

North Sea gas



North Sea gas field could supply UK by winter (if approved by August) *The Times* 1.4.26

Potential to produce about 5% of Britain's gas needs and
continue for more than 20 years



Jackdaw history

Originally approved 2022

Courts have ordered assessments of the environmental impact

Labour ban on new oil and gas exploration licences – but this one is not new

Development has continued in the event that they get the go-ahead

More than £1 billion has been spent on Jackdaw

UK North Sea gas production

Since the late 1960s

Peaked 1999

Now 20% of peak, lowest since 2073

From about 100 small fields

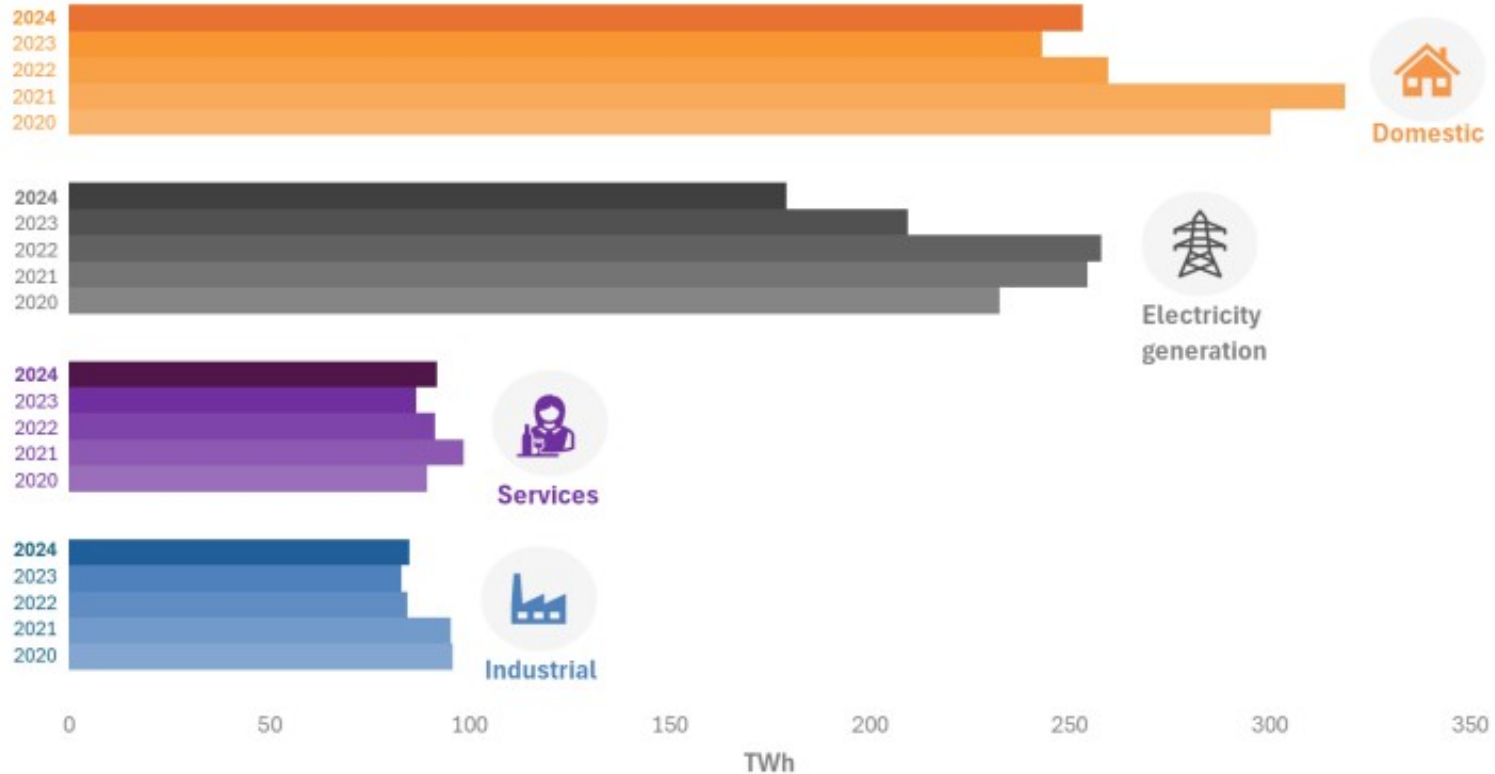
Produced half of UK needs in 2024

Windfall tax 78%

Domestic production much cheaper and lower emission than imported LNG and increases jobs

But little effect on net tax or prices

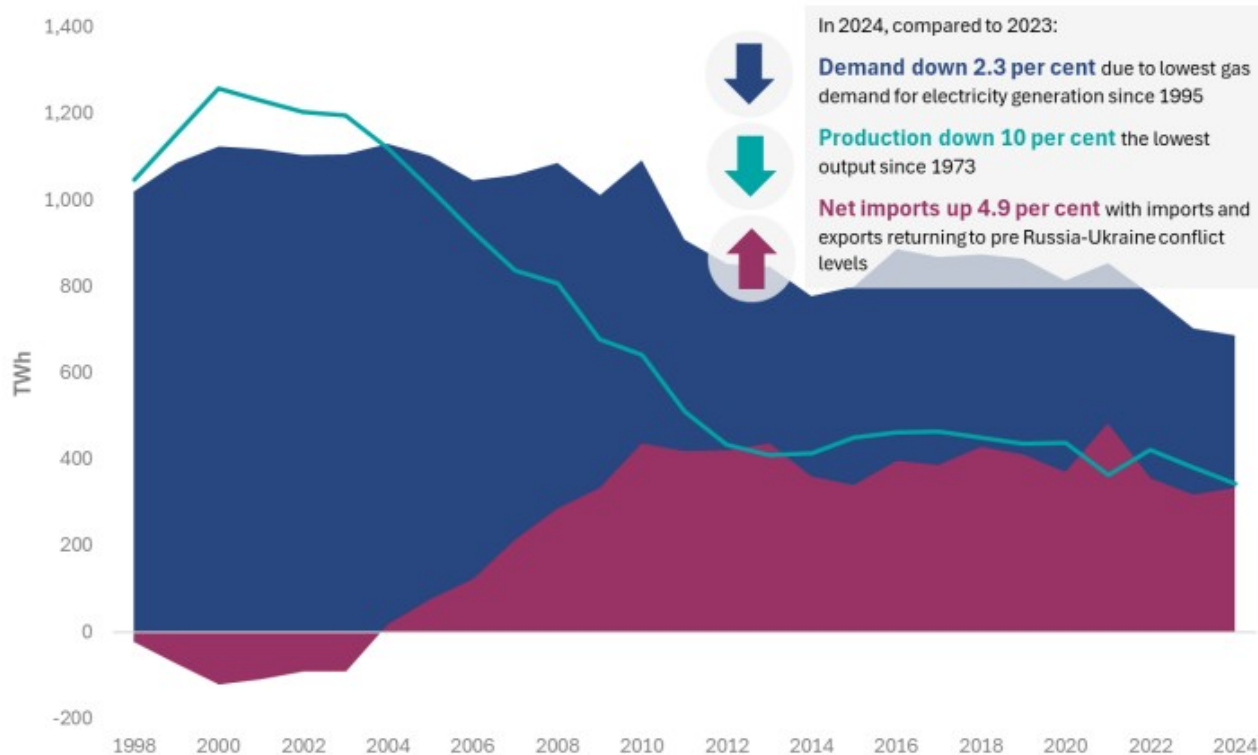
Chart 4.4 Sectoral consumption of natural gas, 2020-2024 (DUKES Table 4.1)



UK gas imports

In 2024 310 TWh imported by pipeline from Norway plus 140TWh LNG

Chart 4.1 Supply and demand for natural gas, 1996-2024 (DUKES Table 4.1)



UK Parliament report, March 2026: How much oil and gas remains in the UK Continental Shelf ?

About 70bn m³ of gas has been produced from the UK continental shelf by the end of 2024 (about 1 year's consumption)

Proven reserves: about 103bn m³ = about 1000 GWh

Proven + probable: about 148bn m³

Proven + probable + possible: about 193bn m³

These figures are from the North Sea Transition Authority. The trade body says they are far too small.

Climate Change Committee requires gas consumption to decrease by 77% by 2050

Gas storage

9 active facilities, totalling 3bn m³

Enough for about 13 days consumption – Germany has 3 months

About half at underwater Rough Field off east Yorkshire (Centrica)

“Rough is uniquely placed to deliver the UK’s accelerated hydrogen targets but requires the right regulatory support model”

