



## ERA activity week: The impact of COVID19 on the challenge to achieve net-zero

Date: 18-22 May 2020

### Overview

The purpose of the activity week was to discuss what we can learn from COVID-19 behavioural changes at the personal, corporate and societal level to reduce carbon emissions to Net Zero by 2050, and to determine how ERA can help to drive forward research into behavioural change that will reduce carbon emissions.

### Summary of Activities

The week's activities consisted of a divergent phase where participants were invited to share their views on what procedures, lessons and drivers could be adapted from COVID-19 behavioural changes at the personal, societal and corporate level and applied to the problem of reducing carbon emissions to Net zero by 2050. This was followed by a convergent phase where participants clustered the responses into groups of similar questions to help focus our minds on a more defined area of interest. A report of the clusters can be found [here](#). Government Policy and Public Education/Engagement (Orange and Purple clusters) were chosen by participants to discuss during the webinar, the report of this webinar is in



Appendix 1. There will be a follow up webinar/meeting scheduled at the end of June/beginning of July to discuss progress and identify the next steps.

### Future Webinars

Three further webinars are planned as a result of this week: Environmental Leverage and Sustainability (Pink and Silver clusters), Remote working & Changing Commuting (Red cluster) and Economics and Supply Chains (Yellow cluster). These will be run at the end of June/beginning of July and advertised via ERA webpage, social media and ERA Newsletter.

### Next steps

- Organise and advertise the Future Webinars
- Start to find champions and teams for the each of the “Now” statements in the Government Policy and Public Education/Engagement report
- Identify additional academics within the MI universities that are experts and/or interested in the topics highlighted through the activities of this week
- Organise a follow up webinar/meeting for the Government Policy and Public Education/Engagement webinar

## Appendix 1

### Webinar: Government Policy and Public Education/Engagement

1-2pm Friday 22 May

**Aim:** The aim of this webinar is to start identifying main steps required for Behavioural Change at the Policy and Educational level required to achieve Net Zero Carbon emissions by 2020, and to put these steps in a chronological order.

**Discussion:** This webinar generated ideas on how we can adapt and apply knowledge and/or lessons of behavioural change in response to the COVID-19 to help keep the government’s target of Net Zero Carbon emissions by 2050 stay on track. It specifically focused on government policy and/or education. The group consensus was that area has considerable overlap with the “Remote working & Changing Commuting” workshop planned for late June/ early July. This is due to the potential requirement to make working from home a “right” under employment law. Key aspects/activities were identified and put in chronological order see Figure 1: Timeline

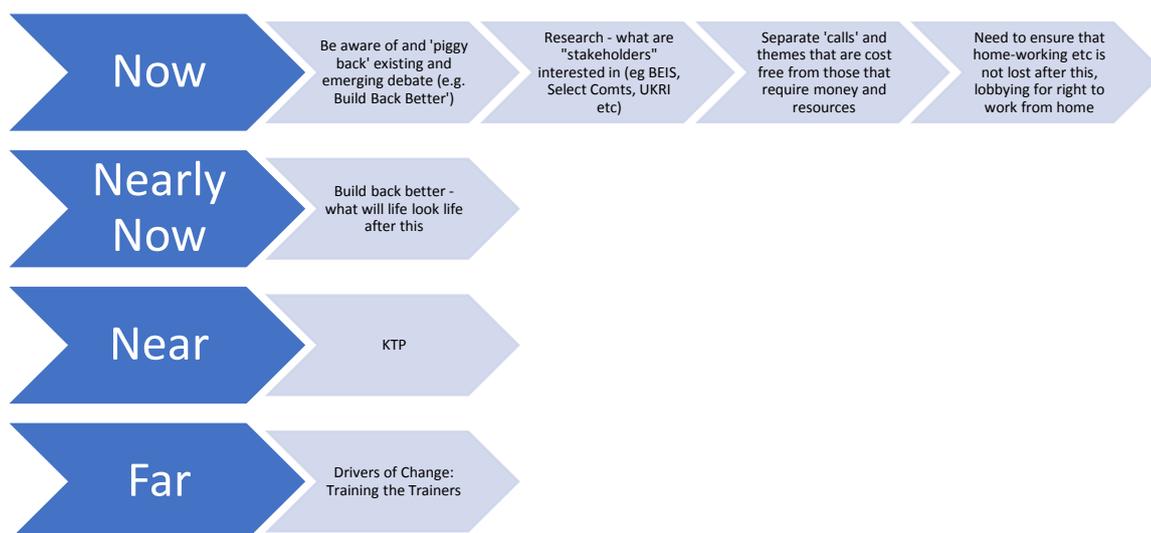


Figure 1: Timeline

To aid with an agile approach to the next stages of this process a dedicated Slack channel has been set up in the ERA Behavioural Change workspace. Participants can join this workspace [here](#) (this link will expire 26 days after the webinar but the channel will remain live).

#### Actions/Next Steps:

- For each of the “Now” statements we will identify a “champion” who we can crystalize ideas round and a team to support them
  - Participants will let Lennie Foster ([l.a.foster@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:l.a.foster@lboro.ac.uk)) know if they are interested in being a “champion” and/or a team member
- The champion, aided by the team, will identify gaps in expertise in the teams
- ERA will use their contacts to reach out to people who can fill these gaps
- The team will assemble and start working on the problem/solutions