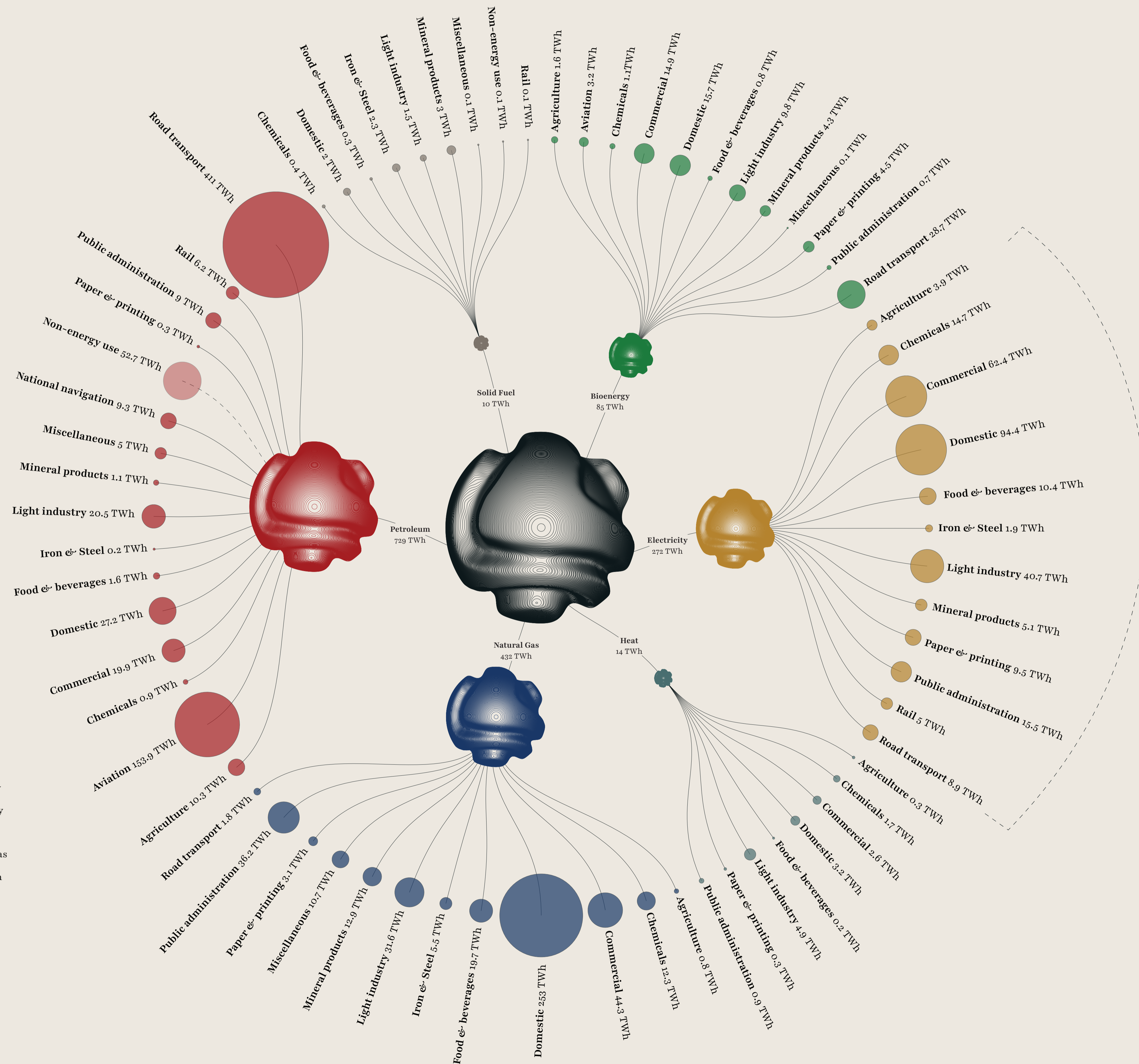


# Most of Our Energy Isn't Electricity

## UK final energy consumption in 2024, by carrier and end-use sector

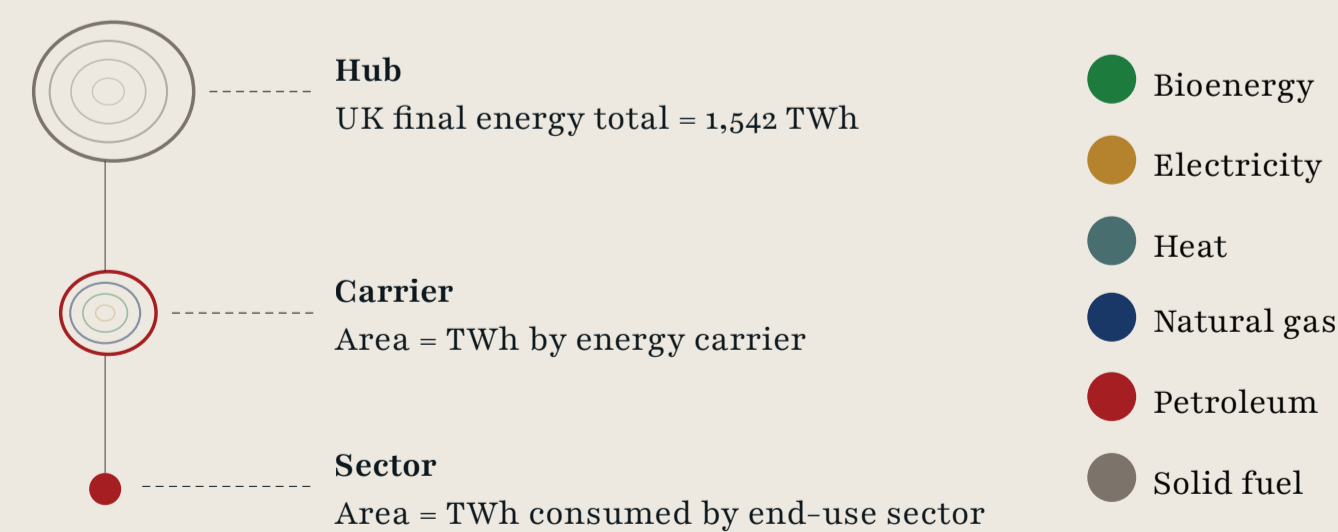
When people talk about the clean energy transition, they usually mean the electricity system - wind farms, solar panels, nuclear reactors, new grid connections. It is easy to assume that if we fix how electricity is made, we have fixed most of the problem. We haven't. Electricity is only 18% of the energy the UK uses. The other 82% - petrol in cars, jet fuel in aeroplanes, gas in boilers, oil for shipping, coal and gas for industrial heat - is fossil fuel burned directly. In 2024 the UK used 1,542 terawatt-hours of final energy. Petroleum alone accounted for 47%; natural gas another 28%.

Decarbonising how we generate electricity only decarbonises the fraction of the system already running on it. Everything else still burns. The scale of the transformation required is visible here, in the proportions of this diagram.



### Legend

Each level of the dendrogram is sized by share of UK final energy in 2024.



Non-energy use (52.7 TWh of petroleum) is shown as feedstock for petrochemicals, lubricants, bitumen and waxes - not combusted, but part of where UK petroleum physically goes.

### Methodology

Final energy consumption (energy delivered to end users), per DUKES convention. Primary energy would be ~50% larger. Non-energy use shown as where petroleum physically goes; not combusted.

Electricity is just 18% of UK final energy. Decarbonising how it's made only cleans this slice. Everything else needs to be electrified before it can be decarbonised at all.