

A collaboration to accelerate the transition to a zero-carbon society in the West of England zerowest.org @ZeroWestCIC

Zero West CIC

Zero West's purpose is "to work in an inclusive and collaborative way to achieve a West of England that is zero carbon, zero waste, prosperous, and fair."

Individual and organisational members

Connecting across sectors - we need to do this together.



VISION CREATION

- Inclusive Conversation
 - Arts & Culture
 - Technical Analysis

INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

- Renewable Energy
- Energy Efficiency & Storage
- Tree Planting & Soil Carbon

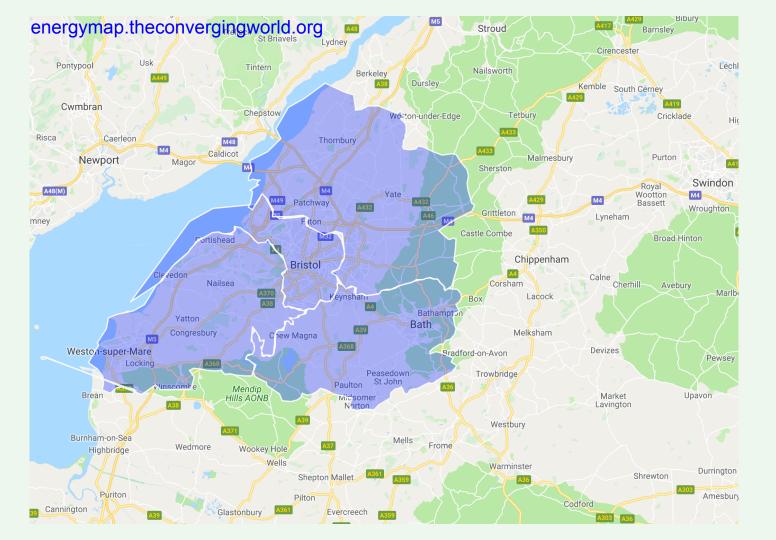
COMMUNITY ACTION

- Democratic Participation
- Personal & Workplace Action
 - Campaigning

for Climate Adaptation

Energy and Land Systems

in the West of England and the UK



Methodology

- 1. Estimate renewable potential for WoE region
 - a. Roof & Ground Solar
 - b. Onshore & Offshore Wind
 - c. Hydro
 - d. Biomass and Energy from Waste (EfW)
 - e. Anaerobic Digestion (AD)
- 2. Estimate existing renewables in WoE region
- 3. Parameterise Pathfinder Model by Wales & West Utilities

Scope

- Pathfinder includes:
 - Electricity domestic, commercial, industrial
 - o Gas domestic, small commercial, electricity generation
- Pathfinder baseline calculates 3.8 tonnes CO2/person
- UK figures: 5.5 tonnes CO2/person (DUKES 2019)
- Difference is industrial gas and transport (major contributor)
- Per capita consumption is 10-15 tonnes CO2 per person
- A quarter to a half of emissions for which we are responsible?

Potential Renewables

- Solar (roof) 4kW on 25% of roofs
- Solar (ground) 0.5% land area
- Hydro Environment Agency methodology
- Wind (onshore) Regen SW methodology (2010) 3% land area
- Wind (offshore) share of national capacity contracted by 2030
- Biomass 20% agricultural land 14% land area
- EfW 2030 projected recycling rates
- AD 10x current capacity

Existing Renewables

- What renewables do we have where is not a simple question!
- Data we use:
 - Feed In Tariff data from OFGFM
 - Renewable Energy Planning Database
- Thanks to Sheffield Solar Group
 - https://www.solar.sheffield.ac.uk/
- Notes on project status:
 - Biomass and EfW operational or planned projects only
 - Solar, wind and hydro projects may have been abandoned

Results

Capacity (MW)	S Glos	Bristol	B&NES	N Somerset	TOTAL	EXISTING
Solar PV (roof)	137	260	108	125	631	101
Solar PV (ground)	248	55	176	187	666	188
Hydro	0	1	4	0	5	0
Onshore Wind	167	0	114	132	412	65
Offshore Wind					782	155
Biomass	16	0	10	11	37	0
EfW	12	17	9	10	49	102
AD					170	17

Modelling I

Model

- Pathfinder by Wales & West Utilities
- Hourly supply and demand matcher with historical data

Baseline

National figures, reduced proportionally by population for the WoE

Scenario

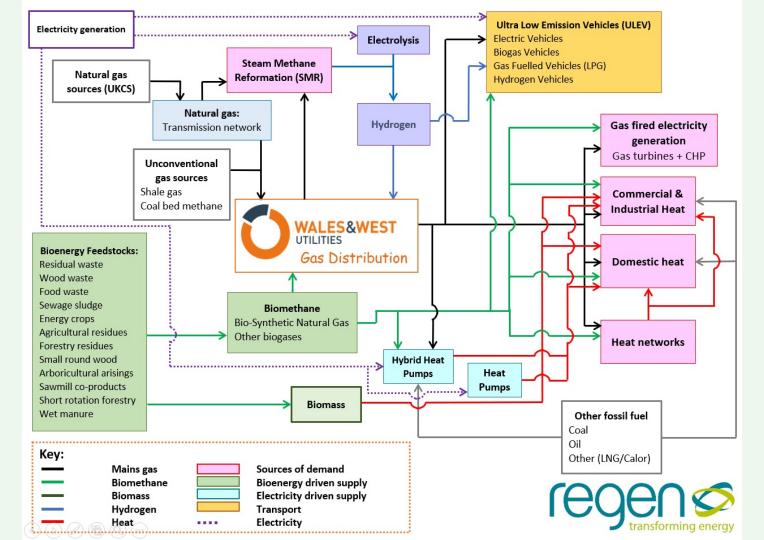
- No fossil fuels of nuclear
- Reduce demand by ⅓
- Ambitious local solar and wind, share of planned offshore wind
- Current EfW, no biomass, share of national hydro
- One electric car per household (current: ~1.4 cars/household)
- Batteries accompanying rooftop solar
- Heat pumps & green gas from increased AD
- Excess renewables used to generate hydrogen

Modelling II

- How much renewable energy is this?
 - ~1.5x the generation capacity
 - Overall electricity demand in baseline and scenario is similar
- And what do we do with it?
 - With 80% heat pump (and 20% direct electric) heating:
 - Rely on ~500GWh interconnector import
 - With 500MW+ H₂ generation, store ~500GWh H₂ with zero export
 - Minimal fossil gas/CO₂ emissions
 - And by being smart:
 - With smart heat pumps, and smart electric vehicles...
 - We can reduce interconnector dependence by a factor of 10
 - Though occasional reliance remains high
- The West of England can achieve zero carbon

The Future of Energy

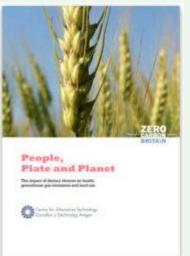
- We need significantly more renewables
- We need significant demand reduction
- We also need...
 - Electric vehicles including fleet utilisation
 - Heat pumps & domestic batteries
 - Biomethane & hydrogen generation and storage
 - Conversion of hydrogen to synthetic gas & liquid fuels
 - Reforestation and regenerative agriculture
- We shouldn't need:
 - Fossil fuels & nuclear
 - Old growth forests for biomass
 - Carbon capture & steam reformation

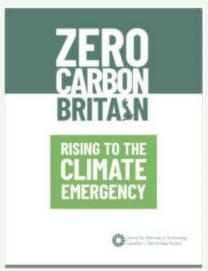


Reports by the Centre for Alternative Technology cat.org.uk













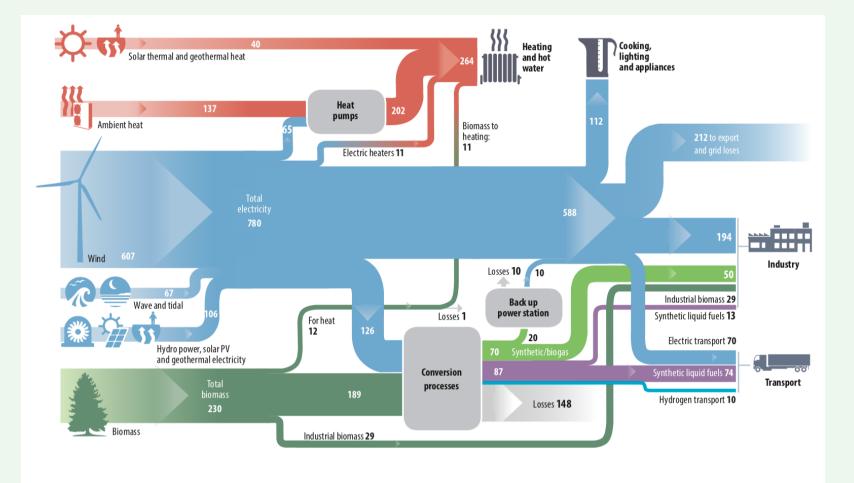
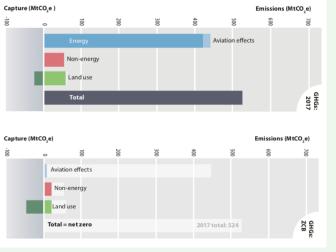
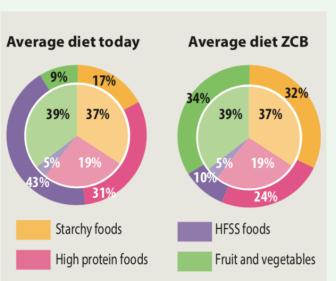


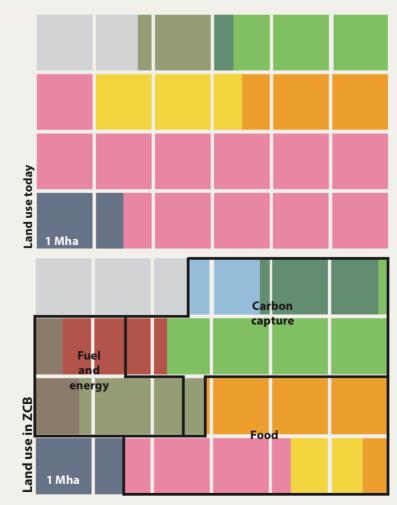
Figure 3.18: Energy flows in our scenario – from supply to demand. Numbers used here are rounded up or down to the nearest TWh and so inputs and outputs may not add up exactly.







Approximate land use today and in Zero Carbon Britain in million hectares (Mha). Areas dedicated to providing food, biomass for fuel and energy, plus carbon capture are shown for the Zero Carbon Britain scenario.



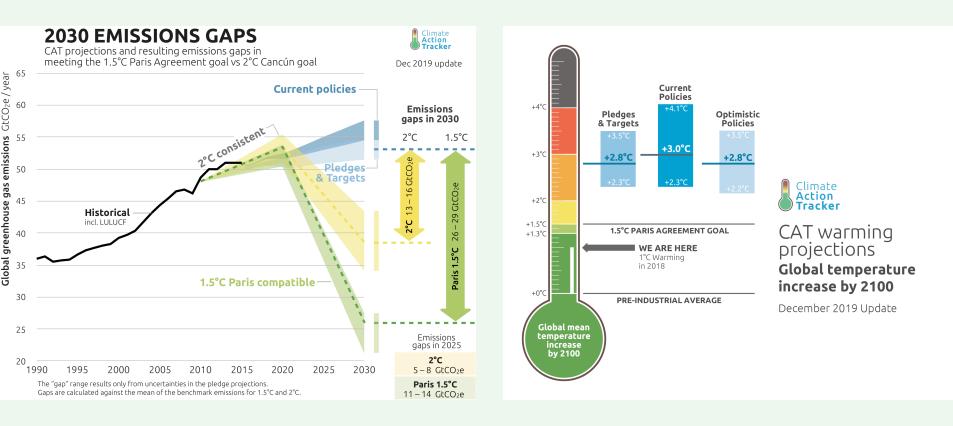
Land use in the West of England

- WoE is 71% agricultural land and 6% forestry
- New forestry: 400 tonnes CO₂/hectare/50 years (Woodland Trust)
- Reforesting WoE: ~1 million tonnes CO₂ sequestration/year
 - https://www.avonneedstrees.org.uk/
- Regenerative agriculture: 60-120 tonnes CO₂/hectare
 - https://www.drawdown.org/solutions/food/regenerative-agriculture
- Regenerative agriculture in the WoE: 6-12 million tonnes CO₂

Key Messages

- No doubt as to technical feasibility of achieving zero carbon
- The transition required is extremely complex
- It is also occurring piecemeal and against fundamental blockers
- The financial cost will be high
- We must now reduce emissions and sequester carbon (no offsetting)
- We must reduce emissions beyond our responsibility
- In these sectors: heat & power / transport / food & stuff
- Why does it matter?

We have less than ten years of carbon budget for a ¾ chance of remaining below 1.5 degrees



Zero Carbon means every person and organisation doing everything in their power to reduce emissions now