



BRIGHTON COUNCIL
COMMUNITY ENERGY USE AND
GREENHOUSE GAS FOOTPRINT
SUMMARY REPORT MAY 2019

PUBLISHING DETAILS

The Southern Tasmanian Regional and Municipal Energy and Emissions Project 2018, was endorsed in the Regional Climate Change Initiative (RCCI) Action Plan 2017-2019, by the Board of the Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority (STCA) in June 2017.

First published by Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority, Regional Climate Change Initiative April 2019.

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CITING THIS REPORT: Johnson, A. 2019 'Brighton Council Community Energy Use and Greenhouse Gas Footprint', Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The STCA acknowledges organisations that assisted with the finalisation of the community greenhouse gas and energy profile:

- City of Hobart developed and piloted the initial methodology for community emissions
- TasNetworks provided residential and commercial/industrial sector electricity data
- Australian Government, Clean Energy Regulator for commercial/industrial data to fact check final results

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BRIGHTON COUNCIL SUMMARY

Our local energy use patterns are changing – disruptive technologies such as electric vehicles and rooftop solar electricity generation systems impact energy use, alongside many other factors such as government programs and incentives. A snapshot of Brighton community energy use and greenhouse gas emission trends has been provided by the Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority’s Regional Climate Change Initiative.

Brighton community energy use has decreased by 0.4% (11,725tCO₂-e) from 2006-07 to 2016-17. Greenhouse gas emissions have increased by 4% from 2006-07 to 2016-17. Electricity use increases drove up emissions, while transport sector savings, price signals, greater energy efficiency measures and rooftop solar worked to drive down energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. Emission intensive fuels in the industry sector were responsible for the greatest greenhouse gas emissions increase.

Community energy use and associated greenhouse gas emissions footprints

Brighton municipality 2016-17	2.6 petajoules (PJ)	154,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide (tCO ₂ -e)
Region (across 12 southern Tasmanian municipalities) 2016-17	43 petajoules (PJ)	2,580,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide (tCO ₂ -e)
Tasmania	109 petajoules (PJ) (2016-17)	3,980,000 (tonnes of carbon dioxide (tCO ₂ -e) (2015-16)

Data sources (left to right, top to bottom): Regional Community Energy Use and Greenhouse Gas Footprint, STCA, 2019; Australian Energy Statistics, Australian Government, 2018; Tasmanian Greenhouse Gas Accounts, Tasmanian Climate Change Office 2018

Consumers are increasingly taking local energy generation into their own hands. Over 3.5 million units (kilowatt hour) of electricity are returned to the grid annually, generated by local Brighton residential and commercial premises, and each year this figure grows.

Harnessing the power of the sun is popular. Over 944 rooftops have solar photovoltaic (PV) and 200 rooftops have solar hot water systems in the Brighton municipal area.

Postcode 7030 lead the way in solar PV systems. Brighton, Dromedary, Pontville have the highest number of residential (560) and commercial (17) solar PV systems, compared to other postcodes in the Brighton municipal area.

Commercial sector solar PV systems have doubled from 12 systems in 2013-14 to 22 systems in 2016-17.

Energy based technology shifts are occurring locally. Petrol vehicles are being replaced with diesel vehicles. A reduction in vehicle fuel use of 21% from 2006-07 to 2016-17 has seen the dominant trend of increasing yearly fuel use turn around.

Transport is a key focus area, encouraging low emission travel. The transport sector is responsible for at least a third of community emissions. Locally predominantly older vehicles are in use, which are generally more emissions intensive.

Annual electricity use has increased by 10% over the last decade. In the Brighton municipal area households are using more electricity in 2016-17 than a decade ago.

Recent electricity use has been relatively flat compared to the earlier half of the decade, suggesting consumers have improved the energy efficiency of buildings or are responding to other factors that drive electricity use to find savings. Consumer behaviour in commercial premises and the home are considered influenced by increasing consumer awareness of energy costs and actions as well as factors such as: local weather; price signals; and the use of energy efficient appliances and materials through government programs; in addition to the influence of population growth. Energy efficiency measures, such as insulation, buffer the impact of extreme temperature events, reducing the demand for heating and cooling and decreasing electricity use.

INTRODUCTION

As discussions on how to reach zero emissions increase understanding our local community energy and emissions footprint becomes more important. Looking at where and why energy is used, and the resulting greenhouse gas emissions, is the first step to identify opportunities for savings and initiatives that benefit local communities.

Local governments have a key role providing up to date and reliable climate change information. The Southern Tasmanian Regional and Municipal Energy and Emissions Project (the Project) 2018 aims to provide insights into emissions intensive sectors of the community and changing technology trends in the local area. It informs the development of individual municipalities' community profiles. The Project was commissioned by the Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority's Regional Climate Change Initiative (RCCI) member councils:

- City of Hobart
- Brighton Council

- Central Highlands Council
- Clarence City Council
- Derwent Valley Council
- Glamorgan Spring Bay Council
- Glenorchy City Council
- Huon Valley Council
- Kingborough Council
- Sorell Council
- Southern Midlands Council
- Tasman Council

Currently there is no common standard amongst Australian local governments for corporate and community energy and greenhouse gas reporting. The Australian Local Government Association has identified appropriate data and methods as the most common barrier to setting community emissions targets.¹

This project provides a common and transparent methodology with local and national data inputs to construct accurate community energy and greenhouse gas profiles. It builds on the previous local government voluntary reporting scheme Cities for Climate Protection which ran from 2000 – 2010 and is consistent with National and State Government reporting standards and international reporting programs such as the Carbon Development Program, the Compact of Mayors² and the Global Protocol for Community Scale Greenhouse Gas Emissions.

The methodology uses public and government information that is reliable, credible and updated regularly, and involved the following:

¹ Australian Local Government Climate Review – 2018 Report p. 3.

² led by C40, ICLEI and United Cities and Local Governments, in close collaboration with the UN Secretary General's Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change, UN Habitat, and the UN Secretary General's office

1. Accessing [Australian Energy Statistics](#) to establish a baseline energy snapshot, which was then tailored to a local level.
2. Accurate metered data provided by energy service providers was used, where available.
3. Australian Government [National Greenhouse Accounts Factors](#) were then applied to each energy use type to determine total greenhouse gas emissions.
4. Additional records such as the Australian Bureau of Statistics, and Australian PV Institute (APVI) provided more detailed insights into local technology trends.

The scope of community data is limited to:

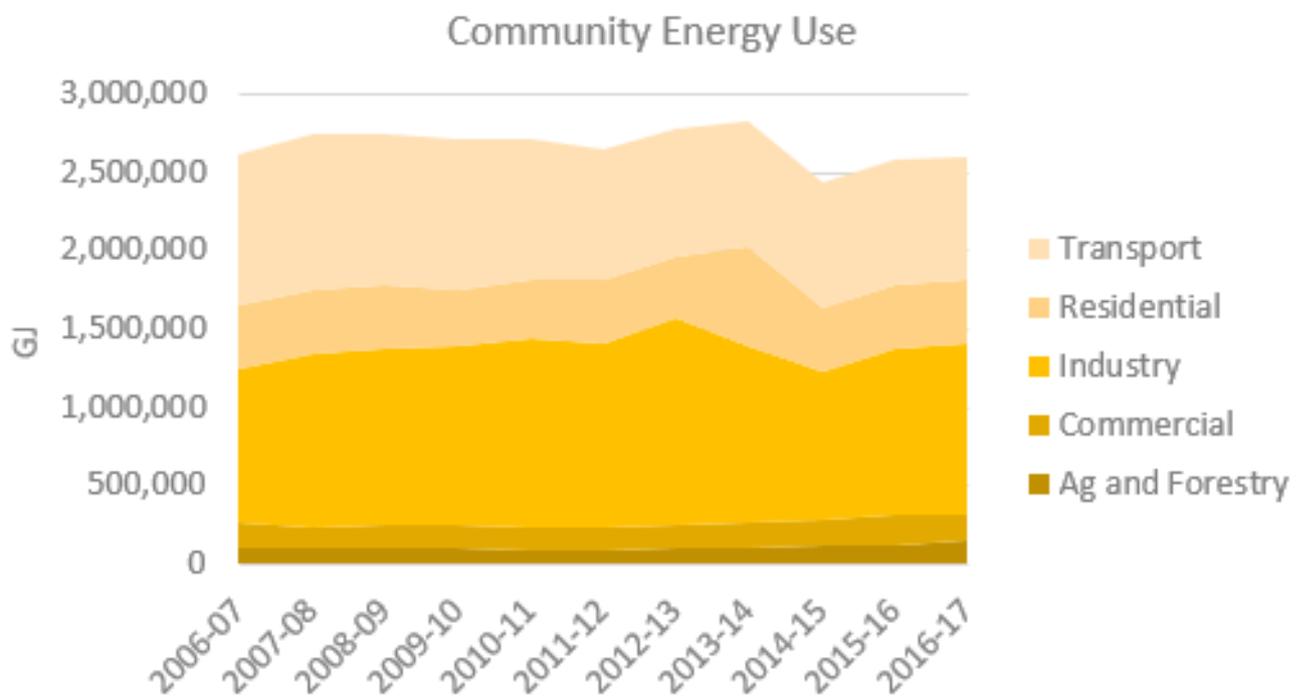
- a base year, 2006-07, when detailed electricity data is available, the transfer of water and sewerage assets to a regional body occurred and Tasmania joined the National Electricity Market³.
- current data as of 2016-17, as up to date as the latest Australian Government, Australian Energy Statistics.
- energy based emissions only, excluding methane from agriculture/wastewater and carbon emissions from land clearing currently – as the greenhouse accounting for forest and agricultural emissions is not available in a format for local government reporting. This can be added retrospectively.
- highlights data from the residential, commercial, transport sectors at a municipal level and industrial, agriculture and forestry sectors at a regional level.

³ Data estimates for electricity and all energy uses are available from 2004-05 to align with the international reporting period stated in the Paris Agreement if preferred.

BRIGHTON COUNCIL

Community energy use has decreased by 0.4% from 2006-07 to 2016-17, from 2.61 million to 2.6 million gigajoules (GJ) in Brighton’s municipal area. A typical southern Tasmania household uses 25 GJ (7,000 kWh) per annum.

Figure 1: Brighton Municipal Area Community Energy Use.



Source: Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority, 2018. Data sources: Australian Energy Statistics, 2018, TasNetworks, 2018. NB: All energy use is presented in gigajoules (GJ) as an industry standard and a format that is easy to convert with other energy values. The increase in 2012-13 is due to an increase in electricity use data provided by TasNetworks, due to additional Pay As You Go data being measured and added in that single year (with some historic data included).

Energy reductions have occurred in the transport sector (-181,418GJ). State-wide trends have contributed to decreasing transport sector energy use such as price signals, greater energy efficiency measures in newer vehicles and consumer technology preferences.

The industry sector (-120,740GJ) (includes manufacturing, mining and construction) was responsible for the largest energy use, followed by the agriculture and forestry sector (48,568GJ), residential sector (-11,488GJ) and the commercial sector (-11,103GJ).

The commercial sector decreased energy use, particularly from decreasing electricity use in Brighton, unlike most communities where the dominant trend was increasing energy use.

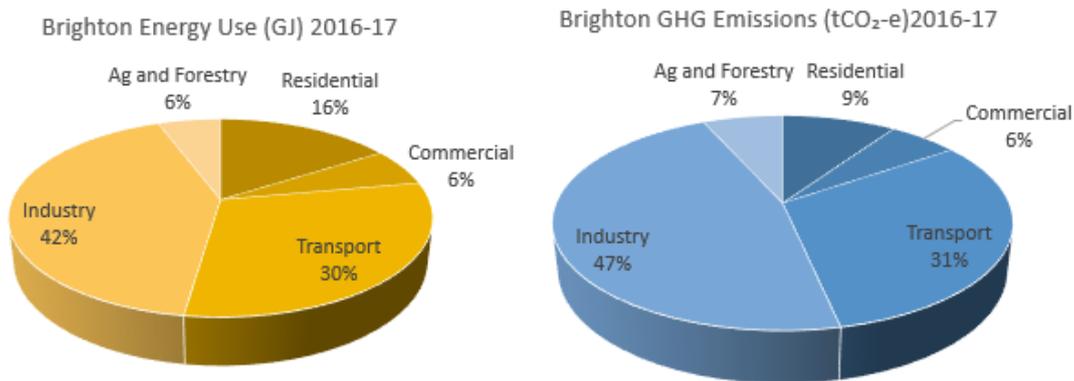
Table 1: Brighton's Municipal Area Community Energy Use Gigajoules (GJ)

Energy use (GJ)	2006-07	2016-17	Growth %	Total difference between 2006-07 and 2016-17
Residential	405,037	416,525	3	11,488
Commercial	171,290	160,187	-7	-11,103
Transport	968,058	786,640	-21	-181,418
Subtotal	1,544,385	1,363,352	-12	-181,033
Industry	973,401	1,094,141	12	120,740
Agriculture and Forestry	100,439	149,007	39	48,568
Grand Total	2,618,225	2,606,500	-0.4	-11,725

Data sources: Australian Energy Statistics, 2018, TasNetworks, 2018. NB: All energy use is presented in gigajoules (GJ) as an industry standard and a format that is easy to convert with other energy values. The Midpoint method for determining growth rates is used. The transport, industrial and agriculture and forestry sectors all use State-wide data, with results indicating general trends, while the residential and commercial sectors are mainly derived from metered data.

Brighton's industrial and transport sectors use approximately a third each of total community energy use and the greatest share of community greenhouse gas emissions.

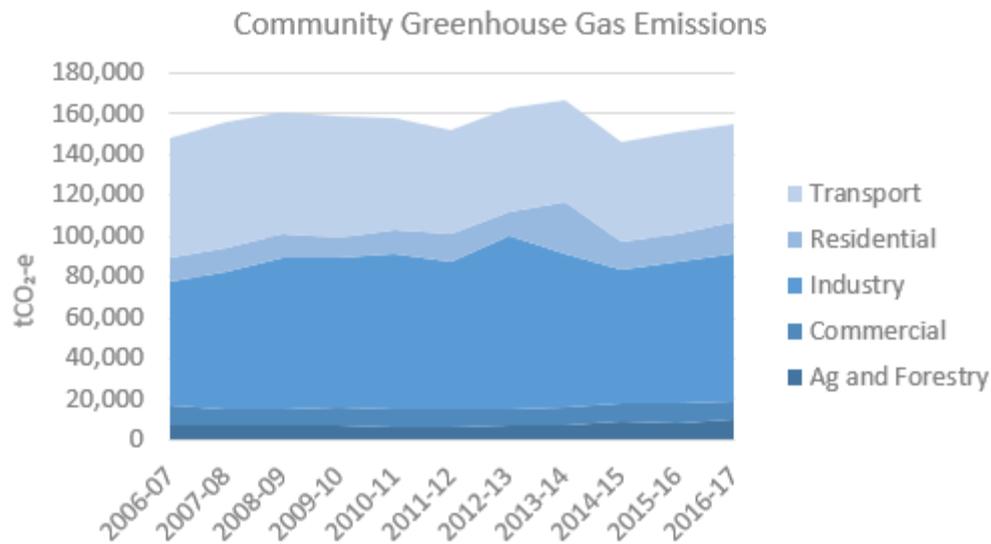
Figure 2: Brighton's Community Energy Use and Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Sector



Source: Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority, 2018. Data sources: Australian Energy Statistics, 2018, TasNetworks, 2018, National Greenhouse Accounts Factors, 2016.

Greenhouse gas emissions have increased by 4% from 148,503 tCO₂-e in 2006-07 to 154,985tCO₂-e (the equivalent of 32,000 vehicles driven for one year) in 2016-17. Increasing energy use in the agriculture and forestry sectors has contributed to higher emissions, working against reductions achieved in the commercial and transport sectors. Industrial sector emissions have increased by 11,736tCO₂-e mainly due to an increase in the use of emissions intensive fuels in the manufacturing sector such as coke, black coal, petroleum, diesel and natural gas. These fuel use trends are mainly based on per capita Statewide results.

Figure 3: Brighton's Community Greenhouse Gas Emissions



Source: Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority, 2018. Data sources: Australian Energy Statistics, 2018, TasNetworks, 2018, National Greenhouse Accounts Factors, 2016. NB: All greenhouse gas emissions are presented in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂e) as an industry standard and a format that is easy to convert other values. The increase in 2012-13 is due to an increase in electricity use data provided by TasNetworks, due to additional Pay As You Go data being measured and added in that single year (with some historic data included).

Table 2: Brighton's Municipal Areas Community Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions

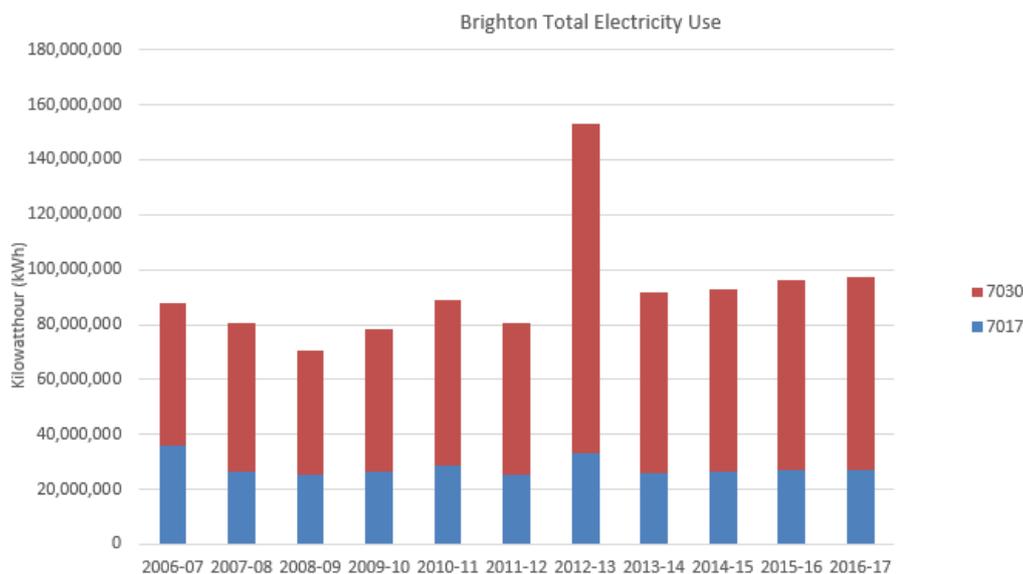
GHG emissions tonnes of CO ₂ equivalent (tCO ₂ -e)	2006-07	2016-17	Growth %	Total difference between 2006-07 to 2016-17
Residential	11,489	14,812	25	3,323
Commercial	9,844	9,087	-8	-757
Transport	59,536	48,378	-21	-11,158
Subtotal	80,869	72,277	-11	-8,592
Industry	60,600	72,336	18	11,736

Ag and Forestry	7,034	10,372	38	3,338
Grand Total	148,503	154,985	4	6,482

Data sources: Australian Energy Statistics, 2018, TasNetworks, 2018 and National Greenhouse Accounts, 2016. NB: Greenhouse gas emissions presented in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent as an industry standard. The Midpoint method for determining growth rates is used. The transport, industrial and agriculture and forestry sectors all use State-wide data, with results indicating general trends, while the residential and commercial sectors are mainly derived from metered data.

Annual electricity use has increased by 10% over the last decade from 87 to 97 million units or kilowatt hour (kWh) in 2016-17. Electricity use trends have a large impact on overall community energy use, particularly in the residential and commercial sectors where electricity use is responsible for more than half of all energy used.

Figure 4: Brighton’s Municipal Area Community Total Electricity Use

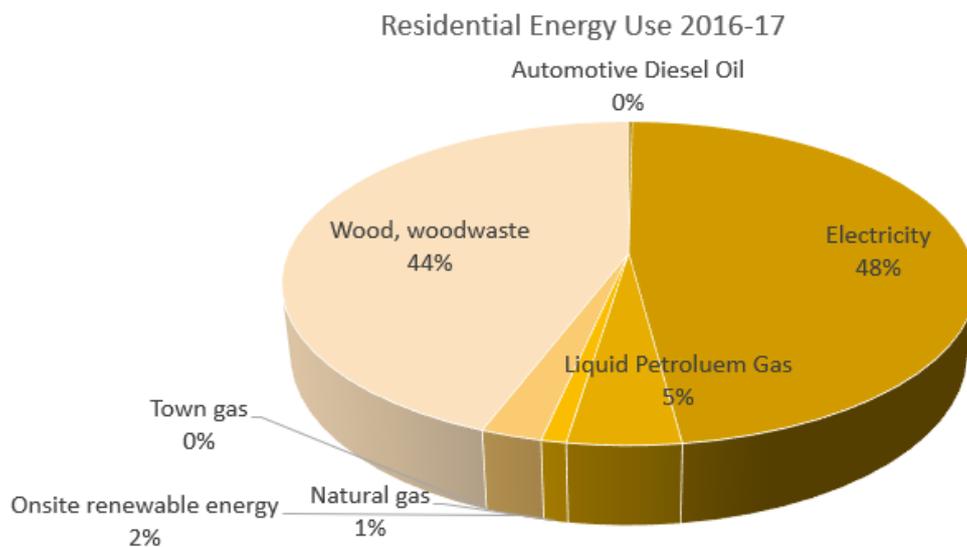


Data sources: TasNetworks, 2018. The TasNetworks data is sourced from legacy business systems and includes a variation between 2006/07 and 2007/08 for reasons unknown. The increase in 2012-13 is due to an increase in electricity use data provided by TasNetworks, due to additional Pay As You Go data being measured and added in that single year (with some historic data included).

Brighton Council’s households are using 10% more electricity in 2016-17 than a decade ago in 2006-07. The postcodes with a larger population have consumed more electricity and have higher total energy consumption.

Wood use has decreased by 32% from 2006-07 to 2016-17 and constitutes over a third of all residential energy use.

Figure 5: Brighton Municipal Area Residential Energy Use



Source: Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority, 2018. Data sources: Australian Energy Statistics, 2018, TasNetworks, 2018

More consumers are generating and using their own solar rooftop power, decreasing electricity use from the electricity grid. Around 200 rooftops use solar energy to heat hot water⁴ in the local area. In the Brighton municipal area, there are over 944 solar photovoltaic (PV) systems⁵, which means one-in-every-nine premises have access to solar⁶.

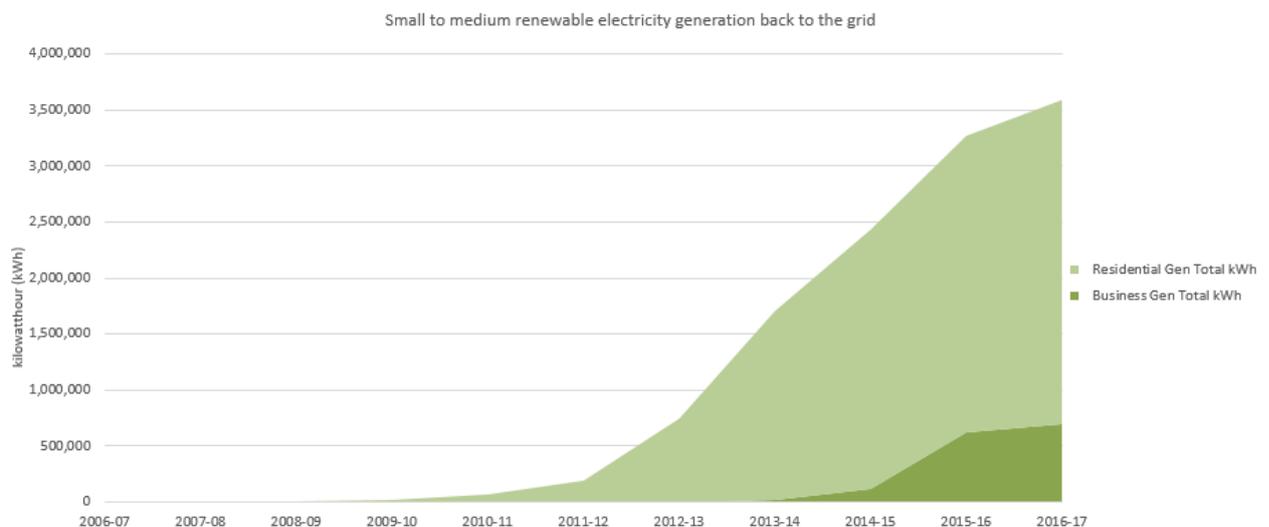
⁴ Based on CER small scale technology data, accessed May 2018. There are shared postcodes with neighbouring councils so a conservative estimate has been used.

⁵ Based on TasNetworks meters that generate back to the electricity grid, 2018 data.

⁶ Total buildings based on number of meters (commercial and residential) in 2016-17, 8,222 NMIs divided by 944 renewable electricity generation NMIs

A key change in the commercial sector is the popularity of solar PV systems, which have almost doubled from 12 systems in 2013-14 to 22 systems in 2016-17.

Figure 6: Brighton’s Municipal Area Renewable Electricity Generation Exported Electricity



Source: TasNetworks, 2018. NB: Electricity use is represented as kilowatt hour (kWh). One kWh is equal to one unit on electricity bills. This includes both commercial and industrial facilities to protect the identification of facilities at a local level.

Solar PV systems are the dominant renewable energy technology in the region, however, there is a single 500W small scale wind system registered in the area. Residential and commercial solar PV installations **export over 3.5 million units (kWh) of emission free electricity back to grid each year from the Brighton municipal area**⁷.

Postcode 7030 (Brighton, Dromedary, Pontville) have the highest number of residential solar PV systems (560) and the highest commercial solar PV systems (17) compared to other postcodes in the Brighton municipal area.

⁷ As of end of 2016-17

Table 3: Brighton’s Municipal Area Renewable Energy Systems by Postcode in 2016-17

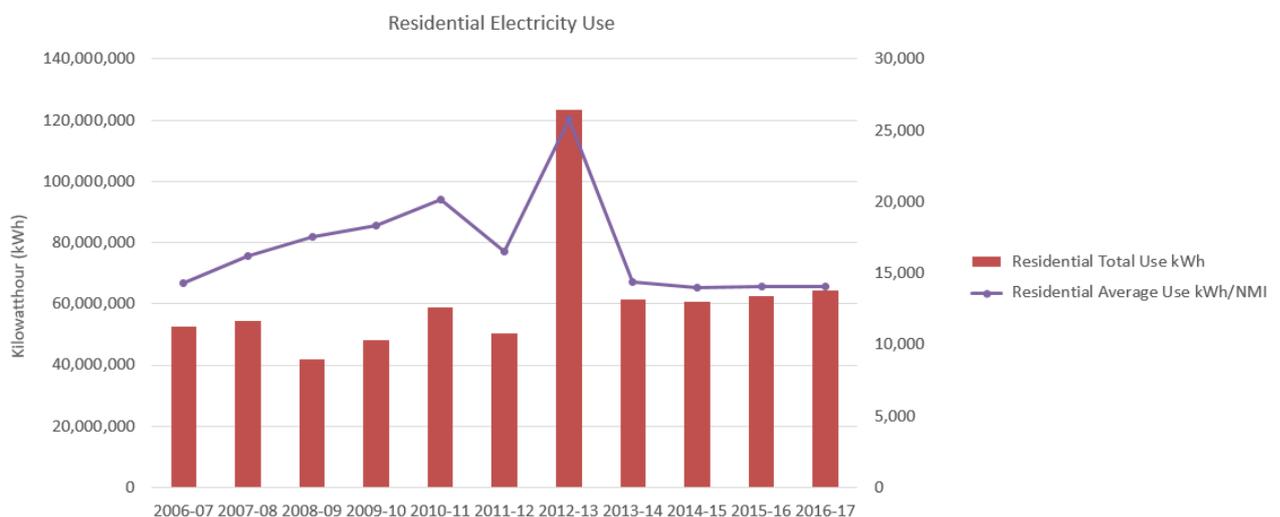
Postcodes	Business meters (NMIs) that generate electricity	Residential meters (NMIs) that generate electricity	Total number of meter connections generating electricity (NMIs)
7017	5	361	366
7030	17	560	577
Grand Total	22	921	944

Data sources: TasNetworks, 2018

Overall, residential electricity use has increased by 20% over the last decade (2006-07 to 2016-17), from 52 million units to 64 million units (kWh). Average residential electricity consumption has levelled out over the last four years (following a period of high electricity consumption variability from 2006-07 to 2012-13), suggesting households are consuming less than in previous years.

More than 400 new residential connections from 2013-14 to 2016-17 contributed to slightly higher total residential sector electricity consumption.

Figure 7: Brighton’s Municipal Area Residential Electricity Use

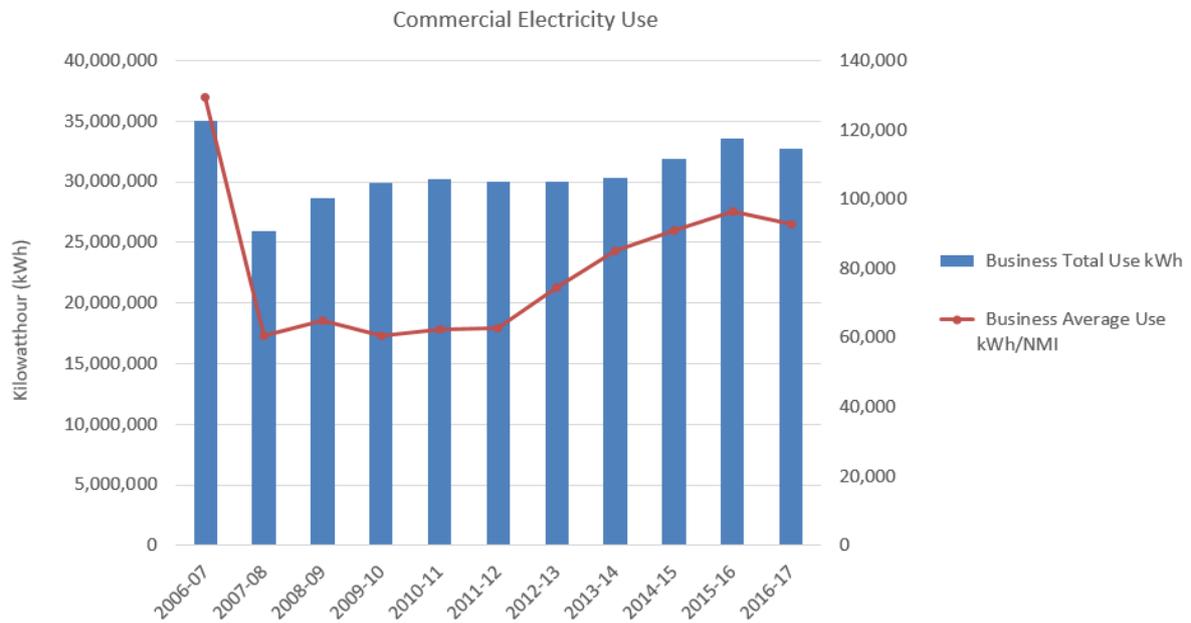


Source: Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority, 2018. Data sources: TasNetworks, 2018. NB: Electricity use is represented as kilowatt hour (kWh). One kWh is equal to one unit on electricity bills. This includes both commercial and industrial facilities to protect the identification of facilities at a local level. The TasNetworks data is sourced from legacy business systems and includes a variation between 2006/07 and 2007/08 for reasons unknown. The increase in 2012-13 is due to an increase in electricity use data provided by TasNetworks, due to additional Pay As You Go data being measured and added in that single year (with some historic data included).

Average residential electricity use per household decreases from 2013-14 to 2015-16 are influenced by factors such as price signals, the implementation of the carbon price (2012 to 2015) and increasing electricity costs, as well as the use of more energy efficient appliances and materials through government programs. These drivers increase consumer awareness of energy costs and energy actions to drive energy savings in commercial premises and the home.

Total commercial annual electricity use has reduced by 7% from 35 million to 32 million units (kWh) over the decade 2006-07 to 2016-17. Average electricity use per meter and total electricity consumption increased in the commercial sector steadily since 2007-08 to 2016-17. New commercial sector meter connections reached a peak in 2010-11 and then decreased to 2016-17, to be less than 2006-07 levels.

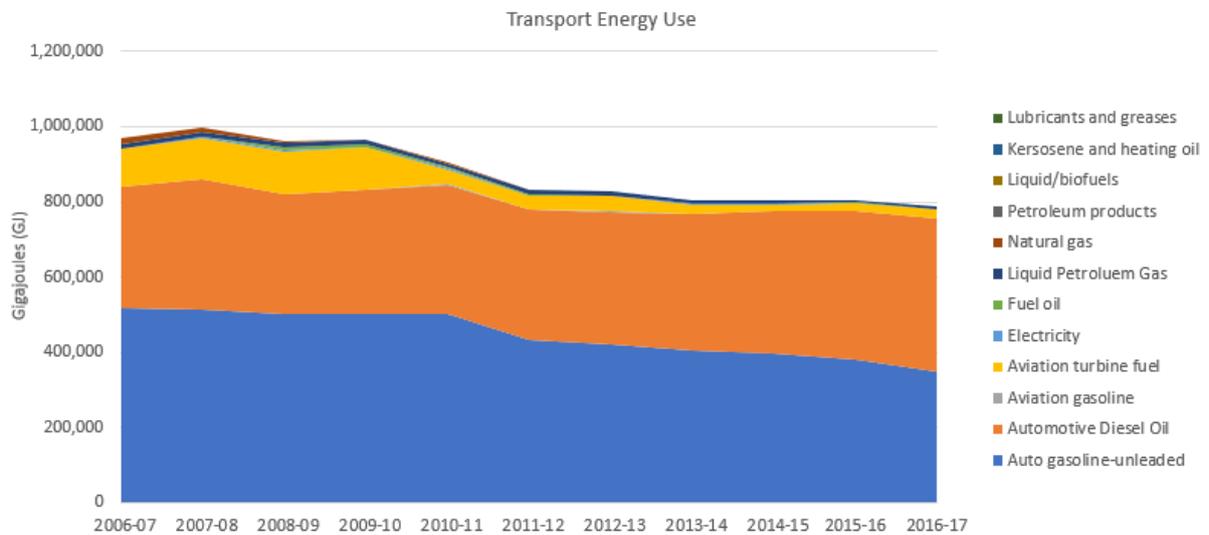
Figure 8: Brighton's Municipal Area Commercial Electricity Use



Source: Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority, 2018. Data sources: TasNetworks, 2018. NB: Electricity use is represented as kilowatt hour (kWh). One kWh is equal to one unit on electricity bills. This includes both commercial and industrial facilities to protect the identification of facilities at a local level.

A key change in the transport sector has been the turnaround from increasing energy use to a decreasing trend over the last decade (2006-07 to 2016-17). Transport energy use has decreased by 21% from 2006-07 to 2016-17, as a result, greenhouse gas emissions have reduced by 21% for the same period.

Figure 9: Brighton’s Municipal Area Transport Energy Use



Source: Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority, 2018. Data sources: Australian Energy Statistics 2017, TasNetworks, 2018.

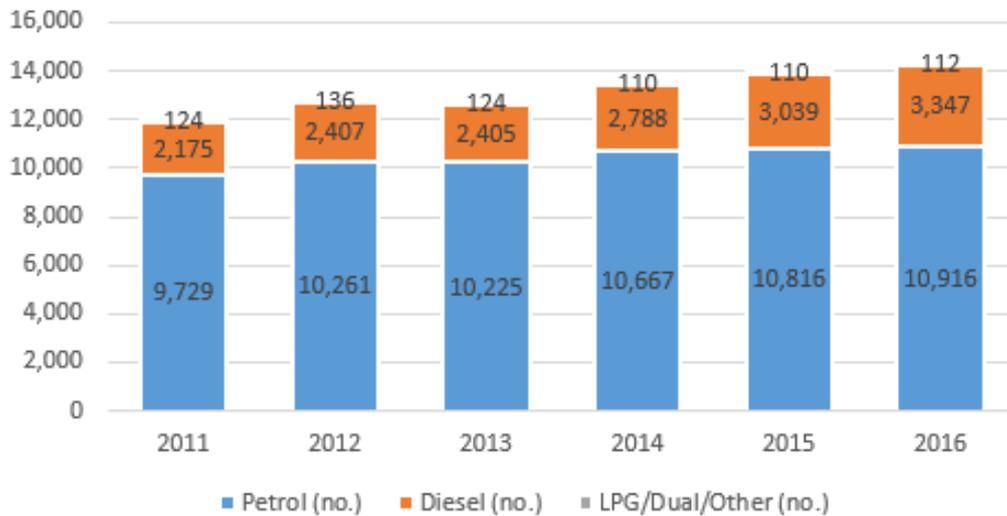
Passenger vehicle petrol and diesel fuel use are the primary source of energy use and greenhouse gas emissions in the transport sector⁸.

The main technology shift occurring is a consumer preference for diesel light vehicles over petrol light vehicles, as shown by an increase of 308 diesel vehicles versus an increase of 100 petrol vehicles between 2015 to 2016. No electric vehicles were registered.

Figure 10: Brighton’s Municipal Area Motor Vehicle Registrations

⁸ Road transport is the largest energy user and ABS motor vehicle registrations (Table 12) indicate predominantly 65% passenger vehicles and 25% light commercial vehicles in Brighton, Regional Statistics by LGA2016, Annual (2010-11 to 2015-16)

Brighton - Registered Motor Vehicles



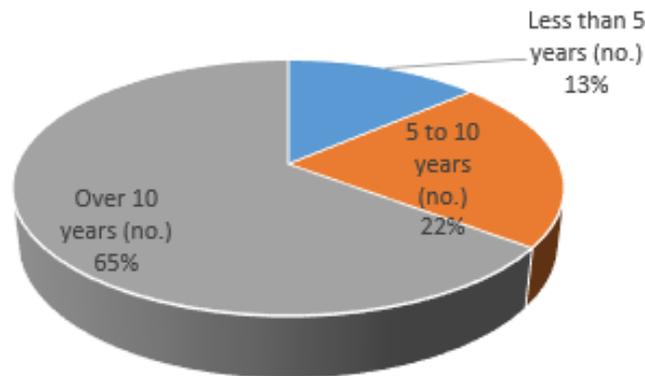
Source: Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority, 2018. Data source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016.

One of the challenges in Brighton’s community profile is the high percentage of older (over 10 years), more emissions intensive vehicles and relatively low use of newer vehicles (less than 5 years), which are generally more fuel efficient⁹.

Figure 11: Brighton’s Municipal Area Motor Vehicle Registrations – Year of Manufacture

⁹ Depending on the make and model of vehicle.

Brighton - Registered Motor Vehicles - Year of Manufacture, 2016



Source: Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority, 2018. Data source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016

FURTHER INFORMATION

A regional summary paper, titled *Southern Tasmania's Changing Energy Use: Information Paper: Regional Greenhouse Gas and Energy Use Trends*, provides a snapshot of national, state and regional greenhouse footprints as well as energy trends across the region, representing 12 southern Tasmanian municipalities.

Each council has been provided with detailed data, some of which is subject to strict confidentiality terms of use to address privacy concerns and commercial sensitivities.

In addition, a step by step guide provides additional support to explain the methodology further, increase transparency and facilitate future updates.

This guide and the regional paper outlines the scope of the methodology, with consideration for time and resources available to councils and includes consideration for other factors influencing the final results.