

York and North Yorkshire's draft Retrofit Strategy

Increasing Comfort, Lowering Costs
and Supporting our Climate

2025-2030



What is Retrofit?

Retrofit is **any improvement work done to an existing building to improve its energy efficiency and to replace fossil fuels with renewable energy.**

Some common works that can be considered to be retrofit are:

- Insulating walls, roofs and floors;
- Upgrading windows and doors;
- Installing solar panels;
- Moving away from fossil fuels.

What is the Retrofit Strategy?

York and North Yorkshire's Retrofit Strategy is a **collaborative document** that provides strategic direction for retrofit in the region. Its aim is to provide a **clear, co-owned plan to accelerate retrofit** in York and North Yorkshire.



Why Retrofit is Important for York and North Yorkshire

Comfort

- 63% of homes and 57% non-domestic buildings have an **EPC below EPC C**
- 28% of York and North Yorkshire's buildings were **built before 1930**
- As of 2022, there were approximately **60,000 households in fuel poverty**
- **90%** of our country's housing stock in 2050 will be homes which exist today



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Cost

- As of 2024, 36.3% of UK households spend **more than 10% of their income** on domestic energy
- The **average energy bill for small businesses is £2889.37** and 9/10 businesses expect to increase the price of their goods and services.
- Based on the average cost of retrofitting an existing home £35,000, **retrofitting 250,000 homes is a £8.7b opportunity**



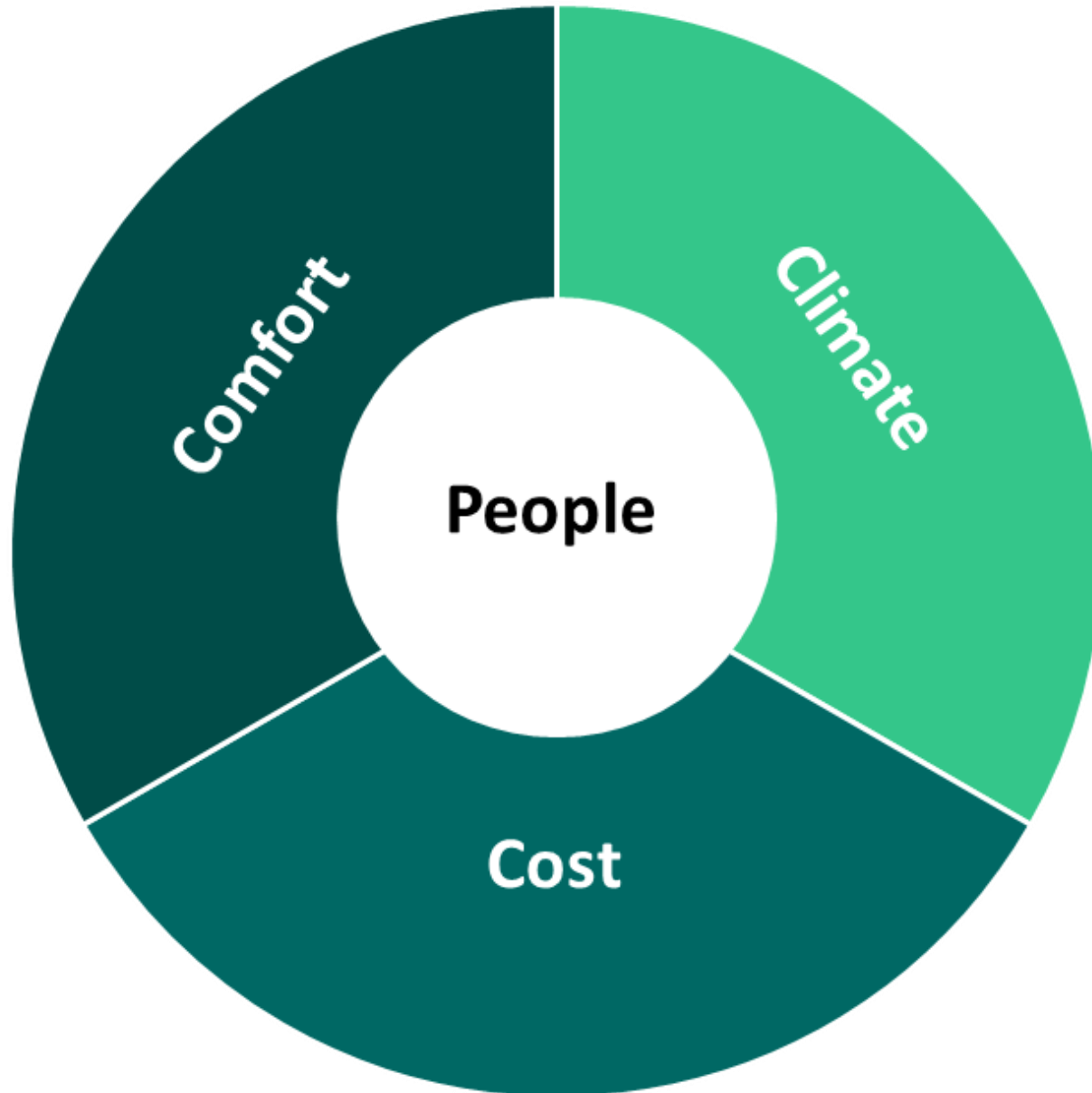
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Climate

- Buildings are responsible for **25% of the region's emissions**
- Two thirds of emissions come from **domestic buildings**
- To meet our carbon negative ambitions, **nearly 250,000 homes need to be retrofitted**
- The built environment is **susceptible to the impacts of climate change** like storms, floods and heatwaves



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Therefore, to support our region across our society, our economy and our environment, we must take action on retrofit.

What is the opportunity?

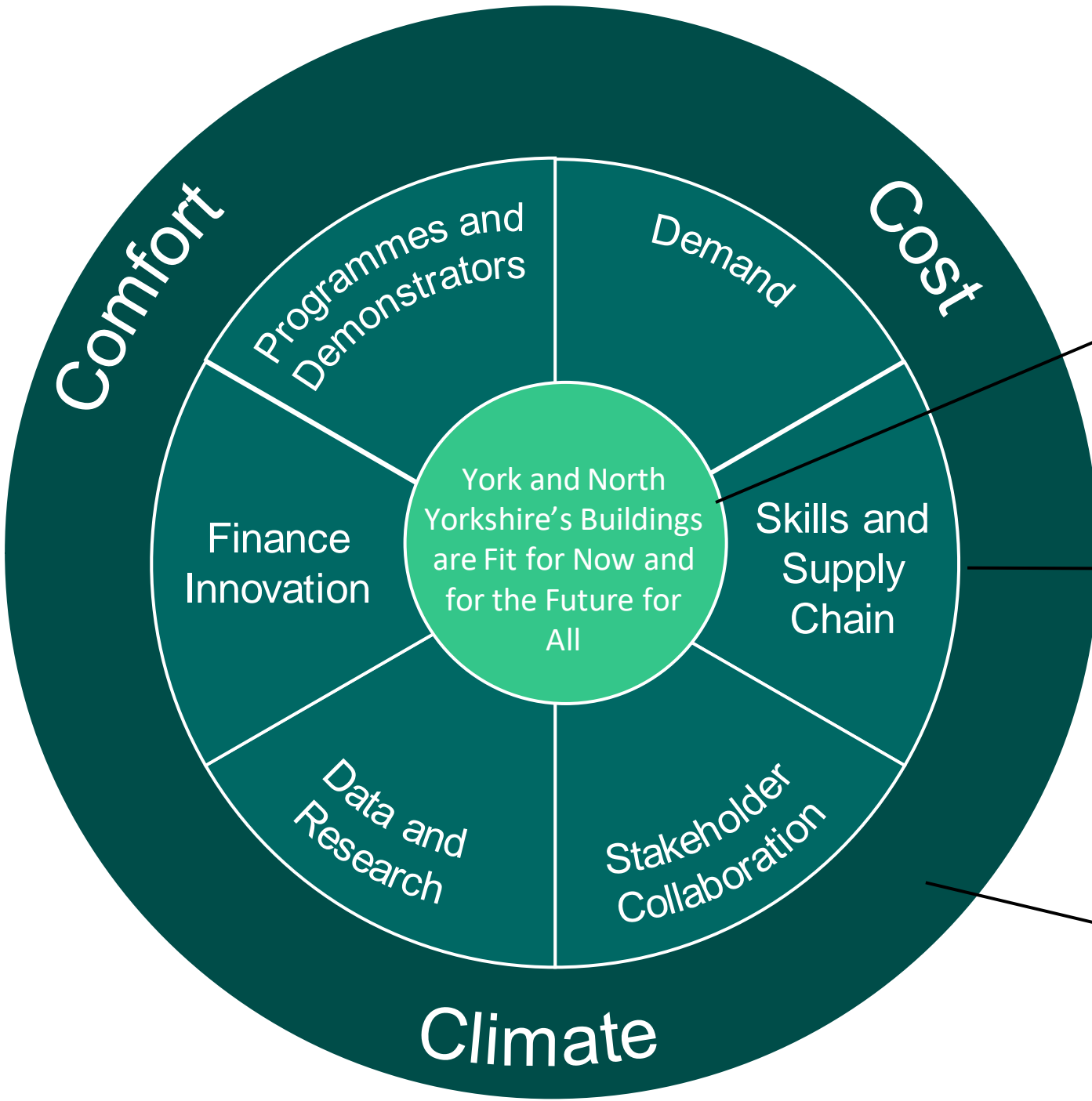
Our region has:

- A **unique building stock**, with rural, coastal and urban roots.
- A **strong heritage sector**, with 28% of York and North Yorkshire's buildings having been built before 1930, and a high number of conservation areas and listed buildings.
- A **thriving biobased materials sector** including sheep's wool, which can be used for insulation.
- An **ambitious carbon negative aspiration** as a region, with a role to play for every person in York and North Yorkshire.
- **Innovative projects** like the Local Net Zero Accelerator and the Retrofit One Stop Shop for York.

All of this means that **we have the ability to test, trial, perfect and lead the way for retrofit.**



Strategic Framework



Vision:

This is the long-term goal for retrofit in York and North Yorkshire.

Strategic Priorities:

The strategic priorities are the 'what' and the areas of focus for activity, which span the whole retrofit system. They must all be tackled to increase the pace and scale of retrofit.

Outcomes:

These are the 'why' of the Retrofit Strategy, which outline what needs to happen as a result of the Strategy. All activity under the Retrofit Strategy will aim to meet at least one of these outcomes.

What does 'retrofit' mean to you?



'I have worried about the rising cost of energy prices'

I have worried a lot about the rising cost of energy because it directly affects my ability to keep my home warm and comfortable. As a student with disabilities and chronic health conditions, temperature and energy stability are vital for my wellbeing. Higher bills make it harder to maintain a safe environment, especially in older or poorly insulated accommodation. The constant uncertainty around energy prices also creates stress and anxiety, particularly when living on a fixed or limited income.

Thank you

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