**Institutional landscape for LES – interview planning and protocol**

Miro boards:

England – <https://miro.com/app/board/uXjVOaHTDy0=/>

Scotland – <https://miro.com/app/board/uXjVOVhzhIU=/>

Wales – <https://miro.com/app/board/uXjVOAGWkBA=/>

**Research Questions:**

* What are the institutional and governance structures that shape LES across GB?
* What priorities and actors are shaping development? (i.e. how are actors interacting about the purpose, rules and policy for LES).

**Aims:**

* To test the accuracy of institutional maps
* To explore if and how the institutional landscape for LES is constructed and framed in different ways in England, Scotland and Wales.
* Draw on SAF literature to consider:
* Actors, relations, resources
* Change, emergence, destabilisation
* Field rules
* Agency, framing, coalitions
* Strategic action between fields

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| Question | SAF theme |
| Intro   * Background and consent – UKERC, institutions, policy, practice.   Recording via Teams. Transcript only, delete recording.   * Clarify focus on institutions and interactions, rather than specific policy measures. * Acknowledge – complexity of defining LES. Interested in your experience and perspective. |  |
| Introductory Qs:   * How do you define LES and what do you see as the main drivers for local energy systems? And why i.e. what is it in their experience that leads them to this conclusion/perspective? * LES: how is the term understood/constituted by different actors & why? What do you understand by a “LES”? * (within project: focus on systems integration at local or regional scales & whether our current institutions enable that – ie. instead of separate gas, electricity, storage and (in some places) heat supplies – this would mean using all resources available ‘locally’ to flex & balance supply and demand across heat, power, storage and transport (EVs). * Do you think there is broad agreement about the benefits and challenges of LES in England/Scotland/Wales? |  |
| Accuracy:   * How accurate a depiction of the key institutions and relationships involved in LES in England/Scotland/Wales is the institutional map? * Follow up if needed: What’s missing/incorrect? * In your view, what is missing from the current institutional framework for LES (in order to deliver LES more quickly and realised broader benefits for localities and wider energy system)? | Field rules, actor relations  Change/stability |
| SAF driven Qs:   * Which organisation and relationships do you see as most important to delivering LES? Why? * Which organisations are most influential in shaping policy in this space? Why? * Follow up if needed: What resources do key and emerging actors/institutions draw upon? (economic, access, assets, info/expertise etc) * Do you think any particular groups are excluded/marginalised under current arrangements? * What have been the key changes in the LES landscape in recent years? (external events, triggers?) | Actor relations and coalitions/resources  Actor relations, skills, tactics  Resources  Agency, resources  Stability/change, interactions between fields |
| Closing   * Is there anything else that seeing a visual representation of LES institutions made you think of? * Do you have any questions for me? * Thanks * Next steps |  |