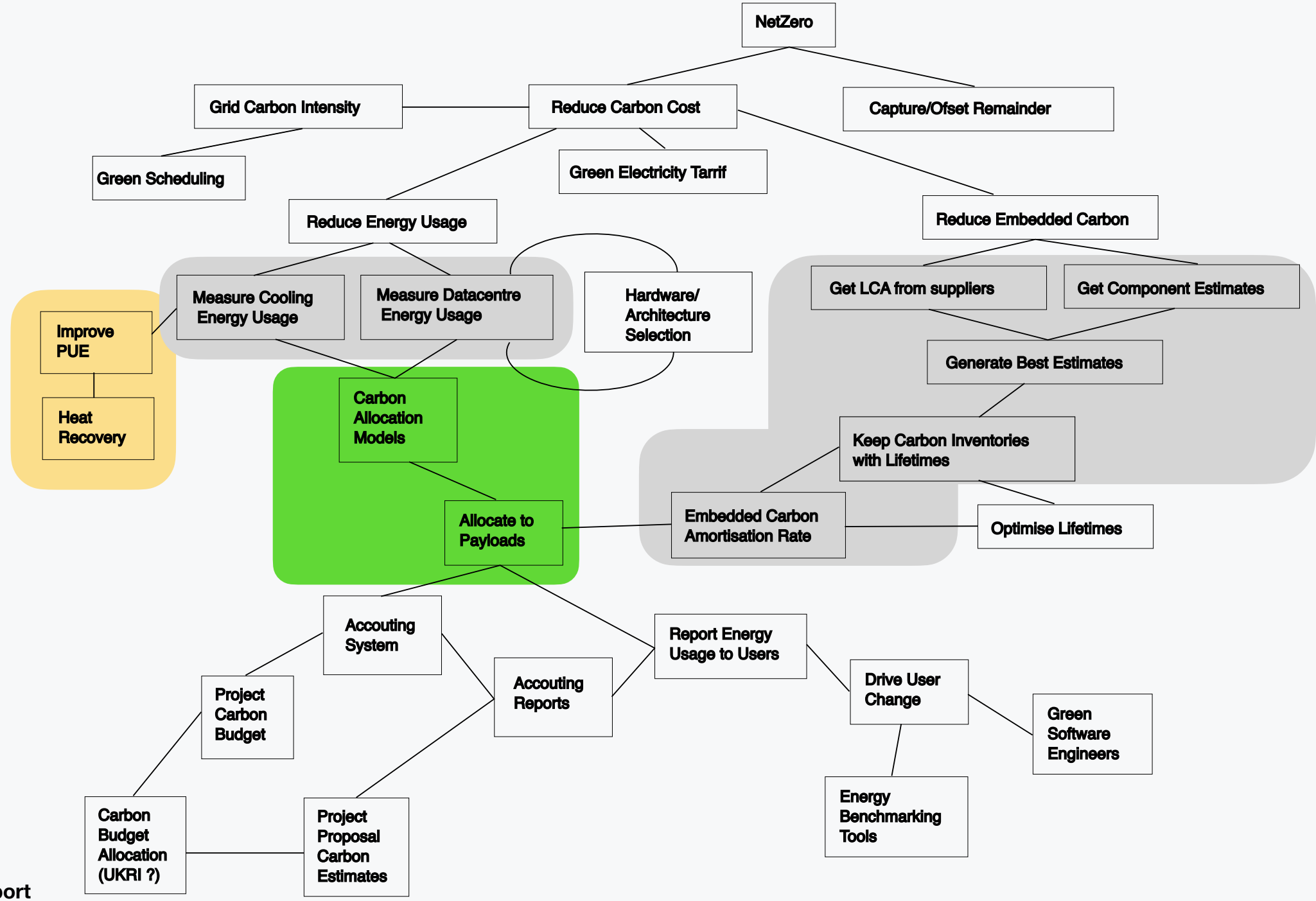
Community Projects

1. **NetDRIVE DRI User Summer School**
2. **ISPACE: Improving Sustainable Performance and Accelerated Computing Efficiency**
3. **NetDRIVE Guide to Best Practices for Efficient and Sustainable Usage of Computing Infrastructures**
4. Dash4Action: Facility Action Plans in Pursuit of a Sustainable UKRI DRI
5. A community hackathon to enable green scheduling
6. Pathways to Effective Carbon Reductions by Use of Green Scheduling
7. REACT: Recommendations for Enhancing Adoption of Carbon-footprinting Tools
8. Measuring and Effectively Using Emissions Data Across DRI: A Dynamic Training Resource for Managers, Developers, Facilitators, Researchers and Users
9. Digital Emissions Integration for Climate Action Planning (DEICAP) - Modelling the Unseen: Integrating Digital Carbon into Real-World University Decisions
10. SMART-DRI: Scenario Modelling and Assessment for Research Transition in Digital Research Infrastructure
11. Unified Multi-Facility Resources Monitoring Dashboard for Sustainable UK Digital Research Infrastructure
12. Sustainable Training Initiative for NetDRIVE (SusTraIN)
13. Data sufficiency: A case study of soil data curation, storage, and usage at UKCEH.

NetZero The Big Picture

A framework for discussion

Based on figure in IRIS-CMP Report



Get Involved

https://uknetdrive.org/

NetDRIVE Community Meeting

22 & 23 April 2026 - University of Oxford

Creating a New Reality:
A Sustainable Digital Transformation

Save the date!

Invited speakers

- Nuclear and Hydrogen Tech for NetZero
- Trust in carbon removal contracts

Topics

- Practical approaches to balancing residual GHG
- The shape of the decarbonised UK power market
- The role of biofuels and biosphere carbon sequestration

Working Groups

Have you got expertise to contribute to a working group?

Volunteer by contacting:

netdriveoxford@gmail.com