NON-RESIDENTIAL ELECTRICITY & GAS

LEARNING FROM THE DATA

PURPOSE

- The non-domestic Energy usage of the wider Hampshire area was mapped and local trends where identified.

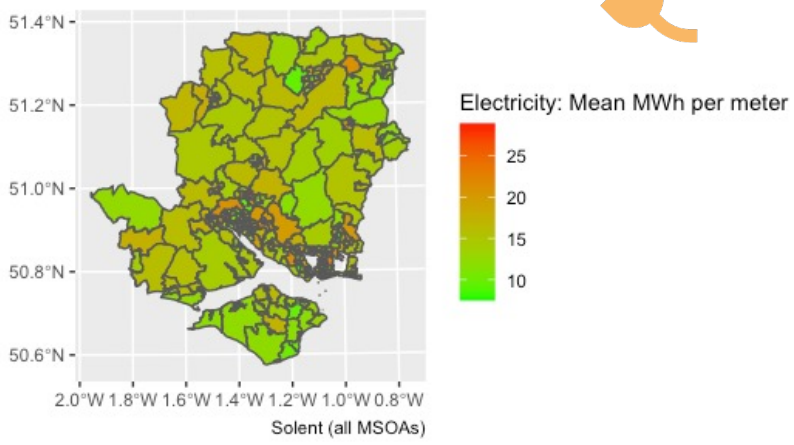
KEY FINDINGS

1. LARGER DECREASE IN NON-DOMESTIC ELECTRICITY USAGE

From 2010 - 2019 non-domestic electricity use of the area decreased

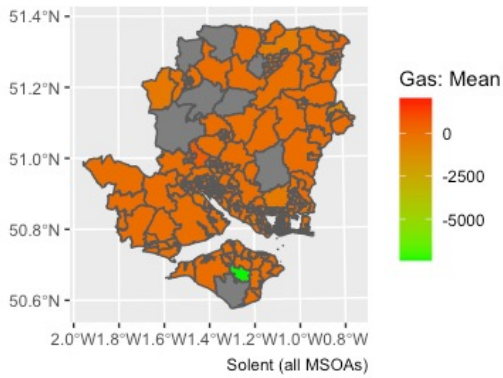
The 30% decrease in non-domestic usage is far greater than the 15% decrease in the domestic sector

30%



Non-domestic electricity use in 2019

2. NON-DOMESTIC GAS USAGE REMAINED RELATIVELY CONSTANT



Change in gas use 2010- 2019

From 2010- 2019 non-domestic gas use has remained relatively constant – median reduction of 8%

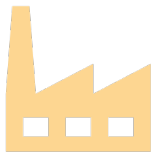
Clear outlier on the Isle of Wight (95% reduction), also some in Southampton/Portsmouth (80% reduction)

INSIGHTS & IMPLICATIONS

Possible explanations for the large decrease in electricity usage and future implications

1. INCREASED EFFICIENCY

Decreases in energy use could be due to government policies such as 'The Energy Efficiency Strategy' aimed at improving the energy efficiency of commercial buildings.



As the UK pushes towards the Net-zero target more action to improve energy efficiency is likely as is an increase in electricity use.

2. ENERGY INTENSIVE COMPANIES LEAVING

The decrease could also be due to energy intensive industries moving out the area.
As we move into the future, growth in UK industry is likely to be in less energy intensive industries or those which can easily switch to low-carbon energy sources such as electricity or hydrogen.

3. FUTURE ENERGY INTENSIVE ACTIVITY

In the area being studied, there is now a focus on making the ports of Southampton a hydrogen super-hub, hoping to support low-carbon energy intensive industry in the area.

Although in general the UK is likely to see a reduction in energy intensive industry, individual areas such as Southampton may benefit from growth in low carbon energy-intensive industry.

NEXT STEPS

More detailed research into change over time at a lower level of geography could enable transitions in specific areas to be analysed and understood.

ABOUT

This research was undertaken by Meghan Kingsley-Walsh as part of an MSc in Sustainable Energy Technologies dissertation, Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences, University of Southampton, September 2021. The dissertation was supervised by Dr Ben Anderson.
Contact: b.anderson@soton.ac.uk.