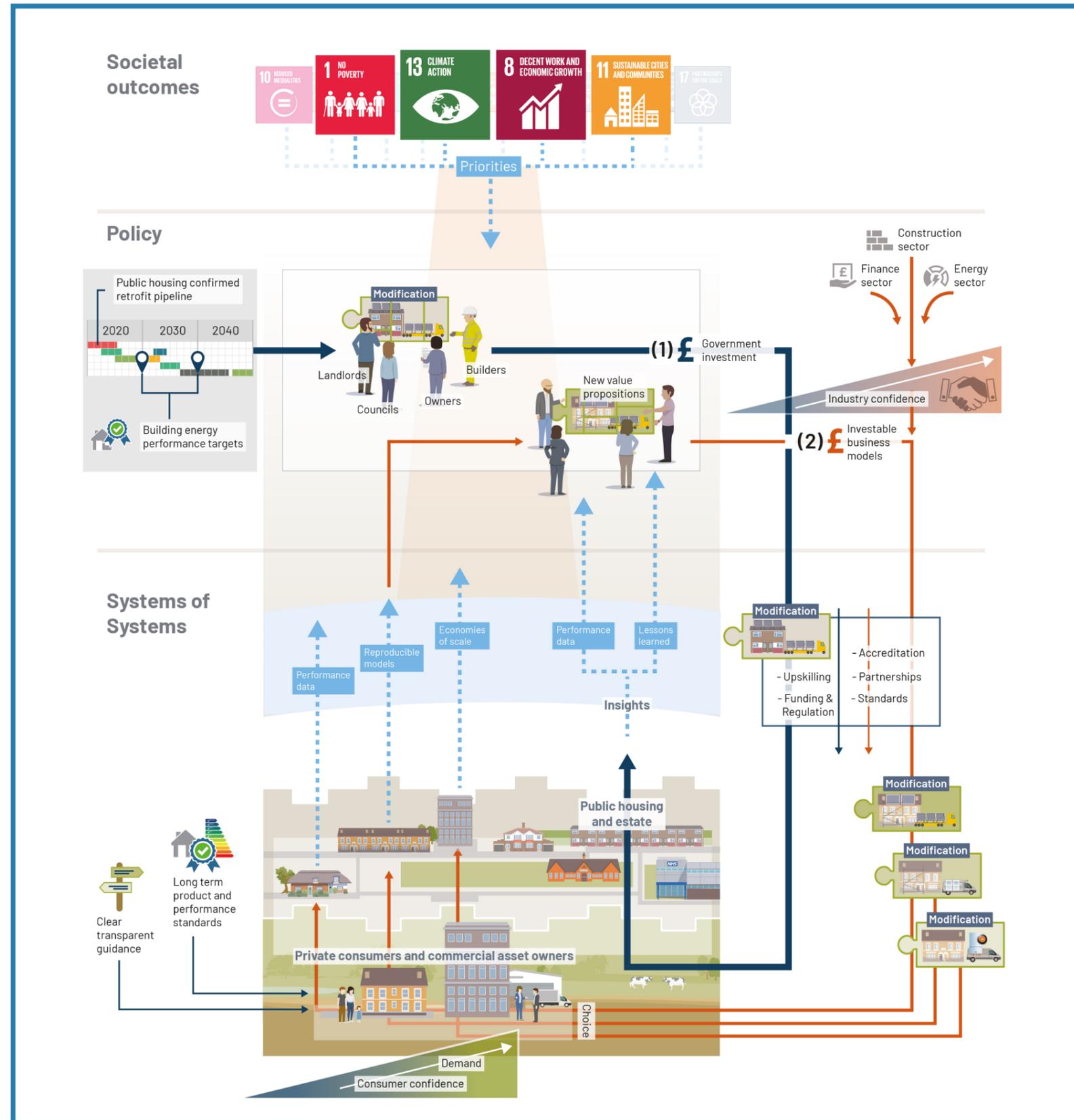


# Retrofitting existing buildings to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050



## The Problem

The vast majority of the buildings that we will use in 2050 already exist. Most waste heat and money, and account for almost one third of the UK's total greenhouse gas emissions. Reducing emissions via smarter electricity consumption alone will not be sufficient to meet the UK's net zero targets. However, the landscape for retrofitting existing buildings lacks the certainty, consumer confidence, demand and investment required to achieve the necessary scale.

## The Vision

Clear and consistent delivery standards and measurement, alongside a steady and visible pipeline of demand for future retrofitting, would provide the necessary confidence for consumers and the market to invest. This investment would result in retrofitting to improve existing buildings' energy performance. A virtuous circle of standardisation and economies of scale, innovation, and skills development would be a key enabler in achieving sustainability targets and the creation of an expanding market for high-skilled green jobs. Further, it could also help to prepare for future climate impacts, address fuel poverty, and improve health and wellbeing.

## The Benefits

- Given that reducing emissions via smarter electricity consumption alone will not be sufficient to achieve legislated carbon budgets, enabling a retrofitting market to operate at scale during this decade will be an important step towards reaching net zero by 2050.
- Retrofitting existing buildings will be an important element in effective adaptation and resilience recognising climate risks.
- A retrofitting market can unlock a series of wider economic and social benefits, including tackling fuel poverty, improving health and wellbeing and creating an expanding market for green jobs across the country.