

10th May, 2023 - Dublin

CitA SME Digital Acceleration Series: Think Sustainably

IES

Digital Twins

Digital Twins and Energy Modelling for
the Decarbonisation of Buildings &
Communities

Lorenzo De Donatis, ICL Consultancy Manager
Integrated Environmental Solutions Ltd.

About IES

Home to the largest building physics analytics team in the world



29

Years of building
analysis



Apache

World renowned
simulation engine



75,000+

Projects per year



>1,000,000

Buildings



40

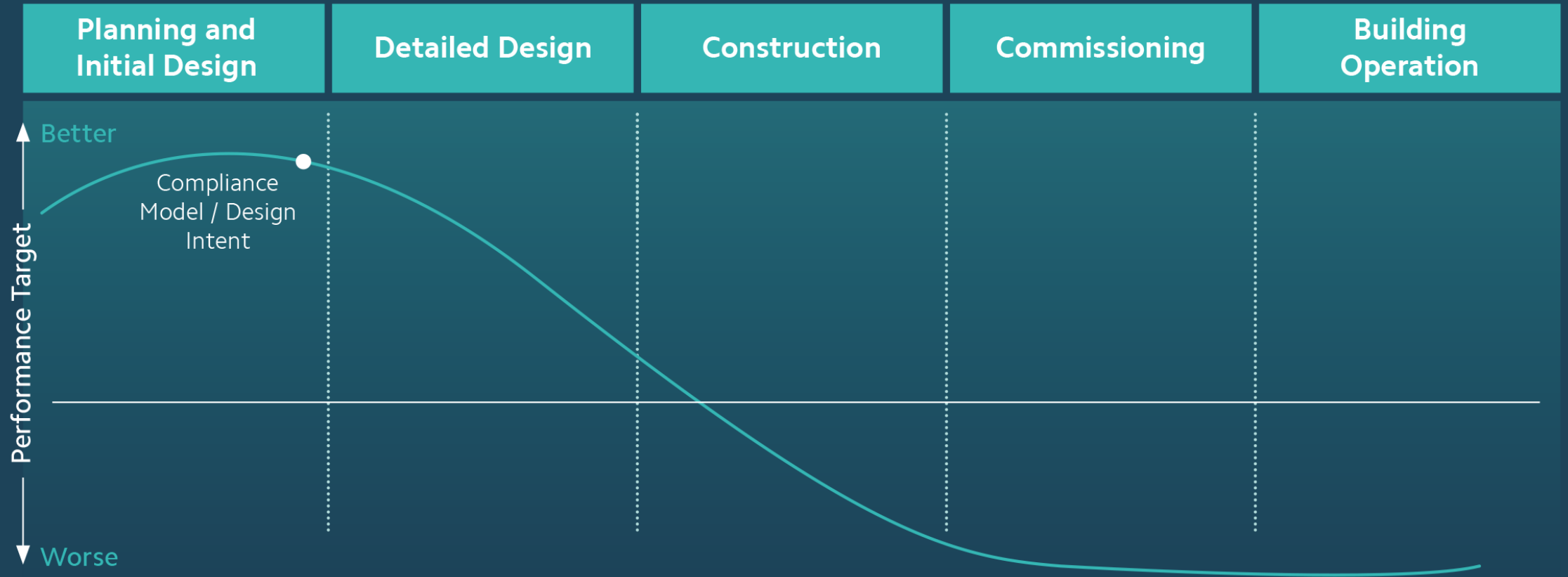
Power stations
prevented

Our Mission

IES believe that every building of every city in the world can be decarbonized. Our purpose is developing the technology to make that happen. Our ultimate aim is to create a built environment that is resource and energy efficient. Eliminating global reliance on fossil fuels while promoting comfort, health and wellbeing, and fairer access to energy for every citizen in the world.

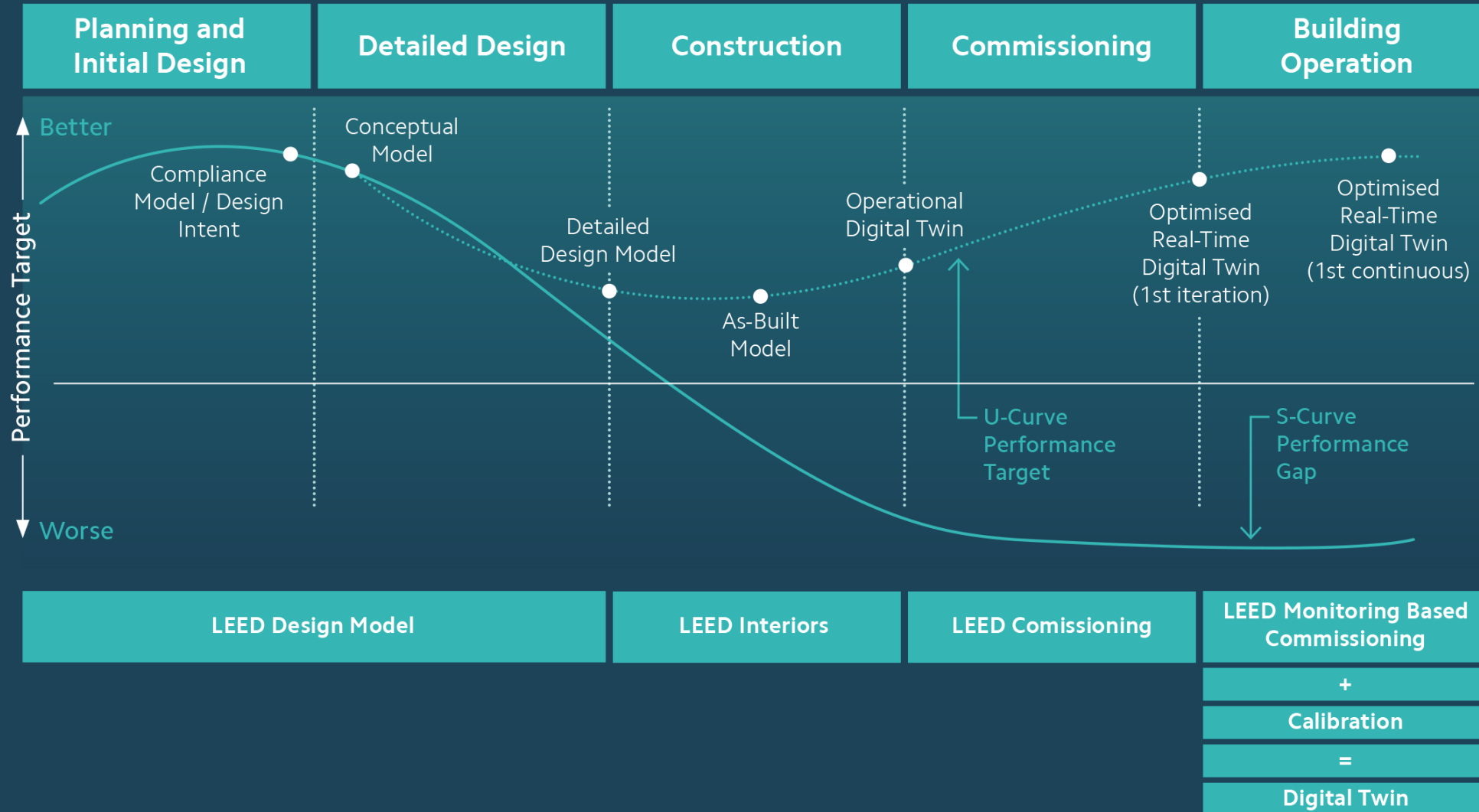


The problem in buildings (the 'S-Curve')

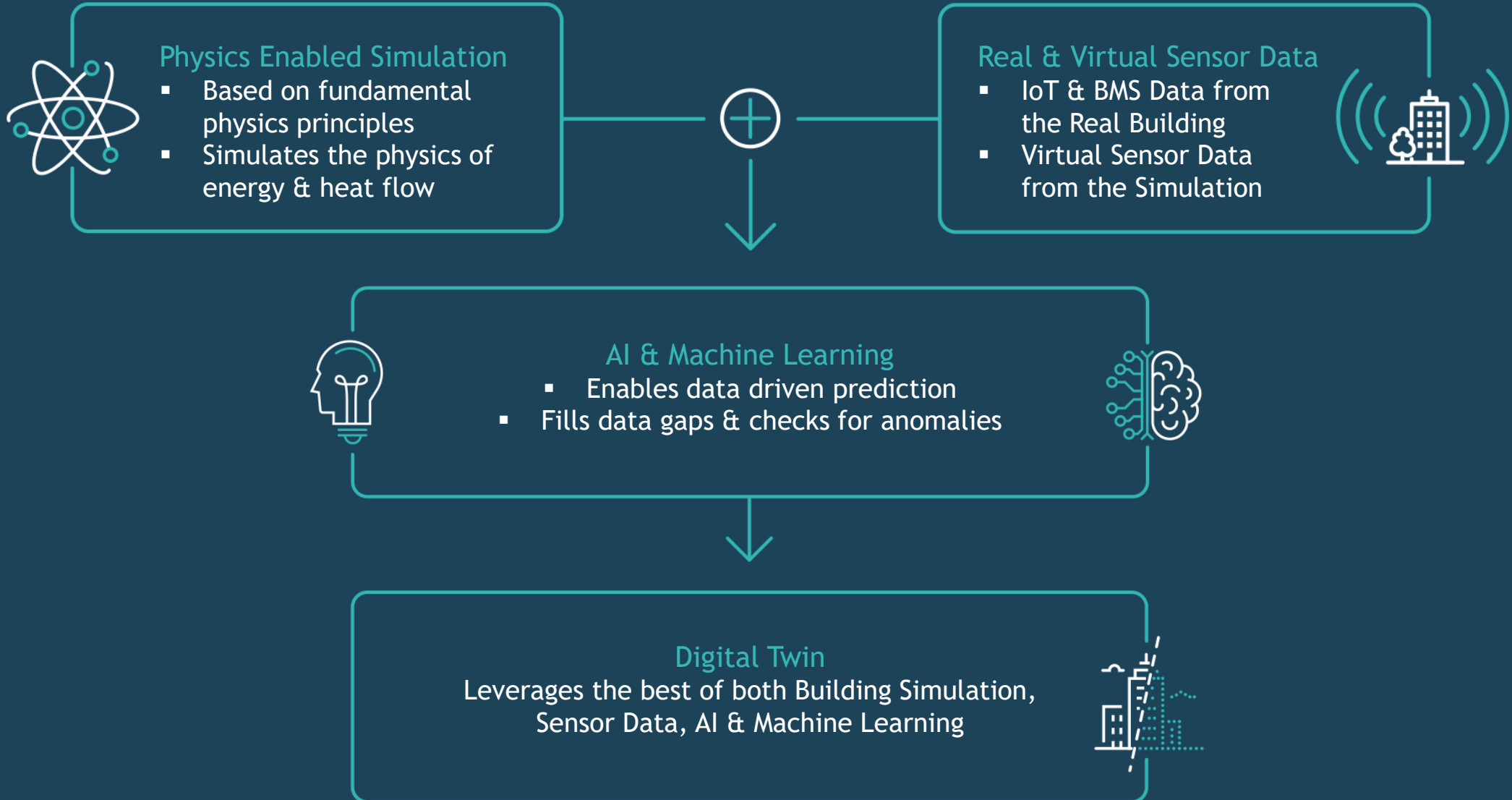


Real performance of buildings is very often not aligned with design objectives

The solution (the 'U-Curve')



The Best of Physics, Data and AI/ML



Who is it for?



Building & Portfolio Owners/Operators

- Monitor and optimise energy performance, running costs, comfort & wellbeing credentials
- Understand what measures are needed to achieve your net zero carbon goals and create a plan



Cities, Public Authorities & Urban Planners

- Create a net-zero roadmap or fossil fuel divestment plan
- Audit current plans to ensure you are on track to meet your goals



Utility & Network Operators

- Design local energy systems (heating, cooling and electricity) taking into account demand from individual buildings
- Explore potential for building integrated renewables, microgeneration or sustainable heating sources

The background is an aerial photograph of a city, showing various buildings and streets. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. A thin teal border frames the entire scene. The text is centered in the middle of the image.

Digital Twins in Action: Case Studies



Building-scale Retrofit Strategies for Decarbonisation

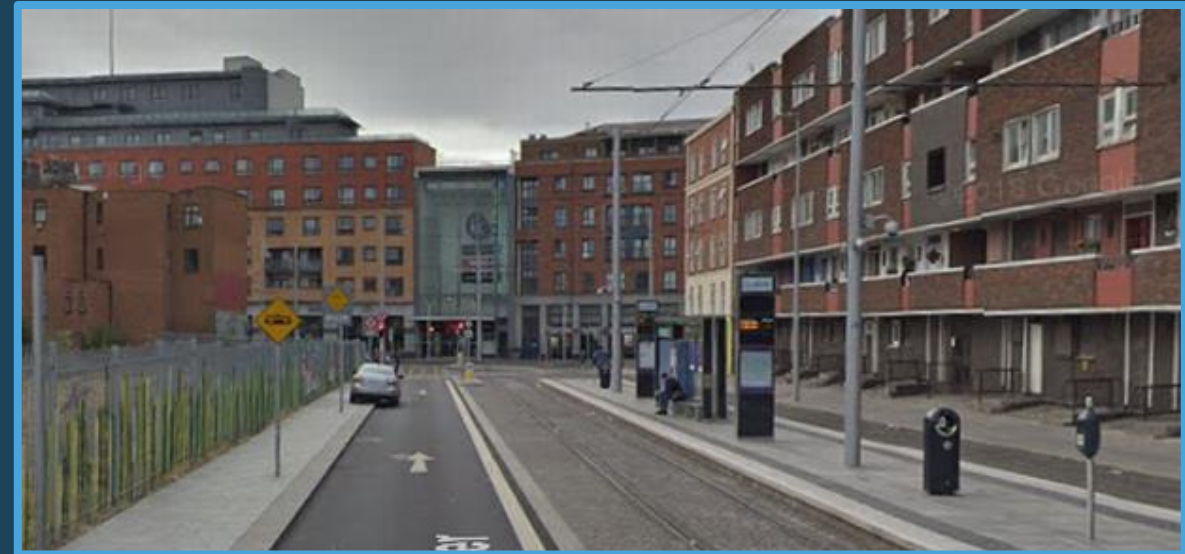
Dublin City Council Case Study - Social Housing

Climate Resilient Housing

Building-scale Retrofit Strategies for Decarbonisation

Assess renovation strategies with a number of measures:

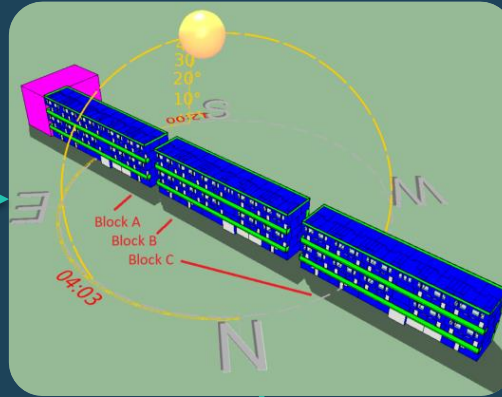
- Strategy 1: Shallow Retrofit (30%)
- Strategy 2: Medium Retrofit (60%)
- Strategy 3: Deep Retrofit (90%)
- Strategy 4: Full Renovation (reduce to Core & Shell and rebuild)



Site survey & Energy modelling



A. Site survey



B. Digital Twin (IES VE)

Geometry, constructions, heating/cooling plants, profiles of use, etc.

C1. Energy demand & Op. Carbon (IES VE)



Impact on energy usage and operational carbon of each measure through dynamic, physics-based simulations.

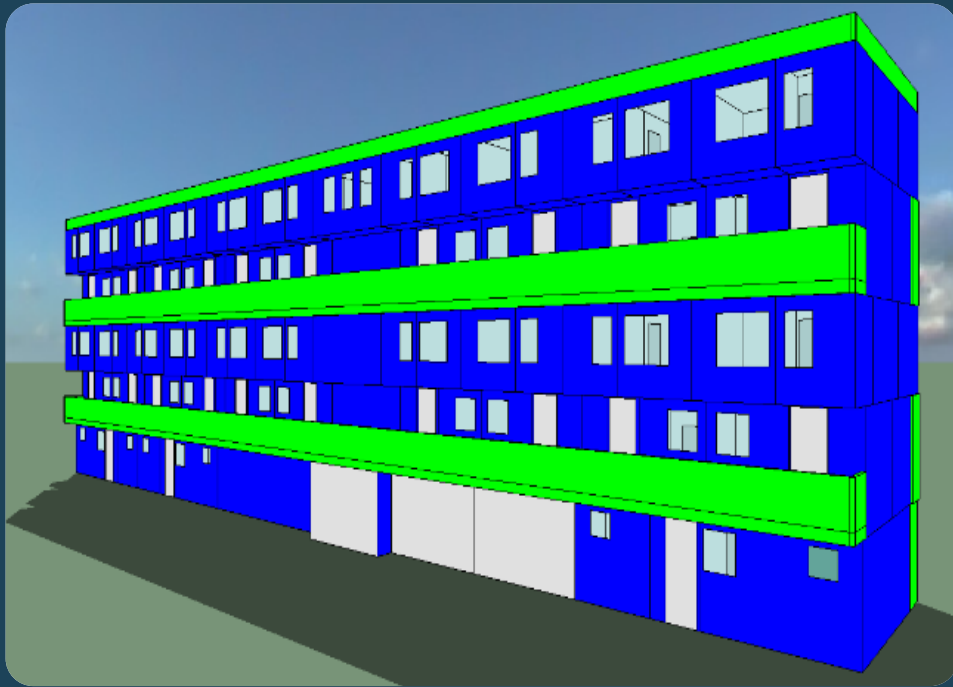
C2. Embodied carbon (OneClickLCA)



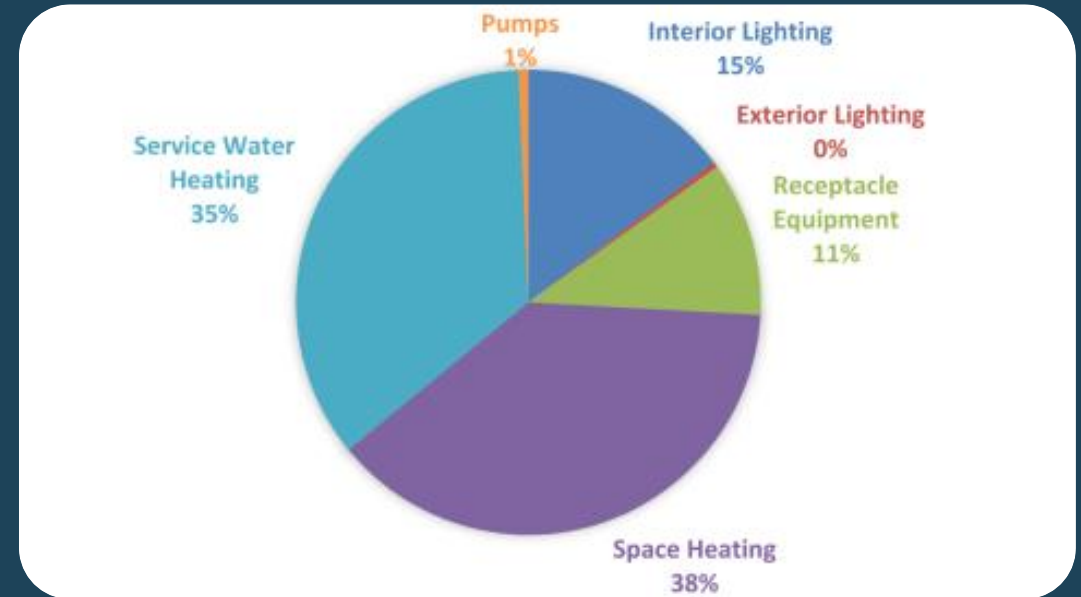
Whole-life cycle impact of the interventions, the integration between the VE and OneClickLCA was used to calculate the embodied carbon associated with each intervention

Operational Energy Consumption

IES have carried out modelling of the residential blocks located on the West side of Dominick Street Lower with the aim of understanding current performance first (i.e. baseline) and then applying renovation strategies

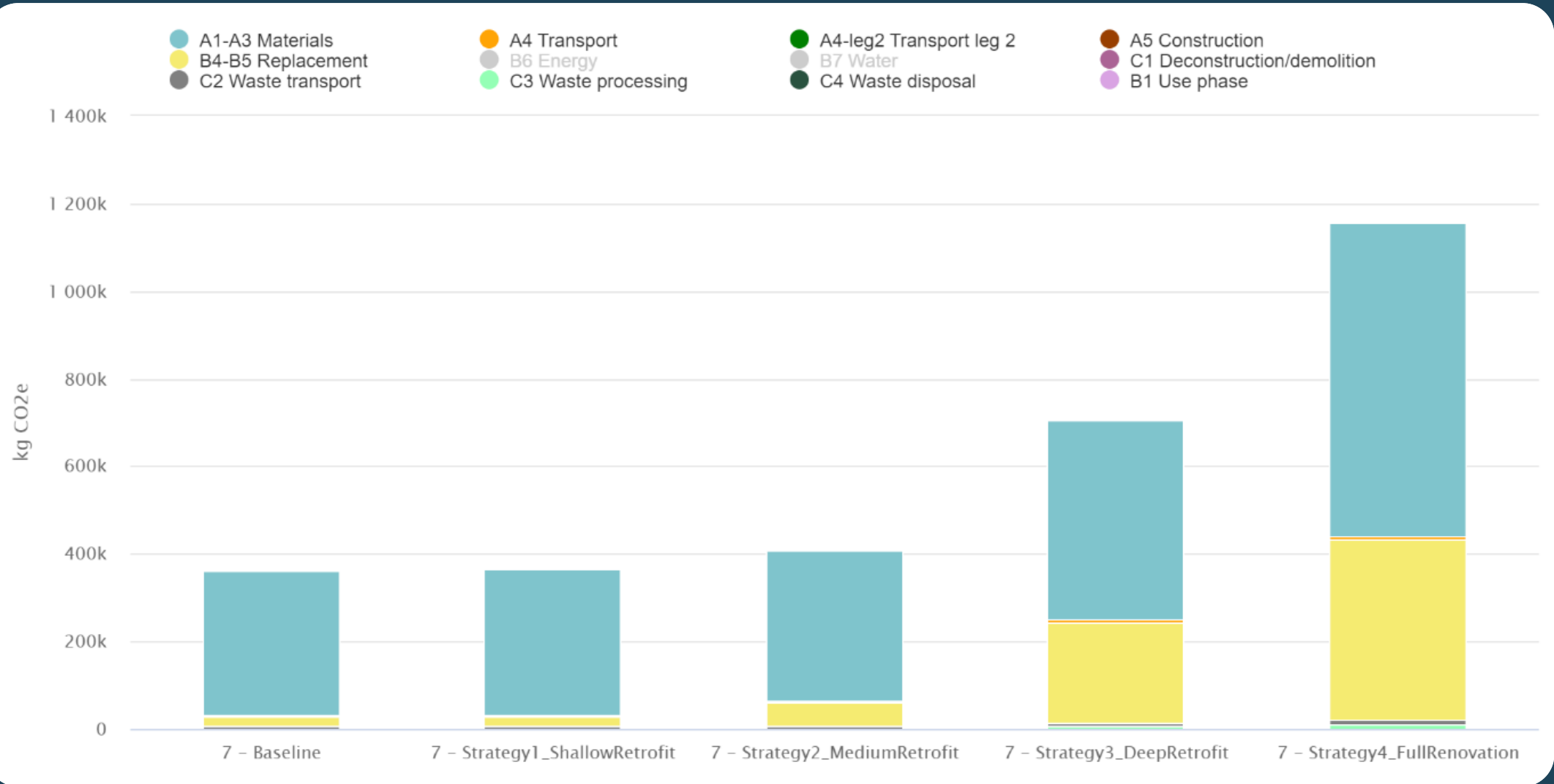


North Elevation



Operational energy breakdown

Embodied Carbon Analysis - Per life cycle stage



Embodied vs. Operational

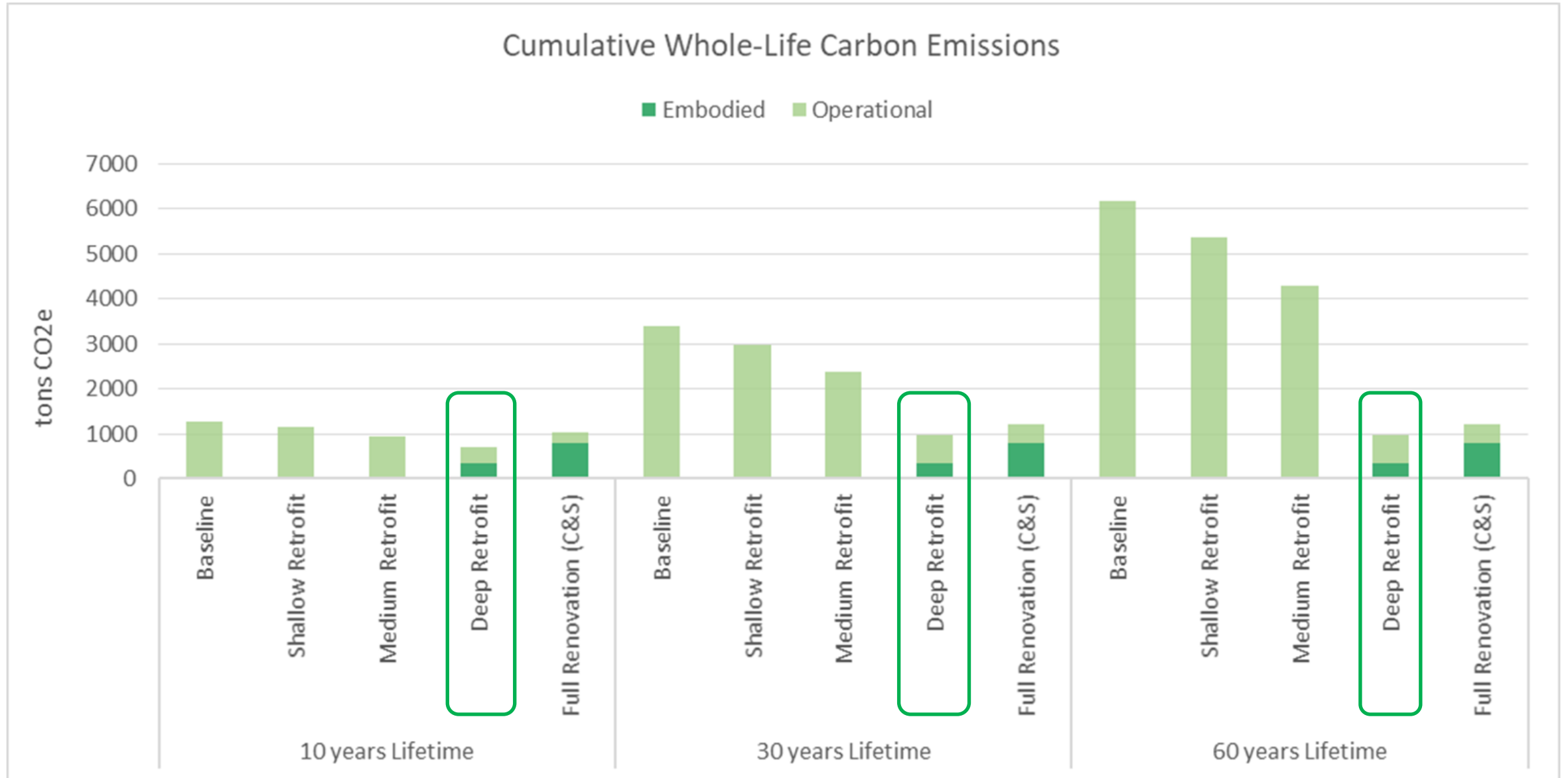
	<i>Annual EUI [kWh/m²]</i>	<i>Embodied Carbon¹ [tons CO_{2e}]</i>	<i>Indicative BER²</i>	<i>Indicative Cost³</i>
Baseline	380	0	F	0
Shallow R.	338	2	E2	1
Medium R.	263	45	D2	2
Deep R.	105	344	B2	3
Full Renovation	70	792	A3	4

¹Embodied carbon associated with changes applied to the building only, not to the existing structure

²BER Rating estimated based on primary energy use of the building

³Indicative costs from low (1) to high (4).

Results





Digital Twins for Climate Resilient Housing



A Digital Twin model of three residential blocks located on the west side of Dominick Street Lower, Dublin, has been created to identify the impact of different renovation strategies to upgrade the buildings, facilitating decision-making and scaling across social housing units. A holistic approach has been followed by considering not only the operational energy savings obtained through each retrofit strategy, but also taking into account the embodied carbon and costs associated with such measures at different life-cycle stages.



Visit the Dublin interactive model

Get Started



City-scale Decarbonisation Roadmap & Energy Monitoring through Digital Twins

Limerick Case Study



Enabling a Positive Energy City

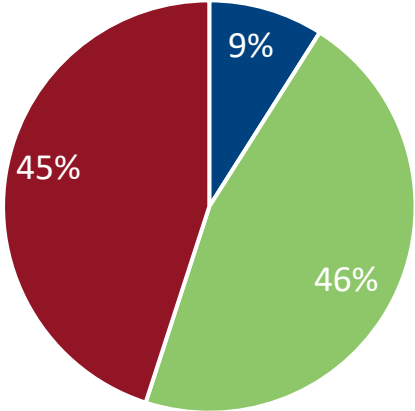
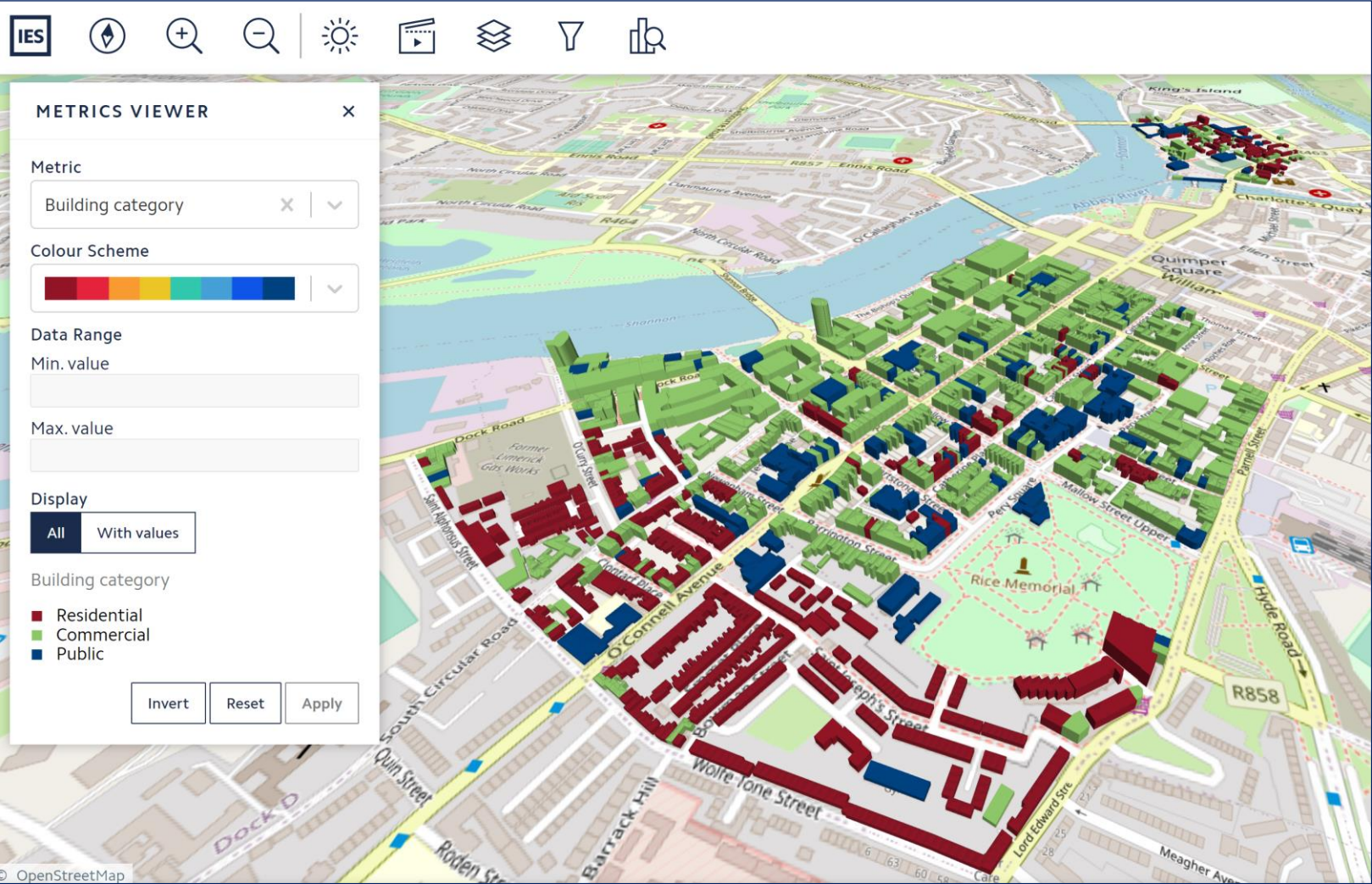


Limerick

Ireland

- Assessment performed through EU2020 R&D funding
- Digital Twin Decarbonisation Roadmap created to plot Limerick performance against their 2050 goals
- City scale Digital Twin for renewables & network analysis, including socio-economic modelling
- **Detailed building level Digital Twins (metered + simulated data) for measurement & verification**
- **Energy monitoring dashboards for building owners and facility managers**

Buildings: Baseline model



■ Public ■ Commercial ■ Residential

Average EUI

350 kWh/m²
270 kWh/m²

METRICS VIEWER

Data Range

Min. value

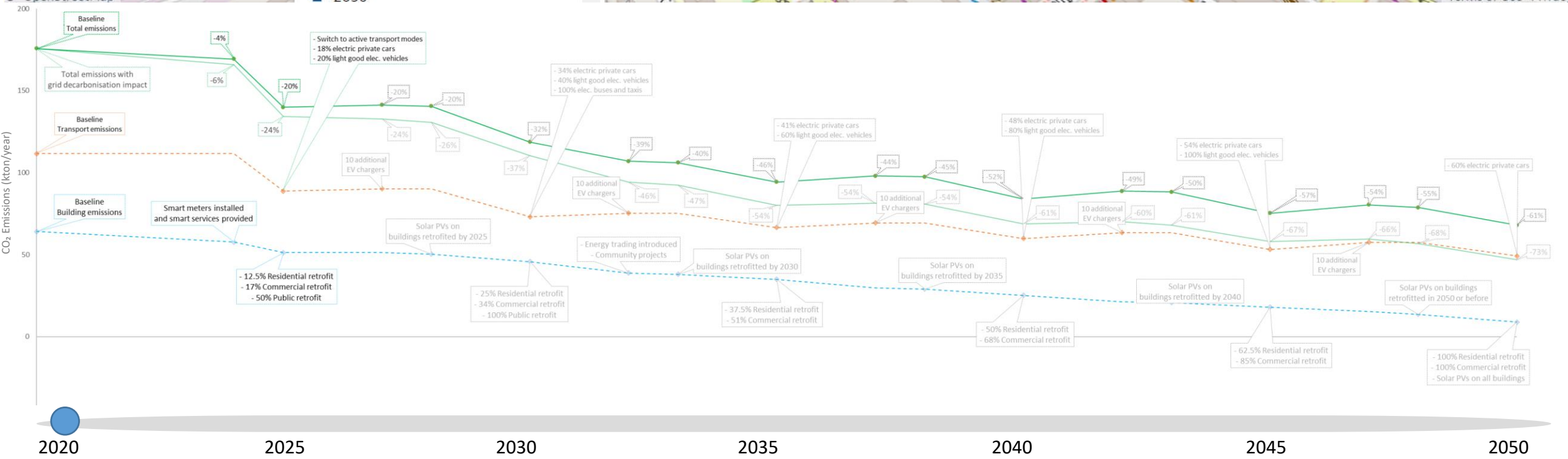
Max. value

Display

All With values

Retrofit year

- 2025
- 2030
- 2035
- 2040
- 2045
- 2050



Average EUI



237 kWh/m²

214 kWh/m²

METRICS VIEWER

Data Range

Min. value

Max. value

Display

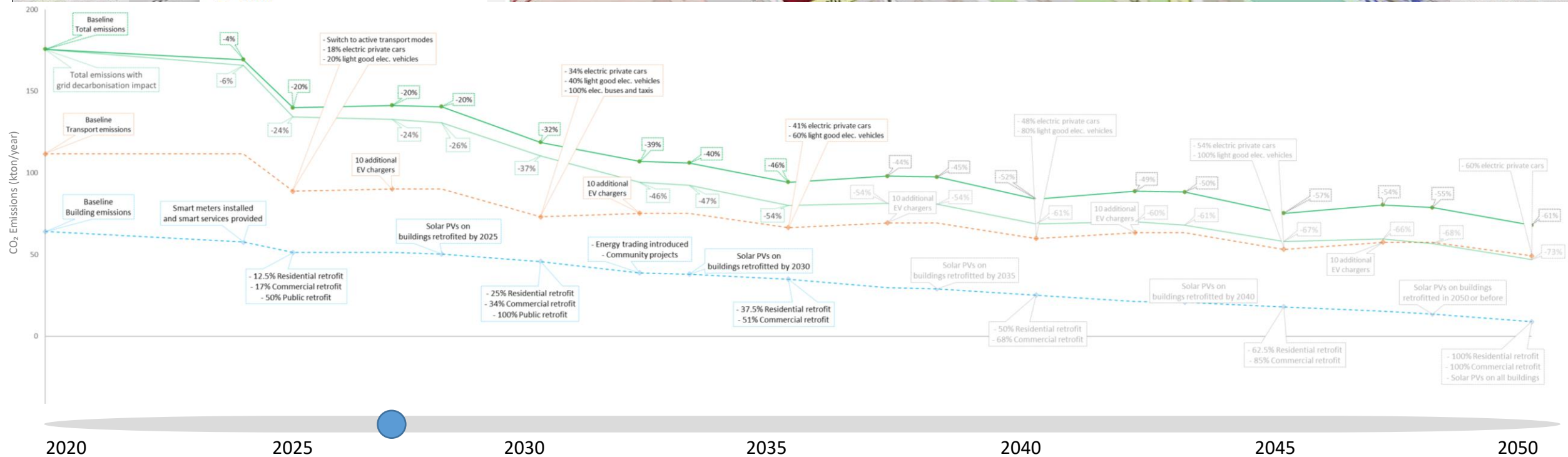
All With values

Retrofit year

- 2025
- 2030
- 2035
- 2040
- 2045
- 2050



Terms of Use Privacy



Average EUI

214 kWh/m²
 184 kWh/m²
 165 kWh/m²
 140 kWh/m²

METRICS VIEWER

Data Range

Min. value

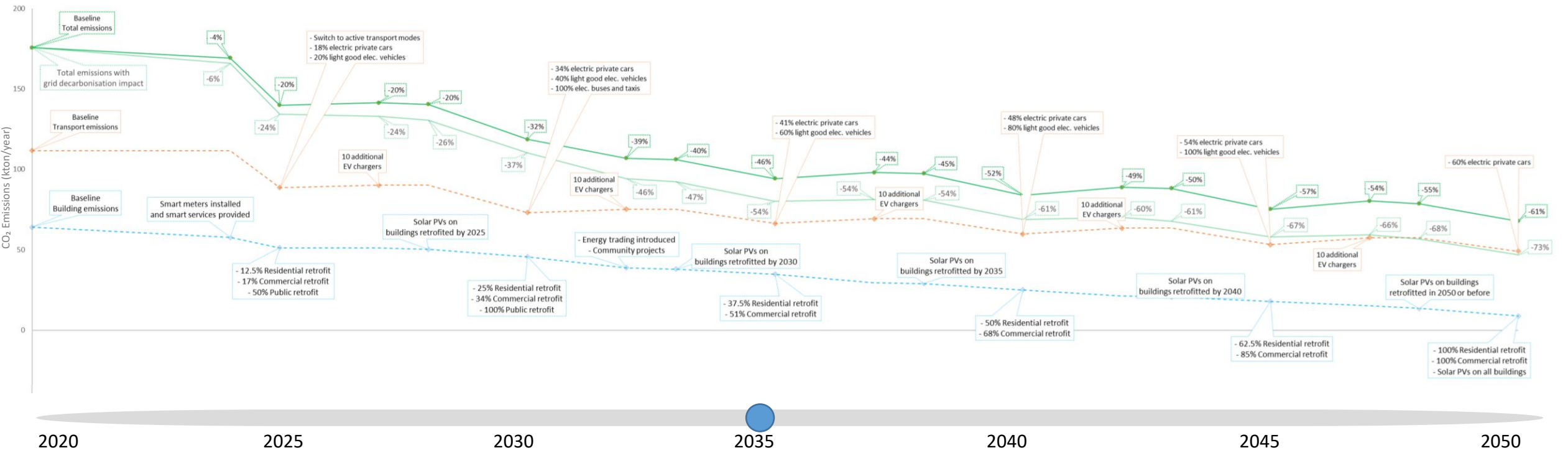
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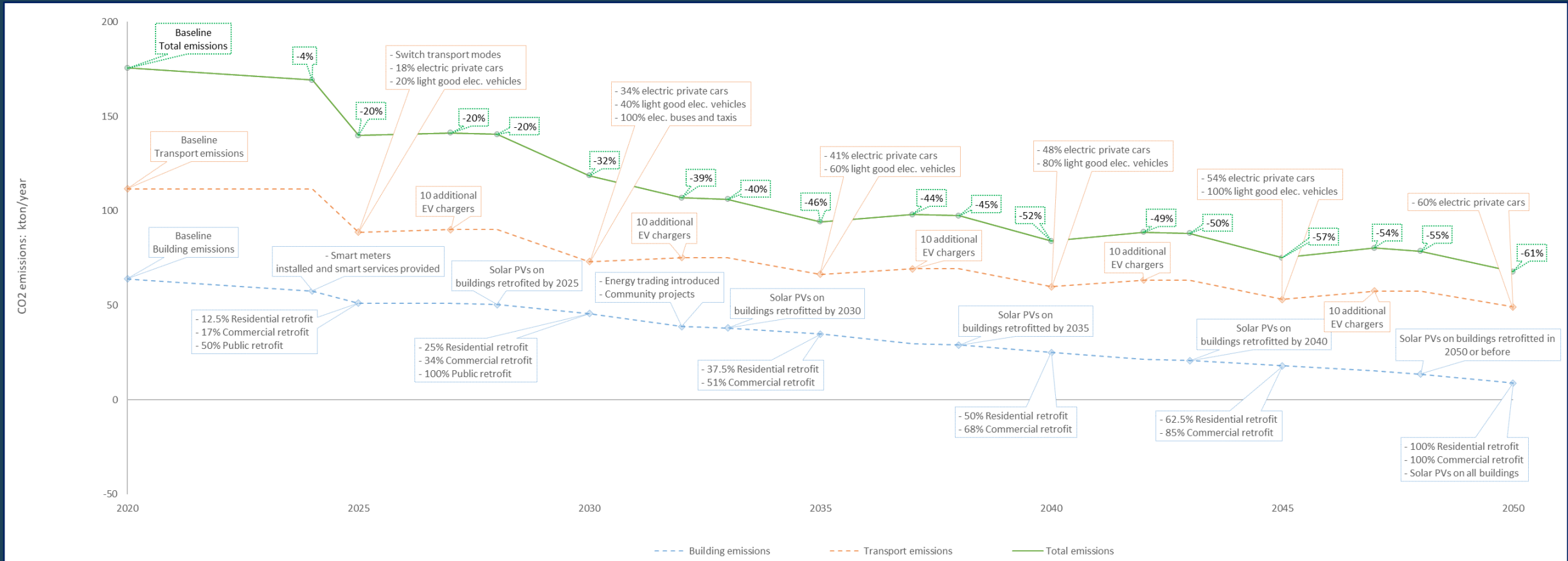
All With values

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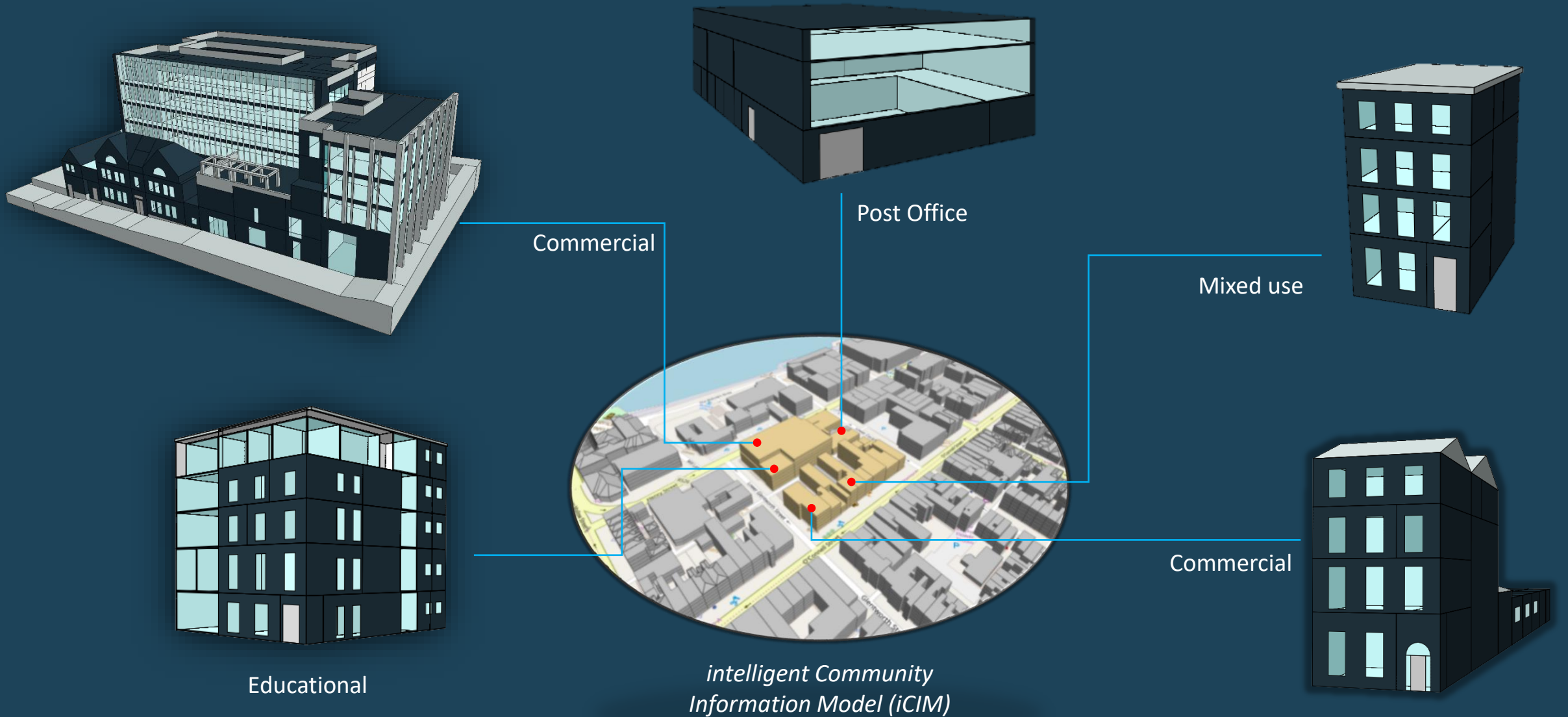
Limerick Decarbonisation Roadmap



[Interactive model link](#)

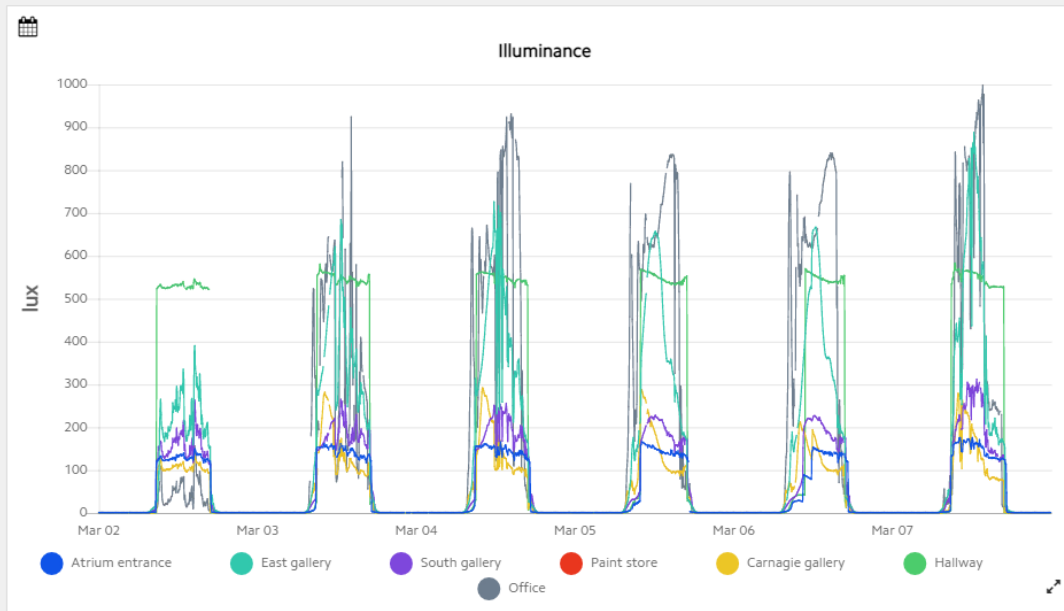
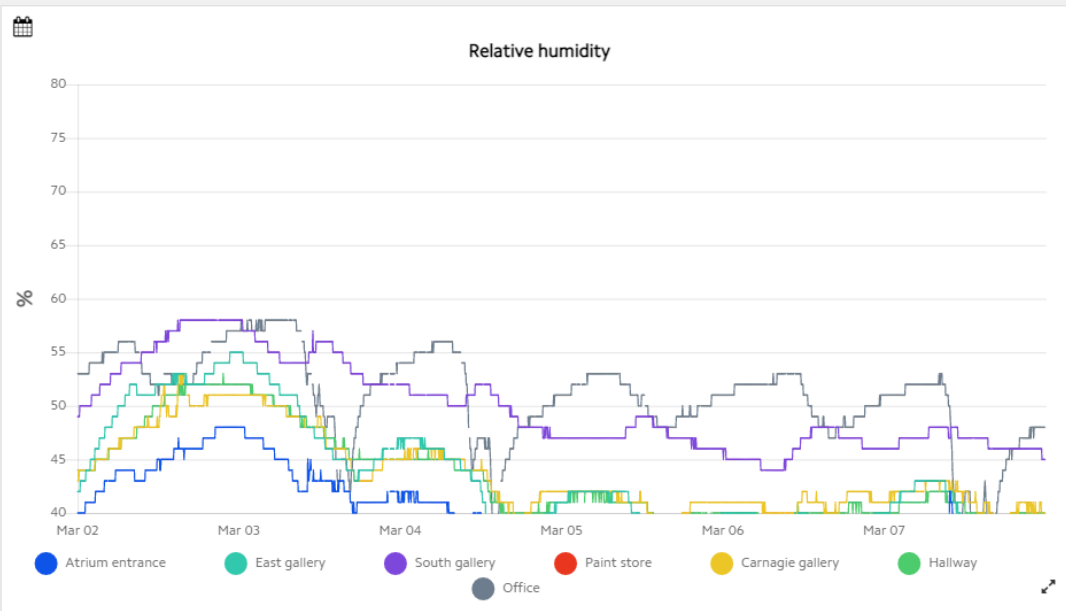
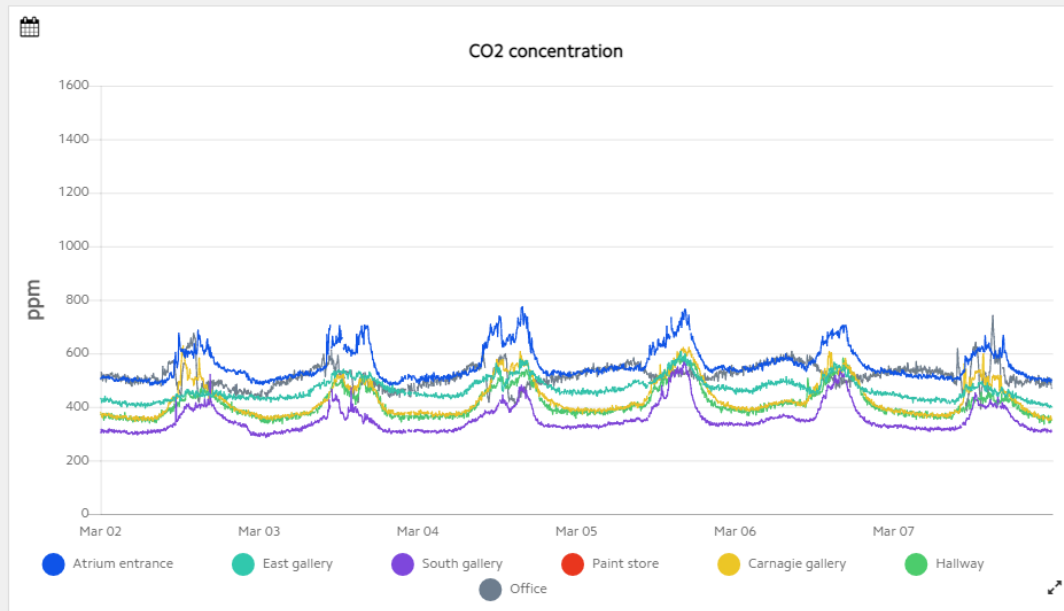
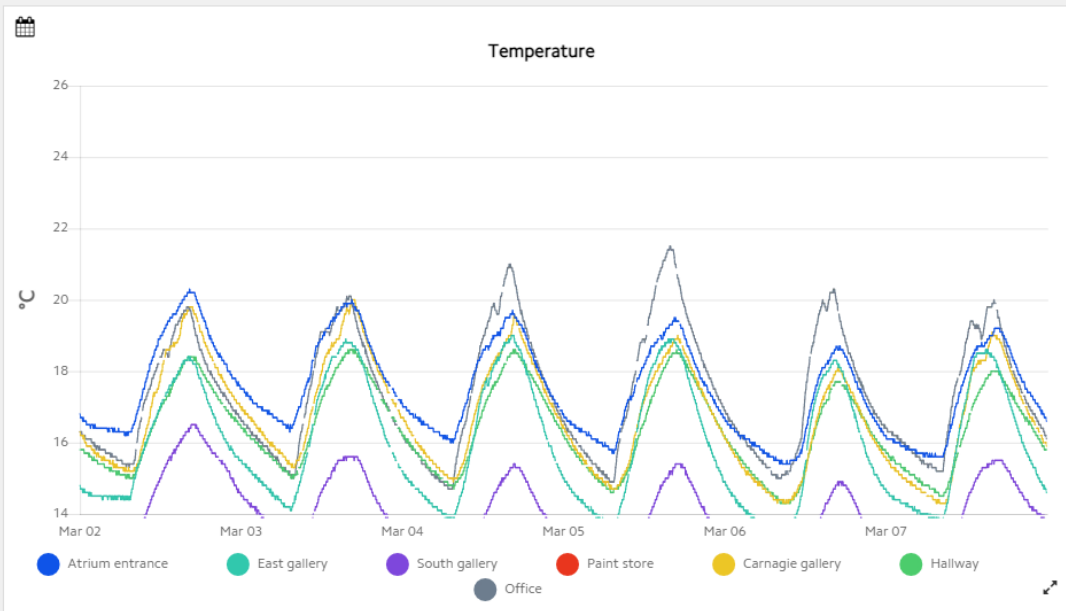
[LCCC website link](#)

Digital Twin Energy Models

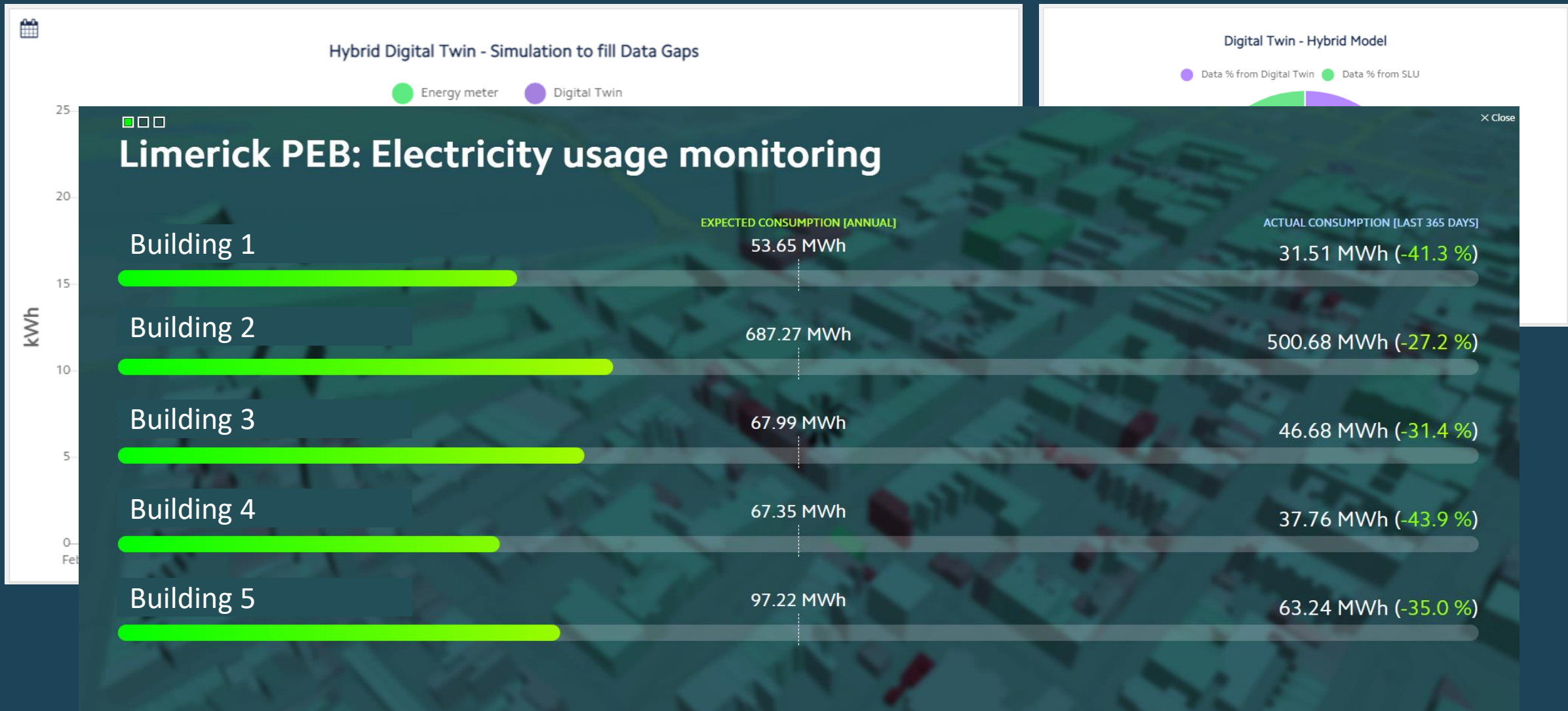




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Energy monitoring through Digital Twin



Summary

Digital Twins for the Built Environment

- Optimise operation by understanding current and future performance of buildings, communities & networks
- Balance energy, carbon, cost and ESG targets alongside comfort, health & wellbeing needs
- Plan for the future and track progress with net-zero roadmaps & policy targets



Thank you!

IES

Lorenzo De Donatis, ICL Consultancy Manager
Integrated Environmental Solutions Ltd.

Lorenzo.DeDonatis@iesve.com

www.iesve.com

