

# Making Kingston's Housing Retro'fit'

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# Welcome to Kingston!

- Socio-economic & environmental profile
- Kingston's Carbon Challenge
- Kingston's Approach to Housing Retrofit

# Borough Profile



A south west,  
outer London  
borough



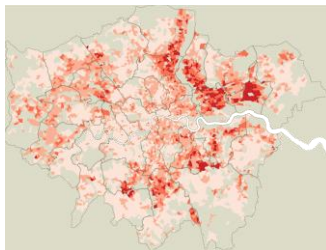
**Dwellings**  
69,360 (2023)



**Economic  
Activity**  
80.1%



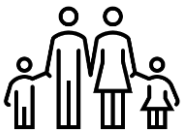
**Population**  
168,000



**Deprivation**  
9.1% of  
households in  
fuel poverty



**Businesses**  
9,885 (2021)  
633 Small  
129 Medium  
30 large



**Households**  
65,600



**Claimants**  
3,690 16+  
(2024/07)



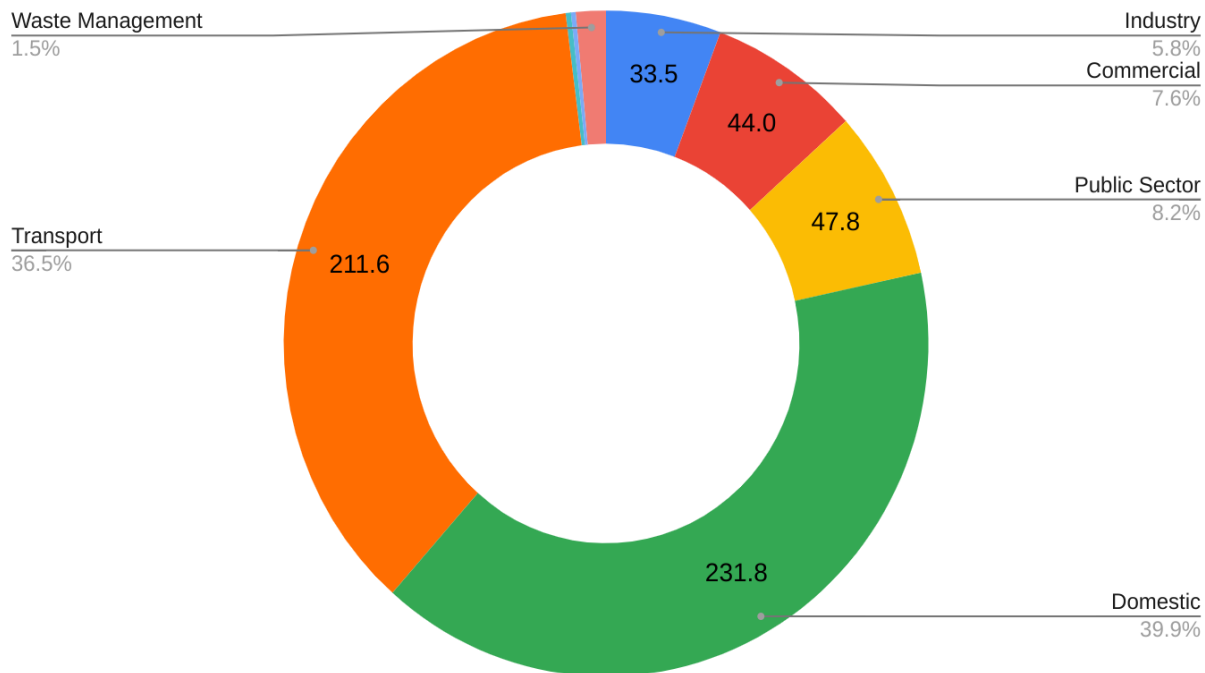
**Incomes**  
Incomes in  
Kingston higher  
than the  
England average

# Kingston's Carbon Challenge



# Kingston's Carbon Challenge

Total Kingston Upon Thames borough CO2 emissions 2021 (kt CO2e)



## Kingston's Climate Action Plan of 2022

The Council to be carbon neutral in its operations by 2030

The Borough to be carbon neutral by 2038

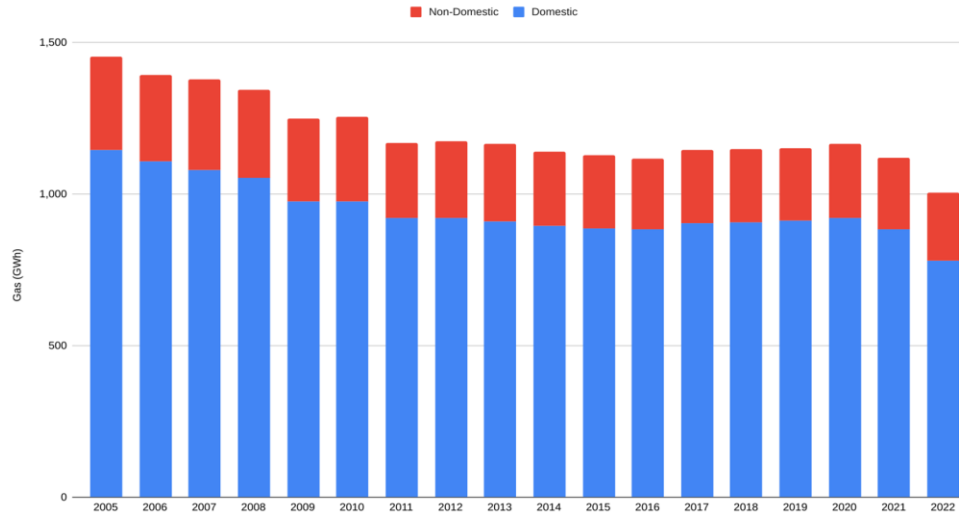
- Enabling others
- Influence behaviour

# Kingston Borough Gas Consumption

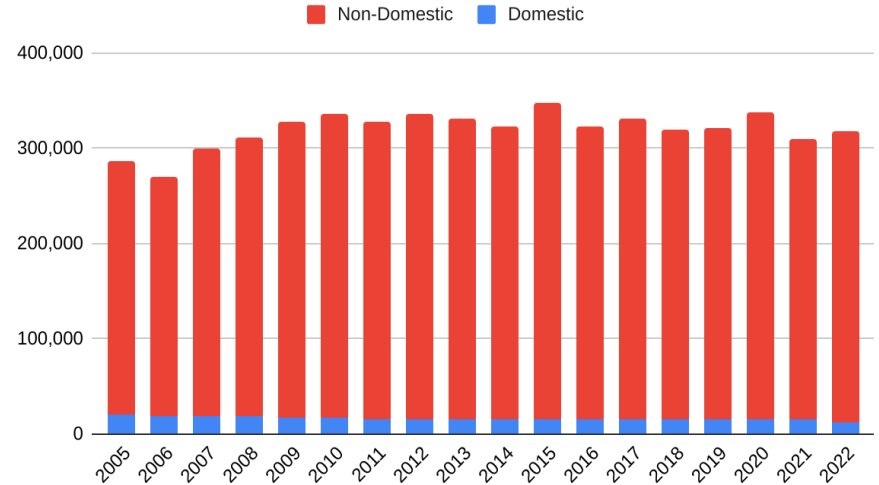
## Number of meters (2022):

- Non-domestic 700
- Domestic 60.400

Total Borough gas consumption



Mean consumption (kWh per meter)

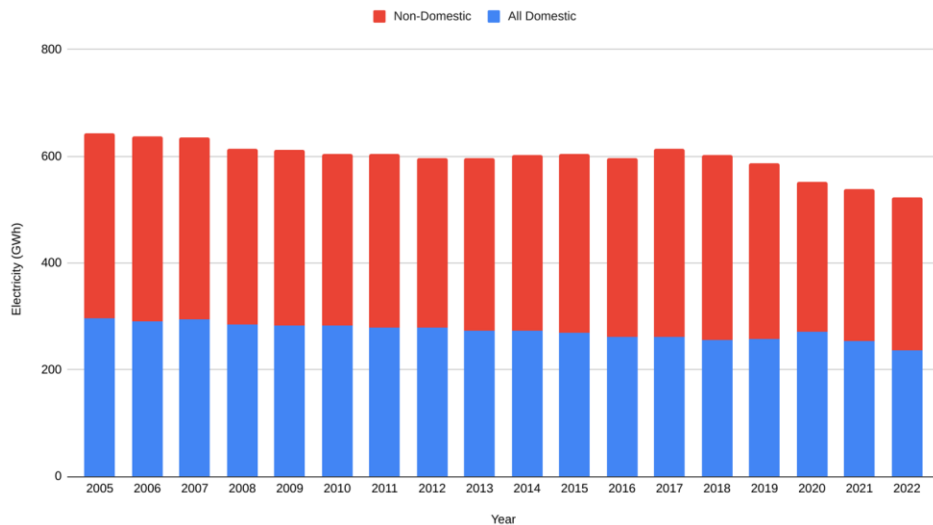


# Kingston Borough Electricity Consumption

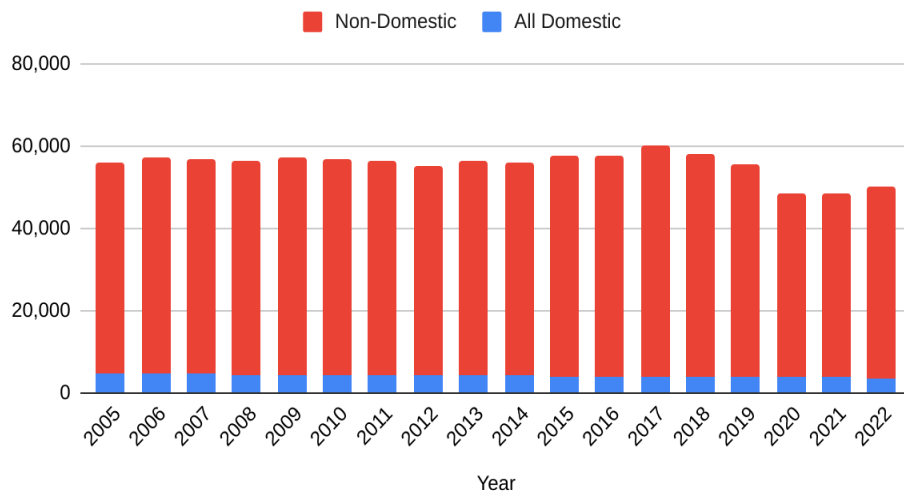
## Number of meters (2022):

- Non-domestic 6,100
- Domestic 68,600

Total borough electricity consumption



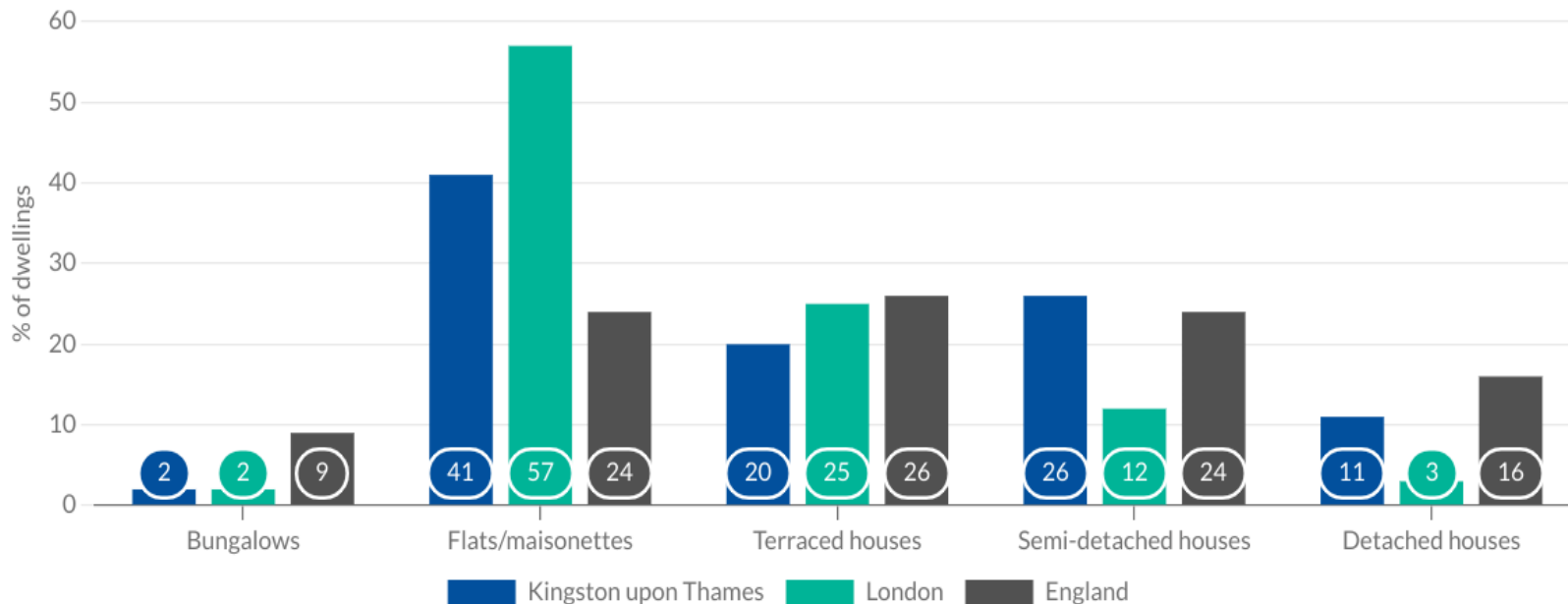
Mean consumption (kWh per meter):



# Dwellings

**Total number of dwellings are 69,360 (2023)**  
Fewer flats than London wide... and more houses...

Dwelling counts by type (2024)





# The Retrofit Challenge

- Low public awareness and interest in the topic.
- Lack of willingness to retrofit & trust in the process.
- Demand and Supply Challenges.
- Lack of awareness among contractors about the commercial benefits of retrofitting.
- Shortage of skilled professionals.
- High costs of retrofitting and insufficient funding.
- Inconsistent government policies and investment to date.



# Benefits of Retrofit

## Central scenario

**38,000** jobs by 2030

**65,000** jobs by 2050

By 2050, South London's green jobs:

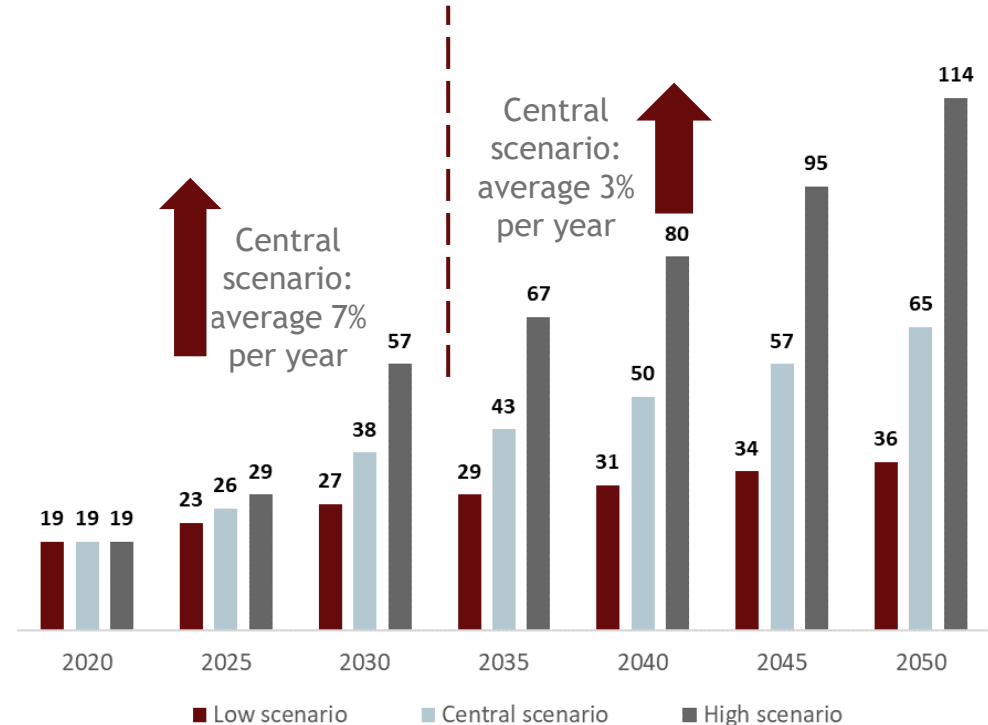
- Power (34%)
- Homes and Buildings (25%)
- Low carbon transport (16%).

## Other benefits

- Improved health outcomes
- Reduced Operational Costs
- Eco-innovation & economic Growth
- Reduced carbon emissions

**Low scenario:** Skills shortages, lower uptake rates, less effective policy

**High scenario:** London capturing greater share of exportable green services, potential implications of London's 2030 net zero target

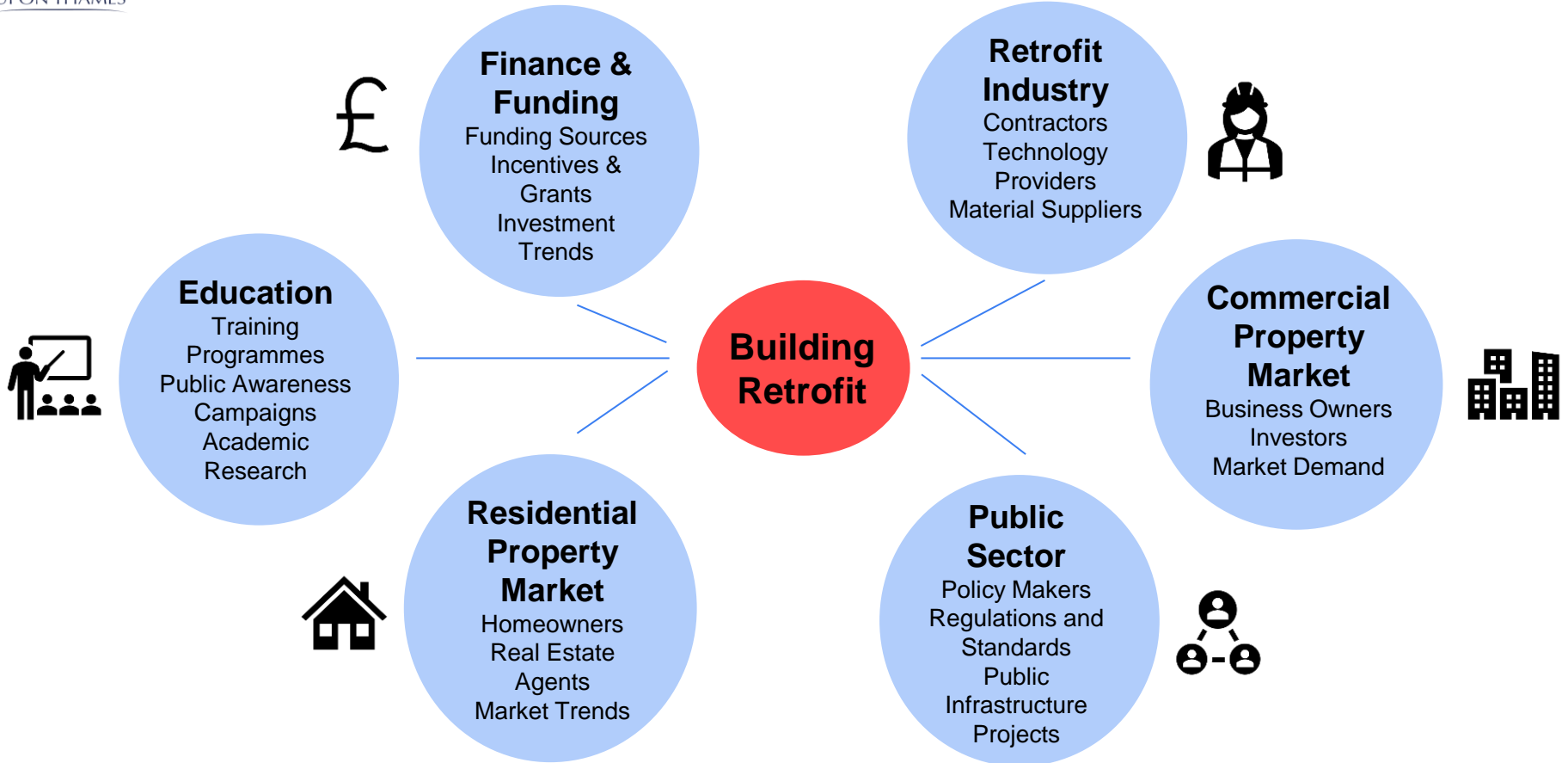


# Addressing the challenge

A systemic thinking approach



# A Systemic-Thinking Approach



# Kingston Green Business Community (KGBC)

- A free to join forum for businesses and organisations committed to reducing their environmental impact, promoting sustainability, eco-innovating and thriving
- Three objectives:
  - To eco-innovate and grow
  - To decarbonise business operations
  - To develop the required green skills

[Directory of KGBC](#)



# Kingston Green Business Community (KGBC)

*A diverse business membership...*



# Interventions

- Kingston's Efficient Homes Show – May 2023
- South London Retrofit Design Lab – Sept 2023 (BIG)
- Kingston Retrofit Bitesize Event – Jan 2024
- Kingston's Efficient Homes Show (+waste, sustainable transport & imagining my journey to school) – May 2024
- South London Retrofit Workshop – May 2024 (BIG)
- Kingston's Efficient Homes Show – May 2025
- South London Green Skills Academy
- South London Careers Hub

See [RBK website](#)



# KEHS Exhibitors





# KEHS 2023 & 2024 visitors feedback: Reasons for attending

To find out about:

- **Various aspects of the retrofit industry:** house insulation, solar panels, heat pumps, and saving money.
- **How to save money**
- **Green skills, training courses and jobs**

KEHS 2023



KEHS 2024



## Evidence of success - visitors' perspective

- More than 50% respondents stated that they are likely to undertake some kind of home improvement action
- 97% stated that they would like to have more of such events take place in Kingston



## Evidence of success - Exhibitors' perspective

- 92% of the respondents were able to make new leads and/ or gain new deals/ clients from the event
- Most respondents felt that the event exceeded their expectations



# Success Factors

- Systemic Thinking Approach
- Bottom up Approach with senior level buy-in
- Highly committed project team
- Dedicated Steering Group of experts
- Partner's contribution (financial & in-kind)
- Advocates
- Ongoing engagement with local supply chain
- Use of multiple channels for promotion
- Combining exhibition with training, expert panel discussion & hand holding advice
- Accessible community venue



# Thank you

For further information contact:

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Regeneration & Economic Development, RBK

