

# Kent County Council

## Energy Security Select Committee

### **A Profile of Energy in Kent**

In 2012, the total energy consumption (domestic, commercial and transport) for Kent and Medway was 35,149,700MWh<sup>1</sup>

Kent hosts a range of renewable generation, from large scale onshore and offshore wind farms to solar farms and biomass plants, as well as smaller scale building integrated technologies. Total installed renewable energy generation exceeds 1GW and continues to grow<sup>2</sup>.

The renewable energy sector in Kent is estimated to employ 19,600 people<sup>3</sup>.

### **Domestic Energy Use**

In 2013, domestic energy consumption (gas and electricity) in Kent was down by 15% on 2008 levels; this is in line with a national reduction of 15.5% over the same period.<sup>4</sup>

Over a five year period domestic users in Thanet district have reduced energy use by over 22%, whilst nationally the reduction is almost 20%. This supports both cost and energy efficiencies.<sup>5</sup>

Energy consumption varies across the county, with Sevenoaks having the highest energy consumption (21,847kWh per consumer unit) and Thanet the lowest (16,034kWh per consumer unit).<sup>6</sup>

### **Non Domestic Energy Use (i.e. manufacturing, public sector)**

In 2013, non domestic energy consumption (gas and electricity) in Kent was down by 15% on 2008 levels; this is compared to a national increase of 3.2% over the same period.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> KCC (2015) Kent State of the Environment Report. Available at:  
<http://consultations.kent.gov.uk/consult.ti/KESconsultation/consultationHome>

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> KCC (2015) Business Intelligence Statistical Bulletin – Domestic Energy Consumption 2013

<sup>7</sup> KCC (2015) Business Intelligence Statistical Bulletin – Non Domestic Energy Consumption 2013

Energy consumption varies across the county with Gravesham having the highest energy consumption (1,605,186kWh per consumer unit of which 94% was gas) and Sevenoaks the lowest (271,803kWh per consumer unit of which 83% was gas).<sup>8</sup>

### **Attitudes to Energy**

45% of people in Kent give a lot of thought to saving energy in their home (this figure is higher for residents of Dover, Medway Thanet and Shepway), with 49% thinking about it a fair amount.<sup>9</sup>

83% of Kent residents have fitted some form of energy saving measure in their homes (insulation, light bulbs, etc.).<sup>10</sup>

95% of Kent residents use energy efficient light bulbs, 80% have loft insulation, and 65% have an energy efficient boiler.<sup>11</sup>

80% of Kent residents use green modes of transport such as walking, cycling or public transport at least once a week.<sup>12</sup>

26% of Kent residents use green energy companies as their energy suppliers.<sup>13</sup>

9% of Kent residents have fitted energy generation equipment such as solar panels to their homes. Dartford, Canterbury and Maidstone have the highest uptake of such equipment amongst residents.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> From a representative sample of 601 Kent residents - survey conducted for KCC by Facts International.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

<sup>14</sup> Ibid.