Weekly Energy Market Report

16th December 2020

Both gas and electricity prices rose sharply this week with gas rising by 17.2% and electricity by 10.4% compared to last week. Gas prices rose continually throughout the week with an increase in Asian LNG prices due to cold weather having a large impact as this would mean reduced deliveries to the UK. An increase in demand as well as strong trading within wider commodities also pushed prices higher.

Electricity prices initially fell due to milder and windier weather. Prices soon followed the gains made by the gas market and again increased demand also had an impact. Strong trading within the coal and carbon markets as well as a cable outage affecting a UK/Netherlands interconnector also increased prices.

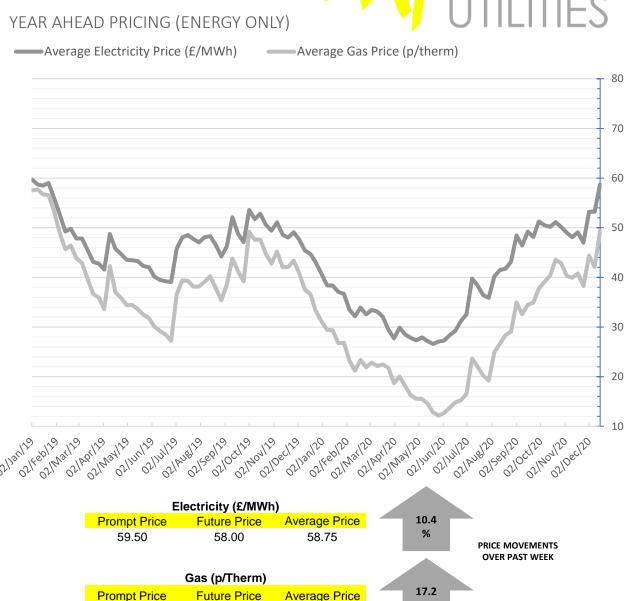
The Brent crude oil price initially fell from 50.25USD/bbl to 49.97 USD/bbl before rising to 50.76 USD/bbl. A strengthening US Dollar as well as increased US inventories pushed prices lower at first. The US and Canada approving the first Covid vaccinations and an oil tanker explosion in Saudi Arabia pushed prices back up.

Coal prices increased throughout the week from \$62.70/t to \$67.30/t. Carbon prices also increased from €29.55/t to €32.11/t.

The Pound strengthened slightly against the Euro (€1.1071 to €1.1083) and strengthened against the US Dollar (\$1.340 to \$1.3493) this week.



%



49.37

49.86

48.88