



dti

**CREATING A LOW CARBON
ECONOMY**

Progress on Regional
Implementation of the
Energy White Paper

JULY 2005

defra 

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Sustainable Energy Policy Network

This annual report is being published as part of the work of the Sustainable Energy Policy Network (SEPN).

SEPN is a network of Government departments, Devolved Administrations, regulators and other key organisations that are jointly responsible for delivering the Energy White Paper, *'Our Energy Future – creating a low carbon economy'* published in February 2003.

<http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/sepn/index.shtml>

SEPN's members comprise the:

- Cabinet Office
- Carbon Trust
- Department for Education and Skills
- Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
- Department for International Development
- Department of Trade and Industry
- Department for Transport
- Energy Saving Trust
- England's Regional Development Agencies
- Environment Agency
- Foreign & Commonwealth Office
- HM Treasury
- Ministry of Defence
- Northern Ireland Office
- Office of the Deputy Prime Minister
- Office of Gas and Electricity Markets
- Prime Minister's Office
- Regional Co-ordination Unit
- Regional Energy Group
- Scotland office
- Scottish Executive
- Wales Office
- Welsh Assembly Government

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1 National Support for Local and Regional Action

Support from Government

The Government remains committed to supporting local and regional activity to promote the key energy policy objectives that all regions and localities in the UK share. The Energy White Paper made clear that local and regional bodies have a key role to play in shaping and delivering these objectives.

Since the last annual report, progress has been made at national level to support and promote action by local authorities and regions on sustainable energy:

- DTI has continued to support the development and delivery of strategic approaches to energy in the English regions, through a seedcorn fund of £100,000 per region. This funding has been matched by regions, drawing on a range of public and private sources, and has supported a number of programmes, some of which are described in the progress reports for individual regions below.
- The Energy Saving Trust (EST) has expanded its programme of support for sustainable energy activity in the English regions, with an additional £35,000 of support per region to ensure the integration of key objectives into regional plans and strategies. EST has also established a new communications framework with regions, including a monthly e-mail update on major national and regional developments and a pamphlet detailing the variety of support available to the regions from EST.
- The Carbon Trust announced the expansion of its network of regional managers to all RDAs. These managers will continue to promote the take up of carbon management programmes by businesses in the regions. Evidence appears to show that the take up of such programmes has been higher in regions where regional managers have been in place.
- The 7 Sustainable Energy Beacon Councils were announced in April 2005¹. They are: the Cornwall Sustainable Energy Partnership, High Peak, Leicester, Lewisham, Nottinghamshire, Shropshire and Woking. Over the next year, DTI and Defra will work with these councils to raise the profile of sustainable energy and provide practical support to other Local Authorities looking to improve their performance in this area.

1 <http://www.idea-knowledge.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pageld=1704913>

- A commitment to make a contribution to the delivery of energy policy objectives, as set out in the Energy White Paper, was included in the new RDA Tasking Framework²; within the context of a wider commitment to Sustainable Development. The Tasking Framework sets out the key national priorities that RDAs are committed to help to deliver. The inclusion of energy will help the development of a closer partnership between national government and RDAs on energy policy.
- As part of a new £12million package for Climate Change Communications Defra announced a new fund, starting in 2005/6, to support local and regional communications activities³. This follows a report for the department that suggests that local and regional approaches to communicating climate change are particularly important in changing behaviour.
- EST announced their 3 pilot Sustainable Energy Centres, including centres in Anglia and the North East. These centres will provide advice on sustainable energy to the public and will work closely with regional and local energy partnerships. EST wishes to consult other regions that are interested on how the Sustainable Energy Network may be rolled out in their areas in future.

The Work of the Local Government Association (LGA)

The LGA is also committed to helping local government in tackling the effects of climate change as well as harnessing the opportunities that climate change can offer local communities. To this end, the LGA has a dedicated programme of work on Sustainable Energy and Climate Change, which is jointly resourced by the Energy Saving Trust (EST).

During 2004-5 the LGA carried out a survey of local action on sustainable energy and climate change together with the IDeA and EST. Headline results demonstrated that local authorities have recognised the vital role they can play, but that the three main barriers to local progress on climate change issues remain insufficient staff, or staff time; other issues taking a higher profile in the council; and a lack of funding.

The LGA and EST have published a Long Term Vision for Local Government on Climate Change, looking ahead to 2025⁴, exploring what the future could and should look like with regard to sustainable energy and climate change, the positive impact this will have on local communities and the practical steps that need to be taken now and in the future, to achieve this vision.

2 http://www.dti.gov.uk/rda/info/Tasking_Framework.htm

3 <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/climatechange/02.htm>

4 <http://www.lga.gov.uk/Publication.asp?lsection=59&id=SXA4D7-A78309C9&ccat=1117>

The LGA played a pivotal role this year in galvanising local government internationally to publish “Eight Messages for the G8 and EU” on climate change in March 2005⁵. The messages to heads of state from local government were endorsed by over 100,000 local authorities from each G8 member state and beyond. The LGA has also contributed to UK Government preparations on climate change policy leading up to the G8 Summit in Gleneagles in July 2005.

5 <http://www.lga.gov.uk/Briefing.asp?ISection=0&id=SXA10F-A782CE22>

2 Progress in the Regions

South East

Energy Use:

	2002	2003	Regional Rank 2003
Total Gas Sales (GWh)	94,326	93,076	2nd
Domestic Gas Sales Per Customer (KWh)	20,563	20,542	2nd
Industrial & Commercial Gas Sales Per Customer (KWh)	587,245	545,873	8th
Total Electricity Consumption (GWh)	44,437	40,116	1st
Domestic Electricity Sales per Customer (KWh)	–	4,953	3rd
Business Electricity Sales per Customer (KWh)	–	67,589	6th

CHP and Renewables

	2002	2003	Regional Rank 2003
CHP Electrical Capacity (MWe)	814	814	2nd
Generation of Electricity from Renewable Sources (GWh)	–	870.4	2nd
Generation of Electricity from Renewable Sources – London & the South East	1,094.3	1262.5	–

Fuel Poverty

	2001	2003	Regional Rank 2003
% Households in Fuel Poverty	6.7	4.4	8th

Regional and sub-regional targets for renewable energy in the South East and policies and guidance for local planning authorities on energy efficiency and renewable energy were published in November 2004 as amendments to Regional Planning Guidance. This encourages the incorporation of high standards of energy efficiency in all developments, the integration of combined heat and power and the development of renewable energy needed to achieve the targets.

A continuing regional programme of training, advice and guidance, including assistance with supplementary planning guidance is ongoing to help local authorities understand the implications of regional and national planning policy guidance and the issues, benefits and opportunities in adopting a proactive approach to energy.

The region is now seeing a number of new renewable and sustainable energy developments. For example:

- The first 100% community-owned wind cluster in the South East region, at Westmill Farm in Oxfordshire, provisionally granted planning permission in February 2005. Construction of the five 1.3MW turbine scheme is expected in Summer 2006.
- Southampton City Council is making progress with plans for a District Heating scheme for 3000 homes at Millbrook, in association with a 49MW biomass power plant.
- The London Array, which will ultimately provide 1GW of power from 270 wind turbines, 20km offshore, intends to feed its electricity output into North Kent. Local authorities and SEEDA are discussing the development with the London Array Partners, to ensure an outcome that maximises benefit to the region.

The South East Sustainable Energy Partnership continues to facilitate the delivery of the region's targets and has focussed on building capacity within each of the four sub-regions of the South East. In 2004 the Kent Renewable Energy Network was established to focus on increasing renewable energy in Kent. A two-year Kent Renewables Programme started in January 2005, to evaluate social housing stock for potential sustainable energy installations and support projects to fruition.

Kent also provides an example of local action to advance energy efficiency and fuel poverty objectives. In 2004 over 11,000 householders in Kent were provided with phone advice and over 14,000 a written report by the Kent Energy Centre, which also assisted 994 vulnerable households to get installations through Warm Front and 305 households to get comprehensive assistance for fuel poverty through Coldbusters. Similar initiatives are having similar impacts across the region.

In March 2005, Woking Borough Council was awarded Beacon Council status for Sustainable Energy, recognising the Council's achievements including:

- The adoption of a comprehensive Climate Change Strategy;
- A reduction in corporate energy consumption of 49% since 1990;
- The town centre Combined Heat and Power (CHP) station which provides electricity, district heating and cooling directly to local customers; and
- The 200kWe sustainable energy fuel cell that provides heat and power to the Pool in the Park and lighting for Woking Park.

London

Energy Use:

	2002	2003	Regional Rank 2003
Total Gas Sales (GWh)	88,474	90,459	3rd
Domestic Gas Sales Per Customer (KWh)	19,585	19,617	8th
Industrial & Commercial Gas Sales Per Customer (KWh)	514,339	501,864	9th
Total Electricity Consumption (GWh)	29,130	39,437	2nd
Domestic Electricity Sales per Customer (KWh)	–	4,301	6th
Business Electricity Sales per Customer (KWh)	–	60,918	7th

CHP and Renewables

	2002	2003	Regional Rank 2003
CHP Electrical Capacity (MWe)	199	199	7th
Generation of Electricity from Renewable Sources (GWh)	–	392.1	8th

Fuel Poverty

	2001	2003	Regional Rank 2003
% Households in Fuel Poverty	5.0	3.6	9th

Over the last 12 months the energy policies in the London Plan have been used increasingly effectively to secure developer commitments to improved energy efficiency standards, and incorporation of renewable energy systems on developments referred to the Mayor.

The London Energy partnership was established by the Mayor in January 2004 to enable collaboration on a range of projects aimed at facilitating delivery of the Mayor's Energy Strategy⁶. Its current work programme is match funded by DTI, and comprises:

- Energy Action Areas – programme development and management
- London Wind and Biomass capacity study
- Zero Carbon Development Toolkit
- London wide affordable warmth action plan
- Green Fund for London
- Ongoing renewables training for planners

The London Hydrogen Partnership was established by the Mayor in 2002 to work towards the development of a hydrogen economy for London and the UK. The aims of the partnership are to complete and implement a London Hydrogen Action Plan, to maintain dialogue between key stakeholders, and to provide a platform for funding bids and project initiation. To date the London Hydrogen Partnership has completed a number of communications projects, a hardware demonstration project, and has a number of project funding bids under development.⁷

London Renewables (a partnership between the Greater London Authority, Government Office for London, London Development Agency, Association of London Government and other stakeholders) completed a substantial work programme in March 2005, which included the Renewable Energy Toolkit for planners, developers and architects, training and support on renewable energy for the same audience, and analysis of London stakeholder and public attitudes to renewable energy. London Renewables is now being incorporated as a task group of the London Energy Partnership.

The GLA, in partnership with the LDA, EST, and LB's Lambeth, Lewisham, Southwark and Tower Hamlets, commissioned PB Power to undertake the London-community heating development study. Completed in June 2005, it includes development of a Londonwide heat demand density map, consideration of existing potential heat sources, and development of detailed proposals for new systems. The study identifies 32 areas of London in which community energy should be prioritised, and develops detailed business plans for three new schemes.

⁶ <http://www.london.gov.uk/mayor/environment/energy/index.jsp>

⁷ Further details can be obtained by request from Zoë Jennings, who is the Partnership manager (zoe.jennings@london.gov.uk).

The London Climate Change Agency was formally launched by the Mayor on June 20 2005. The Agency will be established as a municipal company for the purpose of implementing sustainable energy projects such as building energy efficiency retrofits in the non-domestic sector, CHP community energy systems, and renewable heat and power. The Agency will also focus on improving the energy and carbon performance of GLA Group properties. This means that London will have a company dedicated to delivering energy projects consistent with the objectives of both the Mayor's Energy Strategy, and the UK Government Energy White Paper.

South West

Energy Use:

	2002	2003	Regional Rank 2003
Total Gas Sales (GWh)	46,353	46,231	8th
Domestic Gas Sales Per Customer (KWh)	18,002	17,888	9th
Industrial & Commercial Gas Sales Per Customer (KWh)	678,588	635,934	7th
Total Electricity Consumption (GWh)	32,528	24,597	5th
Domestic Electricity Sales per Customer (KWh)	–	5,038	2nd
Business Electricity Sales per Customer (KWh)	–	56,755	9th

CHP and Renewables

	2002	2003	Regional Rank 2003
CHP Electrical Capacity (MWe)	95	117	8th
Generation of Electricity from Renewable Sources (GWh)	514.6	438.5	7th

Fuel Poverty

	2001	2003	Regional Rank 2003
% Households in Fuel Poverty	9.8	6.5	4th

SWRDA has committed to a further, expanded 3 year funding programme for the renewable energy agency, Regen SW, with a new role developing a strong renewable business sector and skills base in the region.

With support from Regen SW⁸, the RDA has also committed significantly to the development of the Wave Hub. This proposed offshore facility is considered a vital component in the next stage towards commercial scale wave energy, providing both a grid connection and simplified permitting and consenting. With extensive

8 <http://www.regensw.co.uk>

feasibility and design studies now undertaken, the project is now entering the development phase for a site off the north coast of Cornwall near Hayle⁹. Funding secured from the npower Juice Fund is enabling the collection and analysis of data on the wave energy regime at the site.

Planning authorities, public interest groups and wind power developers were brought together to draw up a protocol for public engagement in the wind development process. Earning the support of the BWEA, the regional LGA executive and the Royal Town Planning Institute, the protocol is now being tested 'in the real world' with a planned project in Devon.

The South West also participated actively in the It's Only Natural planning workshops on renewable energy for councillors and planners – with sessions held in Dorset, Somerset and Devon.

The first South West Green Energy Awards were presented in November 2004, to mark excellence in the development of renewable energy initiatives in the region. Devon-based Holsworthy Biogas collected the award for 'Best Renewable Energy Scheme'; Bical, a Devon-based co-operative of farmers growing the energy crop miscanthus won the 'Best Business Innovation' category; Cornwall Sustainable Energy Partnership jointly won 'Most Proactive Local Authority'; and the Penwith Housing Association was awarded the 'Best Community Scheme' for its use of ground source heat pumps in a social housing refurbishment.

The final report of the REVision 2010 project has been completed, which resulted in targets for renewable electricity generation by 2010 being adopted for each county (or county area) in the region¹⁰. It is intended that these targets will be integrated into the new Regional Spatial Strategy, together with a regional target for electricity generation by 2020, renewable heat targets, and policies to support buildings integrated renewables. The analysis to support this more comprehensive and longer-term set of targets is currently being undertaken within the REVision 2020 project¹¹.

There was less progress in the region than hoped on regional energy efficiency and affordable warmth strategies due to limited resources (and the recognition that there is already extensive excellent work on these issues at sub-regional level). These strategic developments will be progressed early in 2005/06 together with the establishment of an effective regional sustainable energy forum to bring various interests together on a more formal basis and create a focus for action and co-ordination at regional level.

Cornwall County Council and the Cornwall Sustainable Energy Partnership received Sustainable Energy Beacon Council status early in 2005.

9 <http://www.southwestrda.org.uk/what-we-do/projects/renewable-energy/wave-hub/index.shtml>

10 <http://www.oursouthwest.com/revision2010/>

11 <http://www.oursouthwest.com/revision2020/>

East of England

Energy Use:

	2002	2003	Regional Rank 2003
Total Gas Sales (GWh)	60,592	60,575	6th
Domestic Gas Sales Per Customer (KWh)	20,446	20,456	3rd
Industrial & Commercial Gas Sales Per Customer (KWh)	707,128	683,197	6th
Total Electricity Consumption (GWh)	31,076	26,896	4th
Domestic Electricity Sales per Customer (KWh)	-	5,043	1st
Business Electricity Sales per Customer (KWh)	-	70,587	5th

CHP and Renewables

	2002	2003	Regional Rank 2003
CHP Electrical Capacity (MWe)	251	255	5th
Generation of Electricity from Renewable Sources (GWh)	1,315.9	1,517.1	1st

Fuel Poverty

	2001	2003	Regional Rank 2003
% Households in Fuel Poverty	6.1	5.1	7th

The East of England's Regional Spatial Strategy has been in preparation and the draft now contains references to energy generation and use.

Preparation for further outreach to local authorities on planning aspects of renewable energy is complete, drawing on PPS22 Companion Guide. Renewables East¹² has appointed a Biomass Co-ordinator to pull together interest and expertise to realise the region's potential. The first regional biomass forum was held in March.

¹² <http://www.renewableseast.org.uk/>

A review of data generated by the Home Energy Conservation Act has been completed, confirming a need for better-founded and more consistent information. The region was successful in being chosen by EST for a pilot to extend a range of energy advice to householders through Sustainable Energy Centres.

Though a regional representative of the Carbon Trust has yet to be put in place, a co-ordinated service to business on managing the use of natural resources – which has significant carbon impact – is being developed in the region.

The regions C-Red initiative, based in the University of East Anglia, continued to demonstrate community opportunity for carbon reductions and has worked up proposals to extend its activities with new partners¹³. Building on research carried out by Renewables East, C-Red are jointly delivering “Meet the Developer” events introducing reliable built environment applicable renewable energy technologies to the regions housing and commercial developers.

The region’s offshore gas and oil and the onshore supply chains remain hugely important and the EEEGR (East of England Energy Group)¹⁴ has continued to reinforce joint-working, business opportunities and access to information sharing, not least to assist the transfer of skills and technology as offshore wind progresses.

Energy interests, climate change interests and strategic bodies in the region are well connected. There has been a conscious decision not to put undue effort into producing reports or expensive infrastructure, but concentrate on addressing opportunities and market imperfections.

¹³ <http://www.cred-uk.org/index.aspx>

¹⁴ <http://www.eeegr.com/>

West Midlands

Energy Use:

	2002	2003	Regional Rank 2003
Total Gas Sales (GWh)	68,698	68,168	5th
Domestic Gas Sales Per Customer (KWh)	20,138	20,163	6th
Industrial & Commercial Gas Sales Per Customer (KWh)	855,158	783,864	5th
Total Electricity Consumption (GWh)	32,029	21,670	8th
Domestic Electricity Sales per Customer (KWh)		4,684	4th
Business Electricity Sales per Customer (KWh)		58,221	8th

CHP and Renewables

	2002	2003	Regional Rank 2003
CHP Electrical Capacity (MWe)	114	103	9th
Generation of Electricity from Renewable Sources (GWh)	753.9	581.1	5th

Fuel Poverty

	2001	2003	Regional Rank 2003
% Households in Fuel Poverty	10.9	6.7	3rd

The West Midlands Regional Assembly worked with public and private sector partners (including Advantage WM and GO-WM) to produce an Energy Strategy for the Region¹⁵. The strategy was approved by the Regional Assembly in November 2004 and launched by then Energy Minister, Mike O'Brien, in December 2004.

¹⁵ http://www.wmra.gov.uk/energy_strategy.htm

The vision of the West Midlands Energy Strategy is that by 2020 the Region will have:

- Delivered the West Midlands' commitment to the climate change challenge.
- Ensured a sustainable, secure and affordable supply of energy for everyone.
- Strengthened the Region's economic capability.

The strategy has established four key objectives:

- Improved Energy Efficiency.
- Increased use of Renewable Energy.
- Business benefiting from commercial opportunities.
- Focused and practical delivery.

The Region has made a start in implementing the strategy by focussing on creating an organisational infrastructure:

- Established an Energy Advisory Board, comprising representatives of public and private sector partners
- Creating of a Regional Energy Office
- Developing of a Communication Strategy
- Developing the capability to measure baseline energy data for the Region

Marches Energy Agency¹⁶, was part of a successful Sustainable Energy Beacon status bid for Shropshire County Council in March 2005 under the government's Beacon Council scheme. Two of its projects are under the Energy Saving Trust Innovation Programme – Low and No Carbon Technologies in Mobile Homes, and Congregations for a Low Carbon Future. These projects expect to deliver savings of some 45,600 tonnes of carbon through energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies.

¹⁶ www.meo.org.uk

East Midlands

Energy Use:

	2002	2003	Regional Rank 2003
Total Gas Sales (GWh)	54,598	54,066	7th
Domestic Gas Sales Per Customer (KWh)	20,302	20,292	5th
Industrial & Commercial Gas Sales Per Customer (KWh)	857,295	797,230	4th
Total Electricity Consumption (GWh)	17,927	22,570	7th
Domestic Electricity Sales per Customer (KWh)		4,596	5th
Business Electricity Sales per Customer (KWh)		89,835	2nd

CHP and Renewables

	2002	2003	Regional Rank 2003
CHP Electrical Capacity (MWe)	259	244	6th
Generation of Electricity from Renewable Sources (GWh)	275.6	533.9	6th

Fuel Poverty

	2001	2003	Regional Rank 2003
% Households in Fuel Poverty	9.0	6.3	5th

Following the successful launch of the Regional Energy Challenge, East Midlands Development Agency, East Midlands Regional Assembly and the Government Office for the East Midlands have worked with a small group of key stakeholders to devise a joint Framework for Action on Energy. This provides a framework to help to deliver joined up action on energy across the many different areas and with many different stakeholders. The Framework splits the areas of action into seven themes. Each of these themes will be developed into detailed work programmes for the next 3 years. EMRA and emda have both endorsed the framework through their respective boards.

A stream of work under Planning and Design has commenced with a study of the best practice in low carbon design across the region. Some 29 case studies were identified with 8 developed in more detail. These case studies are being used to raise awareness on sustainable design and support regional planning. In addition a competition to design a Sustainable Centre of Excellence in Construction has been planned and launched during April 2005. This project is aimed at design teams across the region and will also provide access to training. The partners involved included East Midlands Centre for constructing the Built Environment (EMCBE), Opun, Countryside Agency, Environment Agency and the Universities, as well as Sherwood Energy Village the site of the proposed building.

As part of the ongoing work of engaging with key stakeholders, the energy coordinator arranged seminars to link with the work done in the sub-regional strategic partnerships (SSPs). The joint seminars had a theme of resource efficiency to appeal to business. Four of the seven SSPs have arranged seminars and have identified important projects that are ongoing in their areas. These projects have been further disseminated via the Assembly website as success stories. They hope to continue with the seminars after the latest round of consultations are completed.

The Coordinator has also been working with various stakeholders across Lincolnshire, including the Chief Planning Officers group and the various local authority stakeholder groups. The coordinator has worked with the various stakeholders to try to raise awareness and provide support. This has included attending public meetings and supporting planning officers meetings. Further work supporting renewables in Lincolnshire is planned.

Three East Midlands local authorities were awarded Beacon Council status in Round 6, announced March 2005 – one shire county (Nottinghamshire), one city unitary (Leicester) and one district (High Peak Borough). The East Midlands is also the front-running region in the development of its Regional Affordable Warmth Strategy, with strong links to the energy agenda (and one of its local authorities, Newark & Sherwood District Council, is a Beacon Council for Affordable Warmth).

Yorkshire and Humberside

Energy Use:

	2002	2003	Regional Rank 2003
Total Gas Sales (GWh)	73,302	75,097	4th
Domestic Gas Sales Per Customer (KWh)	20,082	20,062	7th
Industrial & Commercial Gas Sales Per Customer (KWh)	965,333	938,420	1st
Total Electricity Consumption (GWh)	35,179	22,925	6th
Domestic Electricity Sales per Customer (KWh)	–	4,239	8th
Business Electricity Sales per Customer (KWh)	–	76,115	4th

CHP and Renewables

	2002	2003	Regional Rank 2003
CHP Electrical Capacity (MWe)	564	551	4th
Generation of Electricity from Renewable Sources (GWh)	552	582.5	4th

Fuel Poverty

	2001	2003	Regional Rank 2003
% Households in Fuel Poverty	11.2	8.6	2nd

Yorkshire and Humberside's Regional Energy Forum has supported a range of activities to help develop a more integrated regional approach to energy – including a Regional Energy Policy Statement as the basis for a comprehensive regional energy strategy in 2005.

Supported by a £1.5 million budget from Yorkshire Forward, an independent company 'Future Energy Yorkshire' is now operating to ensure that the region captures the economic opportunities associated with delivering the Energy White Paper targets.

The region is piloting a dedicated regional energy policy manager post, jointly funded by the EST and Yorkshire and Humberside Assembly, to ensure that energy efficiency/fuel poverty issues are adequately reflected in all regional strategies.

Yorkshire and Humberside's Regional Spatial Strategy, approved in November 2004, sets very challenging targets for energy and renewable energy to 2010 and 2021. Current reviews of the region's spatial, economic and housing strategies, will deliver essential changes in the way it considers energy, energy efficiency and fuel poverty issues and help meet greenhouse gas reductions targets for 2010.

Working with the SDC's dCarb-uk initiative¹⁷, the region's key partners have launched an initiative to promote and advance the low carbon economy – working on high profile projects, capturing and disseminating low carbon good practise and building delivery capacity.

Regional Fuel Poverty and Warmfront2 steering groups have been established and the region is working with the NEA to produce a regional Fuel Poverty Action Plan in 2005.

A major regional project jointly funded by DTI and YF is looking to address fuel poverty issues in off-gas main areas with a range of low-carbon options/proposals.

Yorkshire Forward are leading a number of project initiatives to support the biomass sector: trialling biomass co-firing at Drax power station, supporting regional supply chain networks, and renewable energy biomass projects in South Yorkshire delivering local authority led biomass-fuelled development.

The region has also undertaken technical, promotion and awareness raising work including: individual Local Authority Renewable Energy targets to 2010 and 2021, sub-regional initiatives to promote take up of renewable energy – particularly PV and biomass, a "Powering the region" conference and a number of toolkits, promotional materials and booklets to support Renewable Energy.

¹⁷ <http://www.dcarb-uk.org/>

North East

Energy Use:

	2002	2003	Regional Rank 2003
Total Gas Sales (GWh)	35,184	34,864	9th
Domestic Gas Sales Per Customer (KWh)	20,996	20,876	1st
Industrial & Commercial Gas Sales Per Customer (KWh)	909,947	847,158	2nd
Total Electricity Consumption (GWh)	13,164	12,222	9th
Domestic Electricity Sales per Customer (KWh)	–	3,918	9th
Business Electricity Sales per Customer (KWh)	–	92,577	1st

CHP and Renewables

	2002	2003	Regional Rank 2003
CHP Electrical Capacity (MWe)	595	565	3rd
Generation of Electricity from Renewable Sources (GWh)	199.1	214.3	9th

Fuel Poverty

	2001	2003	Regional Rank 2003
% Households in Fuel Poverty	10.2	8.7	1st

A dedicated North East Energy Executive is being established and development of an Energy Northeast website and brand is progressing to plan. This will provide the region with a clear identity to capture and communicate all the different work streams of our energy agenda. The EST Regional Strategy Co-ordinator pilot in the region has been a huge success. It has been rolled forward to continue strategic development and co-ordination between stakeholders and partners.¹⁸

¹⁸ Contact: scalvert.gone@go-regions.gsi.gov.uk

A 2nd Energy Forum held in October 2004 attracted over 100 participants. This provided stakeholders with the opportunity to scrutinise and steer the progress of Energy White Paper delivery by the region. The Forum identified 100 actions, which will feed into energy action planning and work programme development for the North East Energy Partnership and the emerging Energy Leadership Council.

NaREC¹⁹ has recently commissioned its main facilities and is developing a launch programme which will roll out over summer 2005, including:

- PV technology centre;
- Turbine blade testing centre;
- EnergyLINK laboratory;
- Wave and Tidal dock facilities; and
- Clothier laboratories.

These will significantly increase new and renewable energy capacity and capability in the North East and the UK and provide enablement, testing and development services.

The North East through the Centre for Process Innovation and Renew Tees Valley²⁰ are a leading UK Centre in fuel cell and hydrogen developments, their achievements in developing the hydrogen economy were key to establishing links with Chinese technology leaders from Shanghai.

The Biofuels Corporation has received investment of £2.5M from One NorthEast towards the establishment of Europe's largest biofuels producing complex on Teesside capable of producing 250,000 tonnes of biodiesel a year, serving markets in the UK and the rest of Europe. Further support for the development of the bioenergy industry in the region is delivered through the North East Biofuels and the Biomass Implementation Group.

The North East has secured one of the EST's Sustainable Energy Centre pilots. Partner engagement commenced in the spring clarifying roles and strengthening existing linkages to facilitate delivery of a clear vision for the future.

The recently published draft Regional Spatial Strategy has been prepared by the North East Assembly to provide local planning authorities with the policy tools to contribute positively to regional carbon reduction aims. Further to this, a work programme is being prepared to focus specifically at the opportunities for energy efficiency and renewables through the existing planning system.

¹⁹ <http://www.narec.co.uk/>

²⁰ www.renewteesvalley.co.uk

North West

Energy Use:

	2002	2003	Regional Rank 2003
Total Gas Sales (GWh)	97,534	96,771	1st
Domestic Gas Sales Per Customer (KWh)	20,402	20,435	4th
Industrial & Commercial Gas Sales Per Customer (KWh)	877,340	821,323	3rd
Total Electricity Consumption (GWh)	39,661	33,499	3rd
Domestic Electricity Sales per Customer (KWh)	–	4,246	7th
Business Electricity Sales per Customer (KWh)	–	86,011	3rd

CHP and Renewables

	2002	2003	Regional Rank 2003
CHP Electrical Capacity (MWe)	1,018	1,020	1st
Generation of Electricity from Renewable Sources (GWh)	662.3	796.6	3rd

Fuel Poverty

	2001	2003	Regional Rank 2003
% Households in Fuel Poverty	9.9	6.3	6th

Within the region the NW Development Agency, NW Regional Assembly and GO-NW have formed a regional co-ordination group to oversee energy activities. These key public sector bodies are also represented on the NW Energy Council which has continued its valuable work in support of the NWDA energy activities. A key policy development was the NW Regional Assembly's production of a Sustainable Energy Strategy. A draft document for public consultation was published in September 2004²¹ and a final version is anticipated for September 2005.

21 http://rpg.nwra.gov.uk/documents/index.php?group_id=7

In December 2004, the Energy Council and GO-NW sponsored a major energy policy conference under the heading of 'Will the Lights Go Out?' at Lancaster University attracting over 200 delegates drawn from the region, the UK and beyond²². GO-NW also organised an energy efficiency conference for housing bodies in February 2005, which examined ways in which new housing could be made more energy efficient.

Promotion of renewables has taken a twin track approach in the region with Renewables NW continuing their successful 'heart and minds' campaign aimed particularly at local councillors. Envirolink NW leads the second work stream developing the supply chain opportunities for NW companies. Currently there is approximately 300MW of onshore wind capacity and potential for a further 2298MW of offshore wind capacity. Early in 2005 construction began on the 'CIS Tower project'²³ which will be the largest vertical PV array in the UK when completed in 2006.

The Carbon Trust have continued to be very active in the region through the work of their NW regional manager and a number of companies and local authorities in the the NW have played host to the pilot phase of 'Carbon Management'. In October 2004 Northwest Chemical Companies C-Saving Project (NCCCP)²⁴ was launched with Carbon Trust support. Sixteen companies have joined this 'club' with the aim of identifying and implementing energy savings projects. Energy efficiency advice is also a key component of the 'Enworks' programme²⁵, which supports NW SMEs with resource efficiency programmes. Over £20m of funding has been pledged to this flagship programme.

With over half of the UK's nuclear liabilities in the region, the Nuclear Decommissioning Agency (NDA)²⁶ has located its HQ in Cumbria. The estimated cost of decommissioning the existing civil nuclear facilities is estimated around £50 billion and will be carried out over the next 50 or so years.

Skills development is seen as crucial to the future development of the sector and the Sector Skills and Productivity Alliance was formed in 2004, bringing together the energy Sector Skills Councils, Learning and Skills Council and the key business support bodies. The Alliance aims to identify gaps in current training provision and ensure regional co-ordination so that these gaps are filled.

22 <http://www.engineering.lancs.ac.uk/energyconference/>

23 <http://www.nwda.co.uk/SimpleContent.aspx?news=1&area=72&subarea=73&item=200410295602392818&yr=2004>

24 <http://www.chemicalsnw.org.uk/doxuploaded/NWCC-Newsletter3.pdf>

25 <http://www.enworks.com>

26 <http://www.nda.gov.uk>

Annex: Key Regional Energy Statistics

Regional Energy Statistics

The regional statistics used for each region and in the Key Statistics Annex have been taken from the regional energy statistics published by DTI in Energy Trends over the last 12 months. Notes on how these statistics were derived and on their limitations are to be found within those articles. Web references for these articles are:

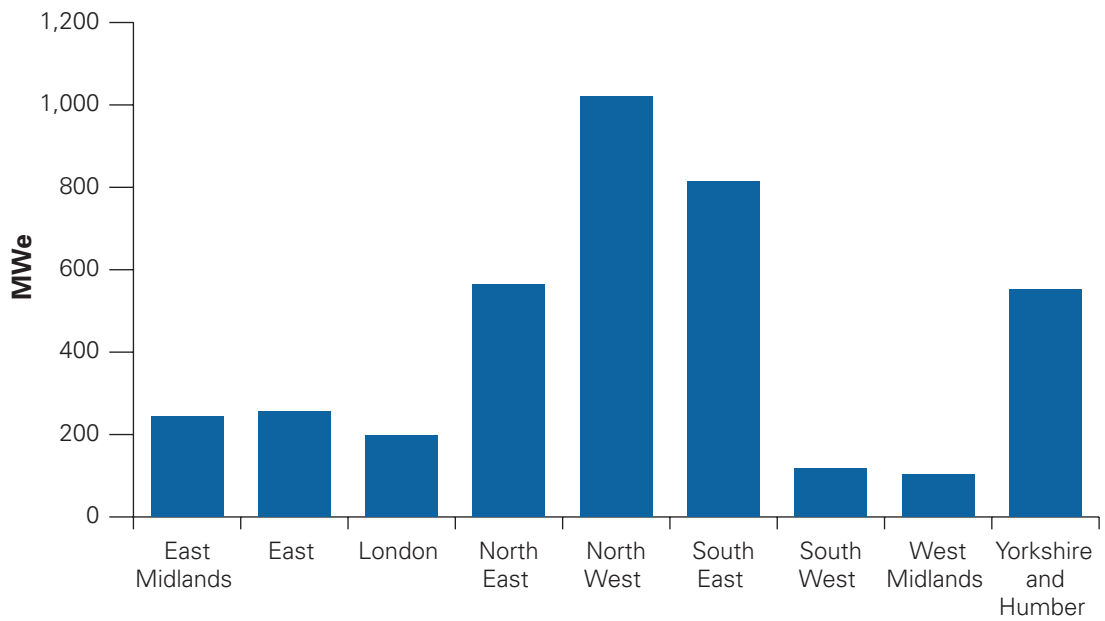
- http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/inform/energy_trends/sep_04.pdf
- http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/inform/energy_trends/dec_04.pdf
- http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/inform/energy_trends/mar_05.pdf

Some further analysis of the regional patterns of energy use in the domestic sector is available from the internet version of "Energy - Its Impact on the Environment and Society". This may be accessed directly at:

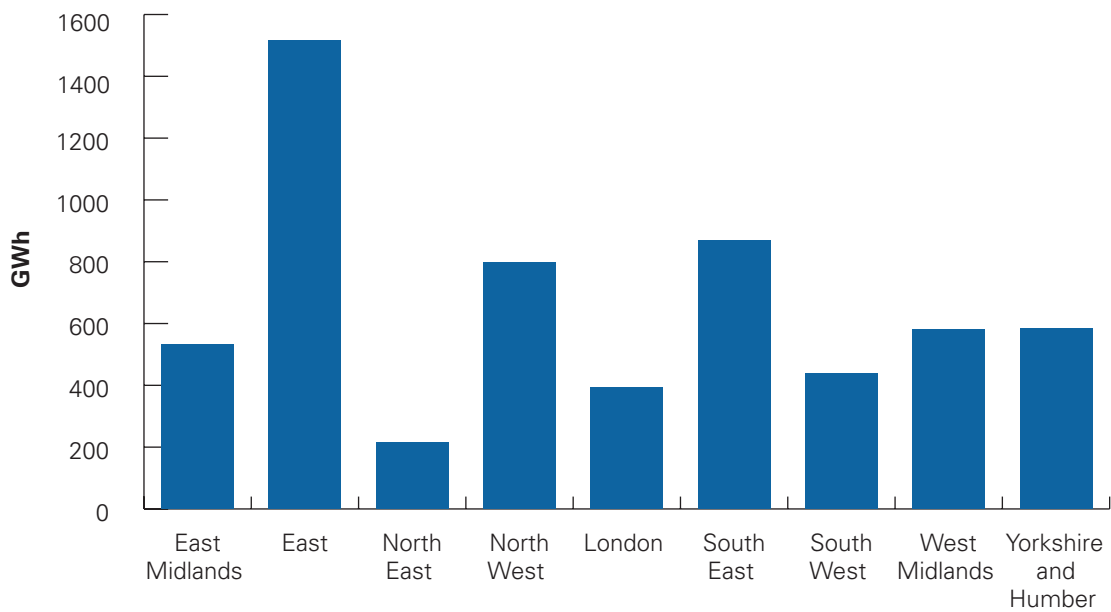
http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/environment/energy_impact/seib2005ch3b.pdf

Note that regional fuel poverty figures for 2001 presented in this report do not take account of the methodological improvements detailed in the UK Fuel Poverty Strategy Third Annual Progress Report.

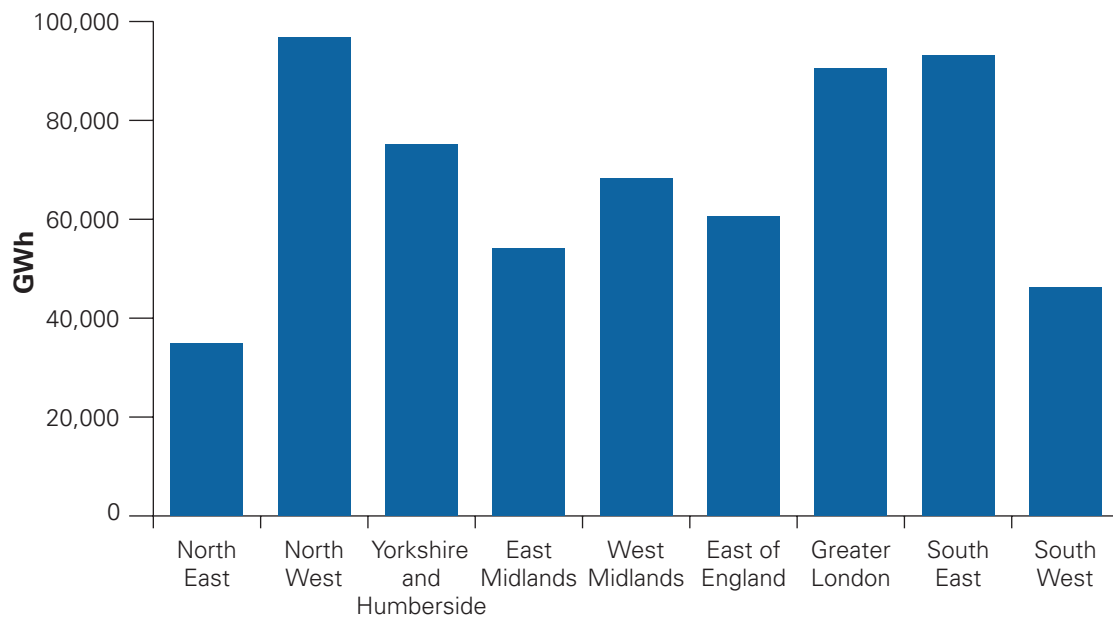
CHP Electrical Capacity 2003



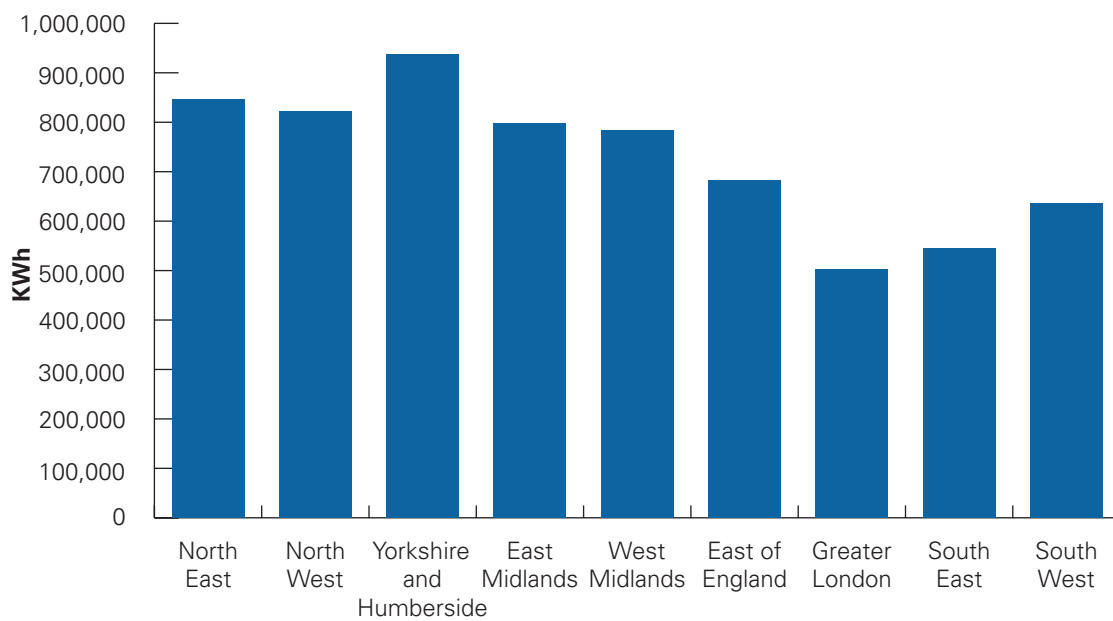
Generation of Electricity from Renewables Sources 2003



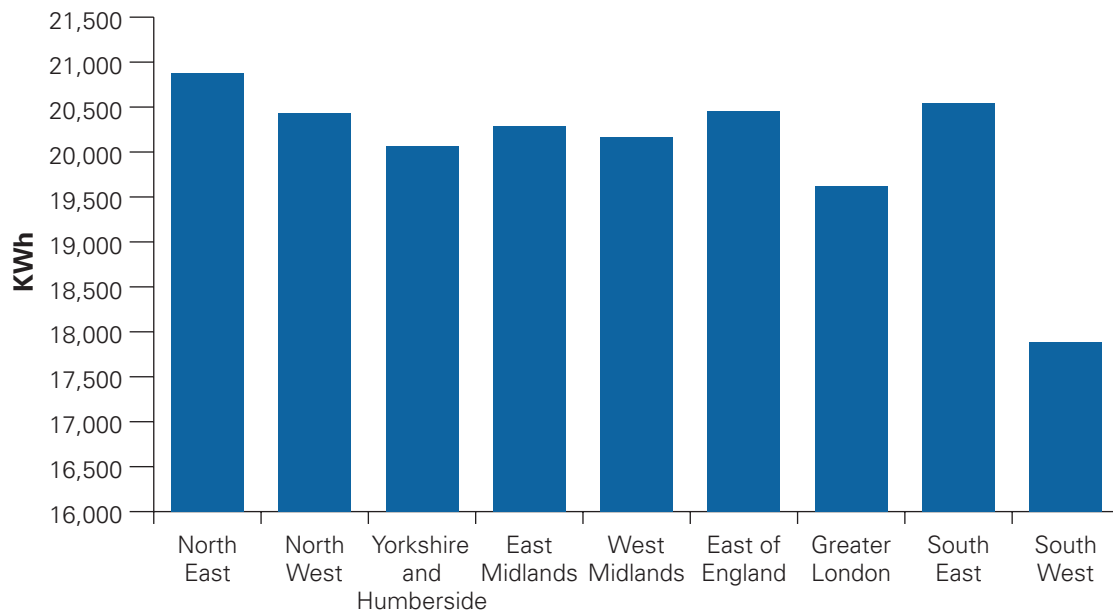
Total Gas Sales (GWh) 2003



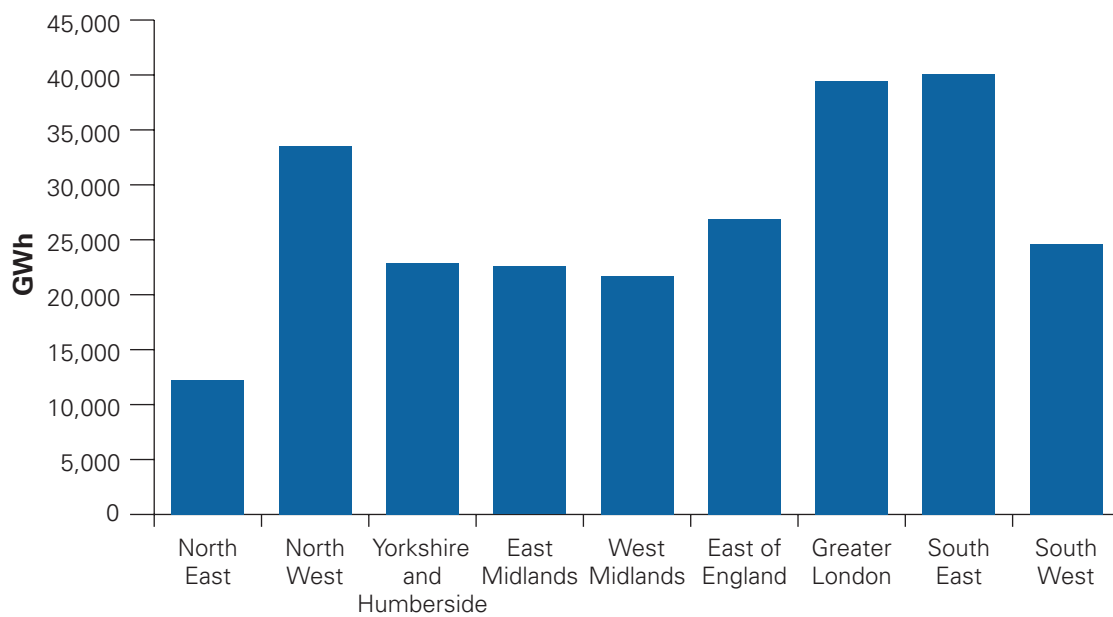
Gas Sales per Customer (Business) 2003



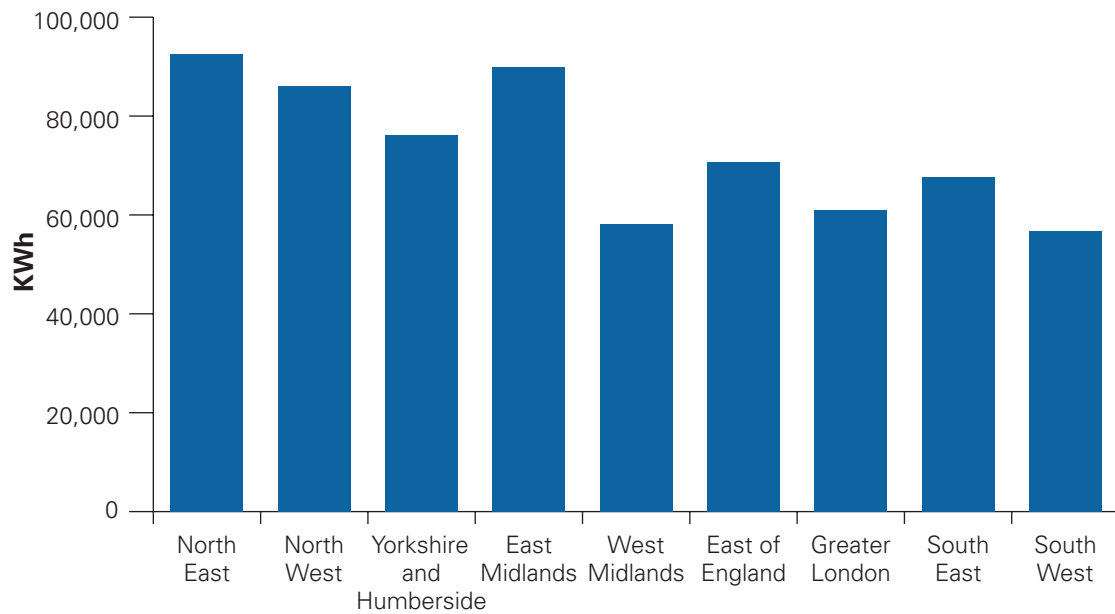
Gas Sales Per Customer (Domestic) 2003



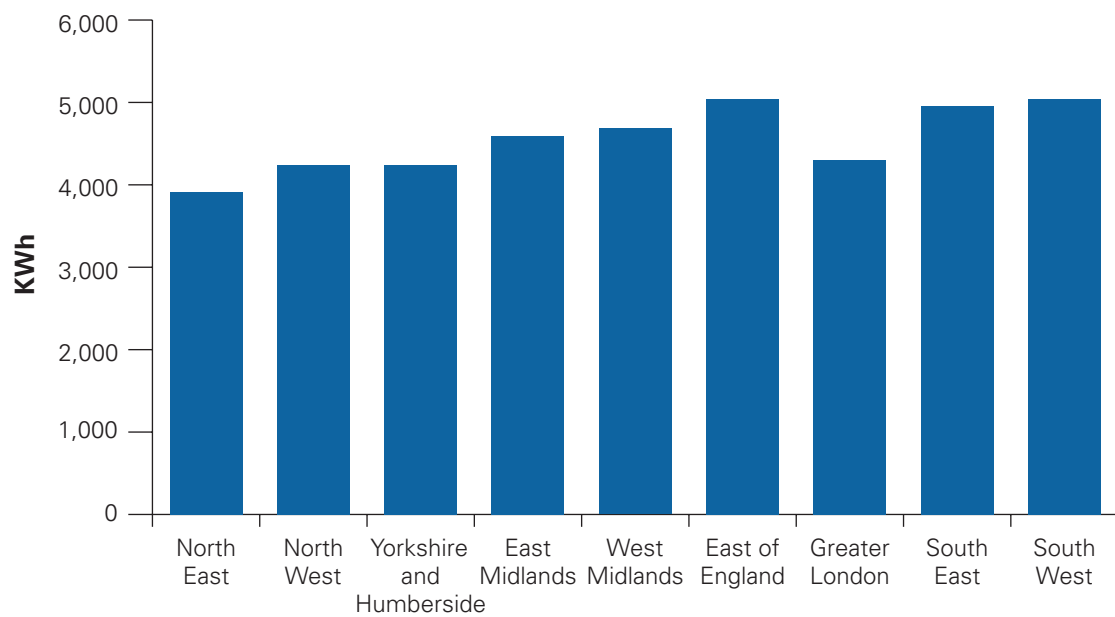
Total Electricity Consumption 2003



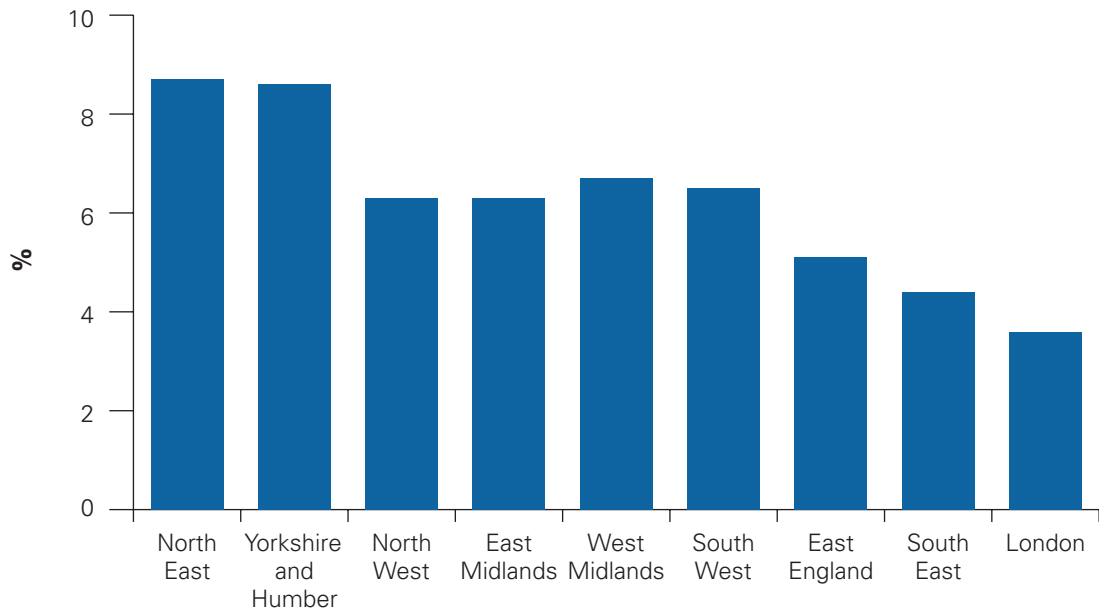
Electricity Consumption per Customer (Business) 2003



Electricity Consumption per Customer (Domestic) 2003



% Households in Fuel Poverty 2003



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