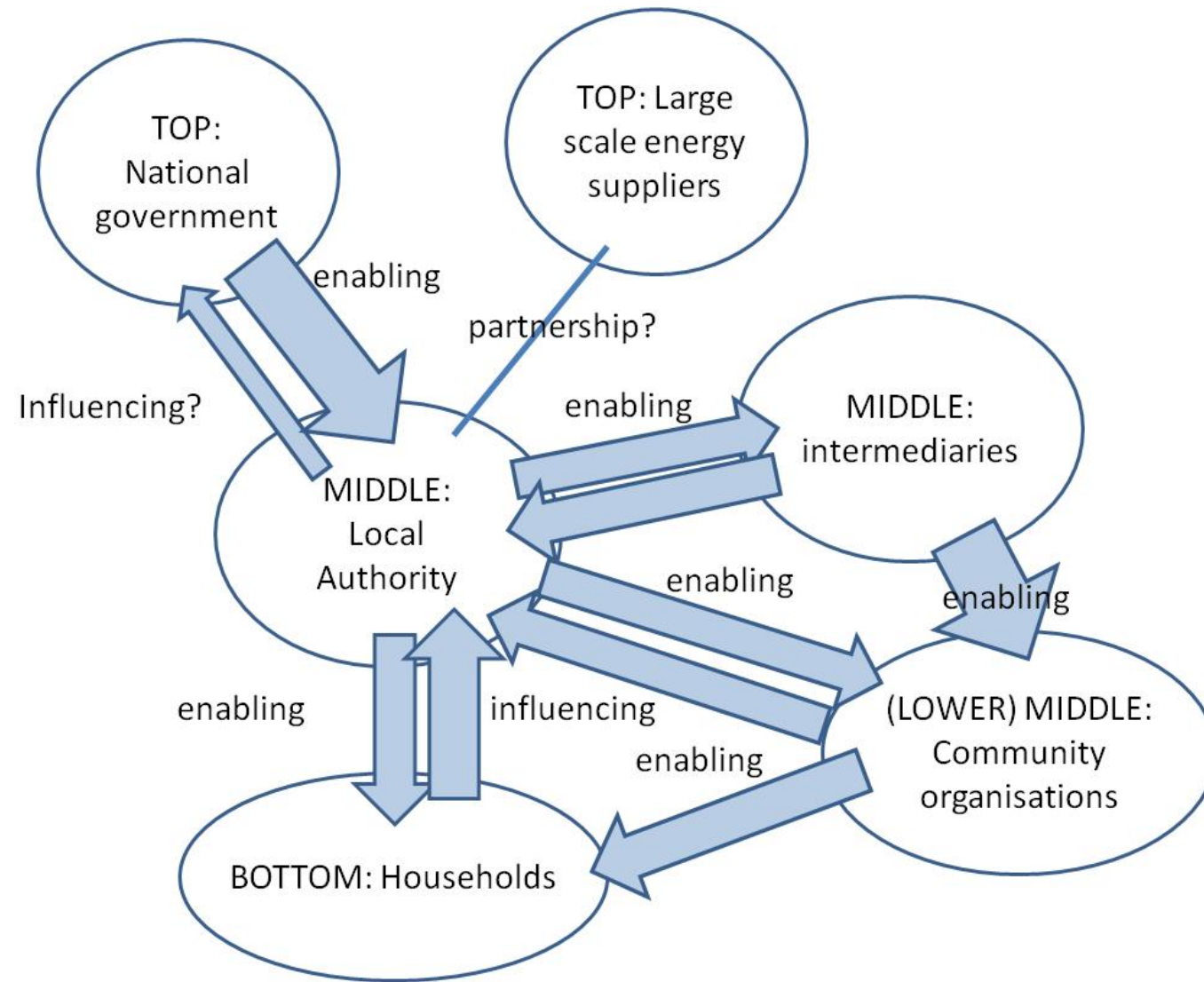


Local energy governance: communities and energy efficiency policy

*Joanne Wade, Nick Eyre,
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Emerging structures: the local authority view



Context

- More active role for end users
- Greater move from centralised system
- Central government encourages local action
- Pressures:
 - Public sector spending cuts = less €
 - Government expects local action to support Green Deal
 - Return to market dominance

Evolving local government role

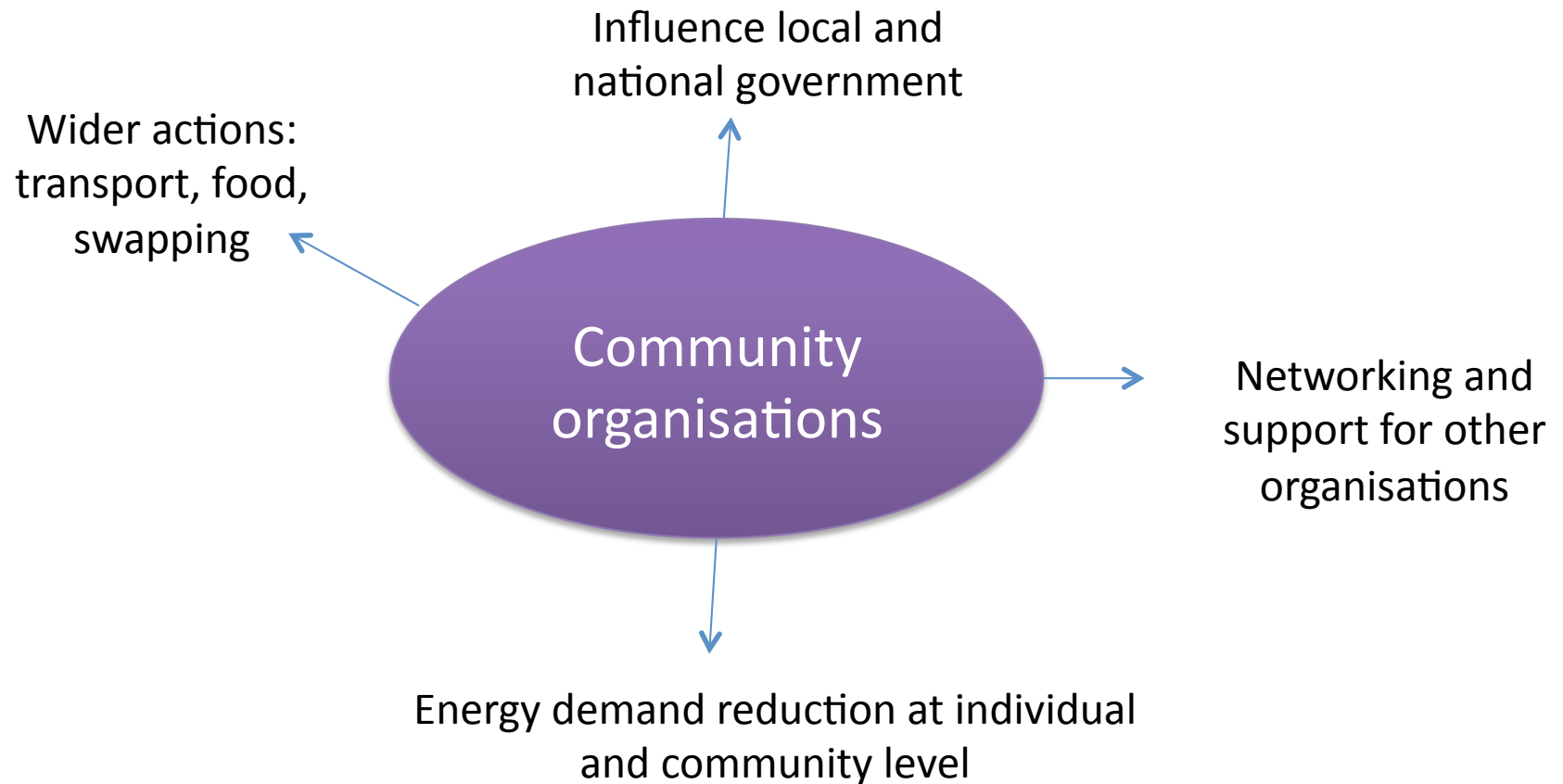
Existing roles:
housing, spatial
planning

New role: local
leadership



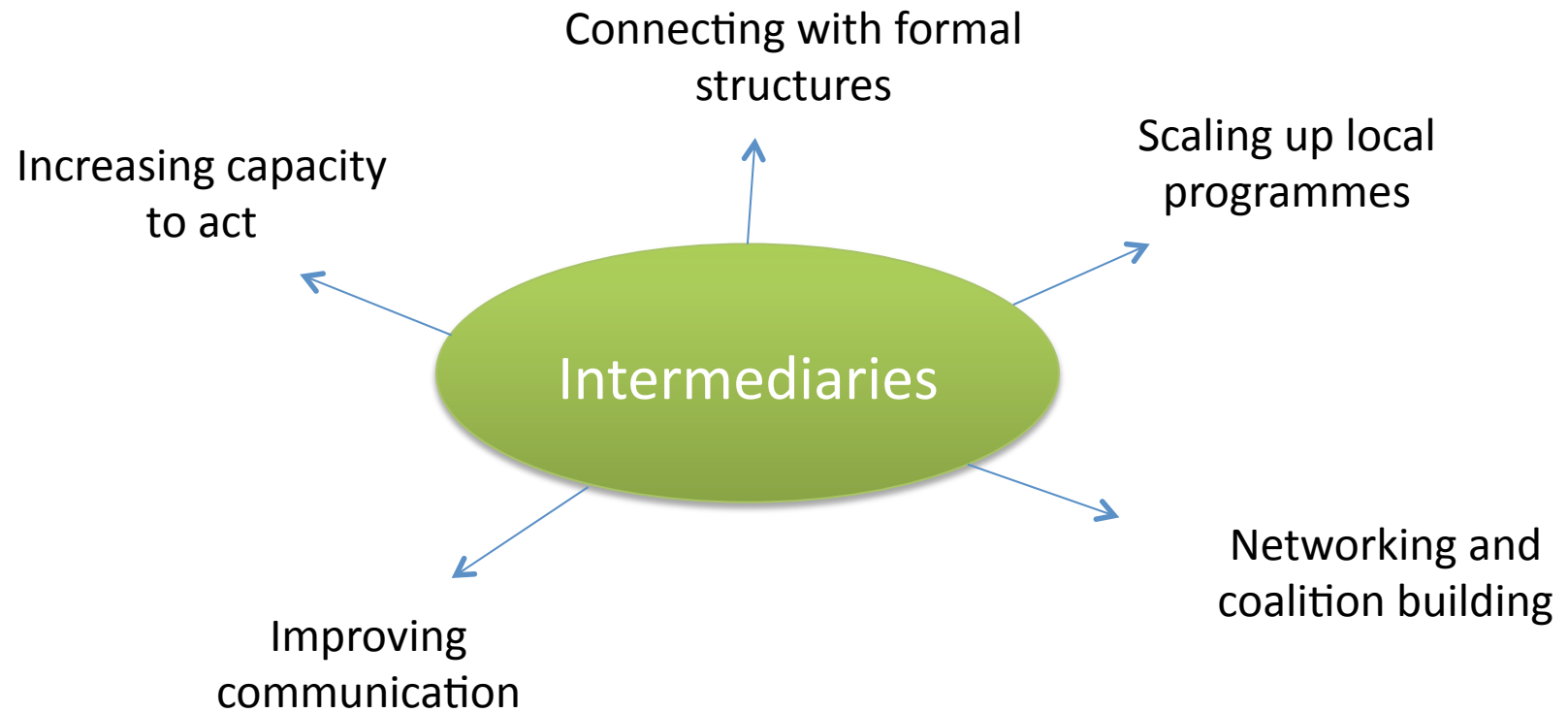
Small group of leading authorities
playing a significant role

Community group roles



(600 sustainable energy community initiatives in the UK)

Intermediaries



Delivery structures and community engagement

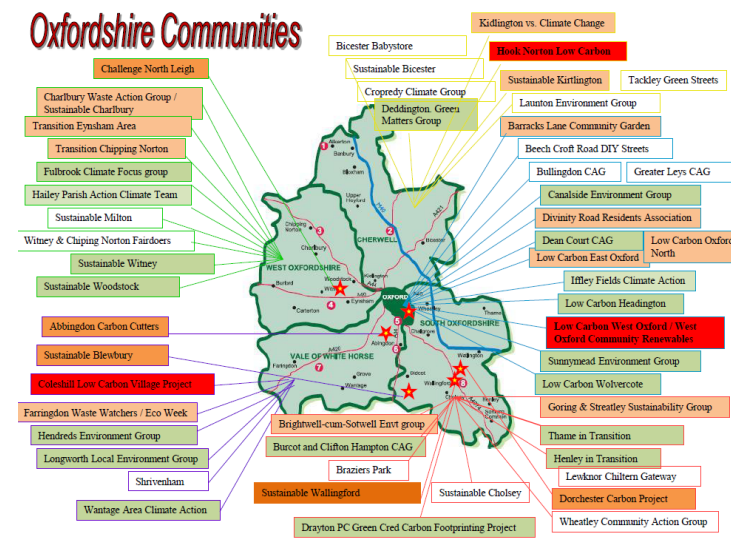


Provision model

- Core = energy project
- Provides centre of activity, resource and expertise
- Increased activity develops from existing projects

Co-ordination model

- Reactive and local authority led examples
- Early developments decentralised and variable
- Recognise need to learn across communities
- Hub and spoke model emerging



Funding

- Overall € reduced
- Fewer grants, more investment support
- Growth in not for profit business models
- Potential bias for projects giving financial return
 - What about community engagement and behaviour change?
 - What about development?

Need for new policies and resources

- Importance of national policy framework
- Financial support policy must take into account the local scale
- Need for a community energy development fund

What could / should local energy governance mean?

How does the situation in other countries differ from the UK?