

UniWatt

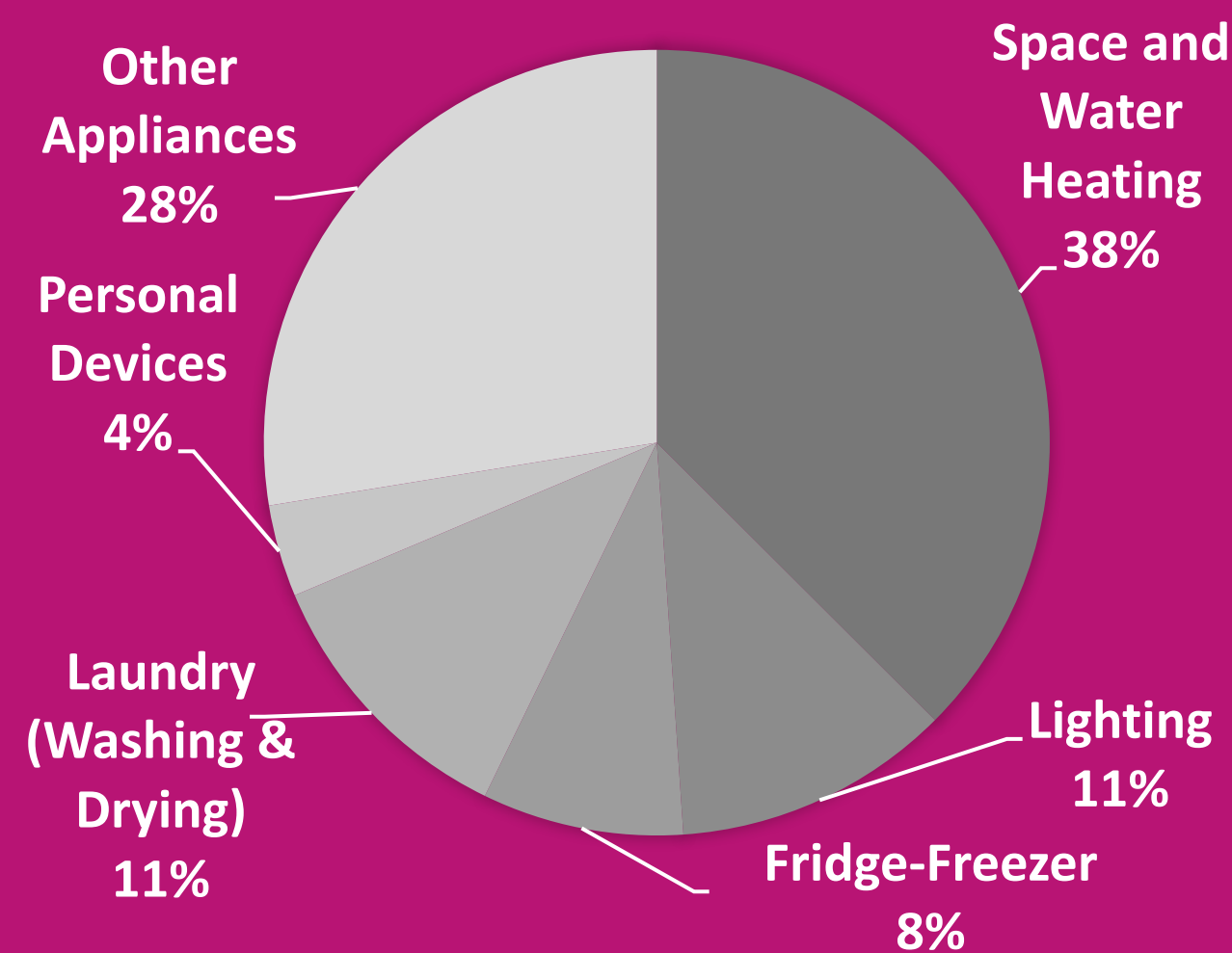
An app to help students reduce energy consumption

The growing city of Exeter has become an economic success, but is recognised as one of the largest contributors to household carbon footprints in the EU. With roughly one student for every two households, we at UniWatt believe that students are an important, moldable demographic to target a campaign to reduce domestic energy usage and eventually head towards energy independence for the city. As such, UniWatt aims to track and alert users to their energy consumption.

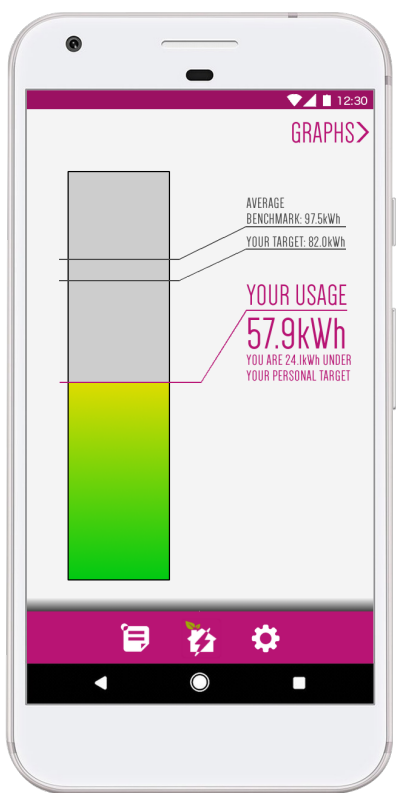
We aim to work with the university to promote UniWatt and integrate it into the iExeter student app. We hope that we can feedback anonymised data from consenting users to inform local decisions.

Student Profile:

We have found that of the approximately 97.5kWh per week that distribution is as shown on the adjacent pie chart.

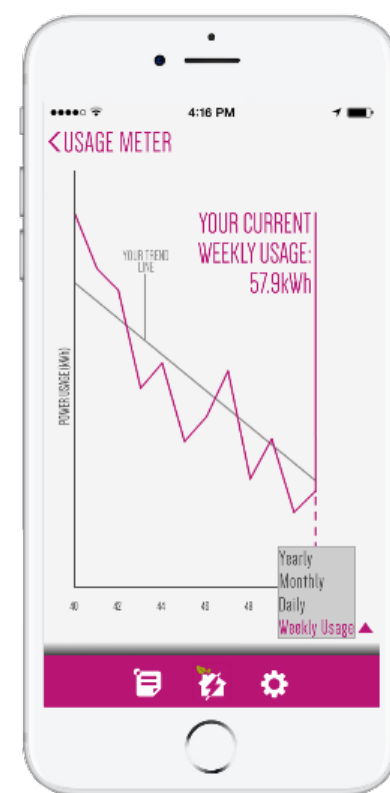


WHAT DOES THE APP DO?



TRACK YOUR USAGE.

Displays the total energy usage per week. It is then compared to their usage in previous weeks.

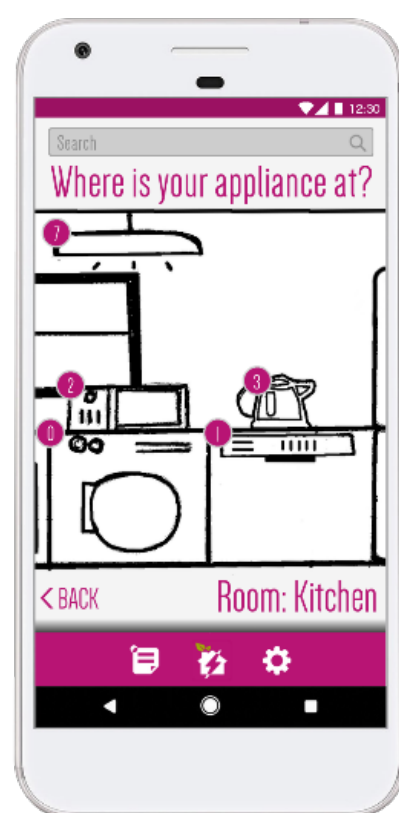


MONITOR YOUR PROGRESS.

An interactive chart enables users to monitor their energy usage. It also enables comparison with the average energy usage of other users.

LOG USAGE WITH EASE.

Gathers data on the users energy habits. Users simply tap on the appliance they are using to log the usage.



HERE TO HELP.

The app sends push notifications to remind the user to switch off unused appliances. A tip would pop-up whenever an appliance has exceeded the average use of other users.



THE FUTURE

One of the ways UniWatt will be able to improve and adapt to the future is the potential to connect to the Internet of Things. Another potential avenue is smart meters; the UK government wants to roll them out to all homes. It is possible to develop algorithms to identify each appliance usage by monitoring the energy consumption. Using smart energy meters to provide real time data not only benefits the users' experience but provides a platform to collect both raw energy data and consumer feedback that can be provided to relevant organisations.