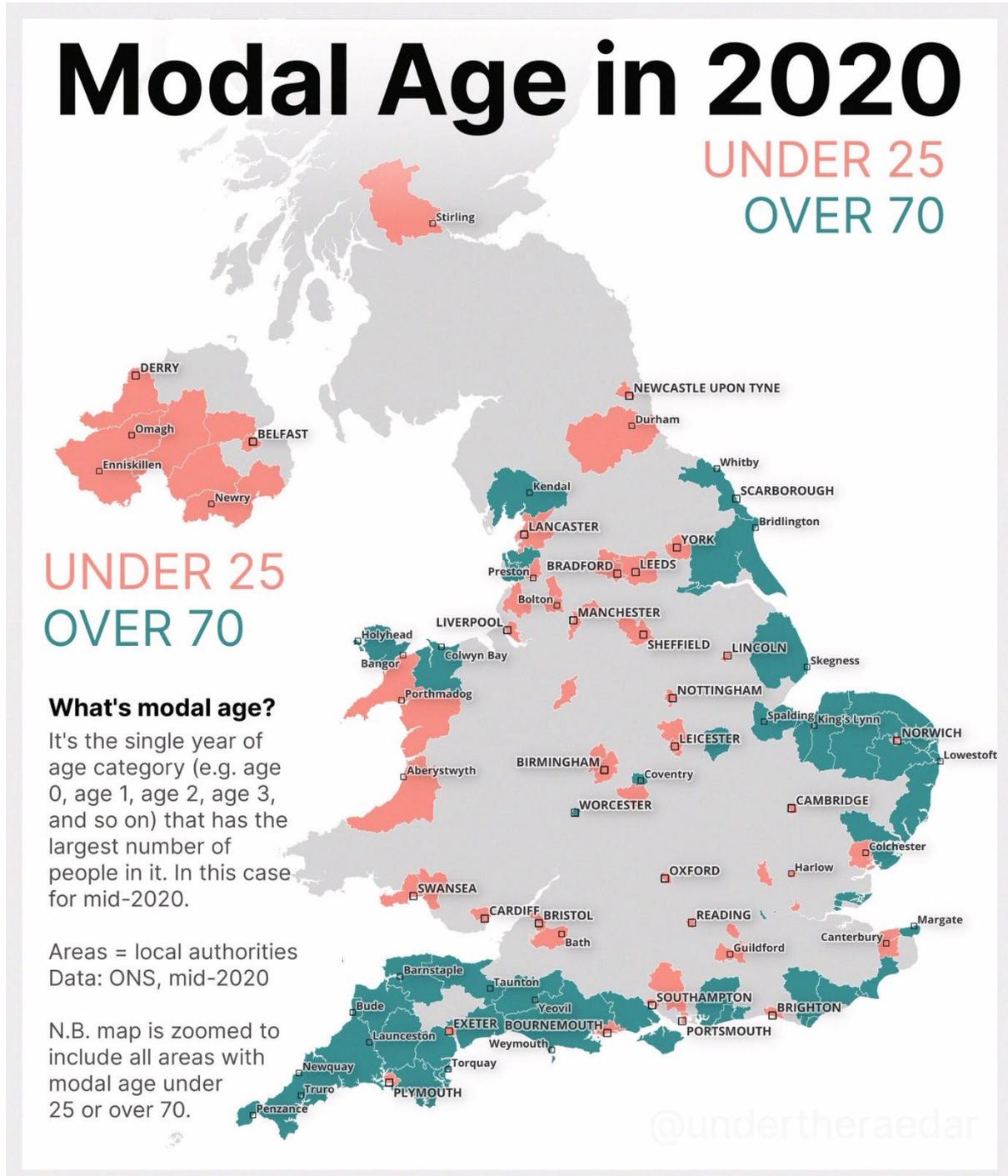


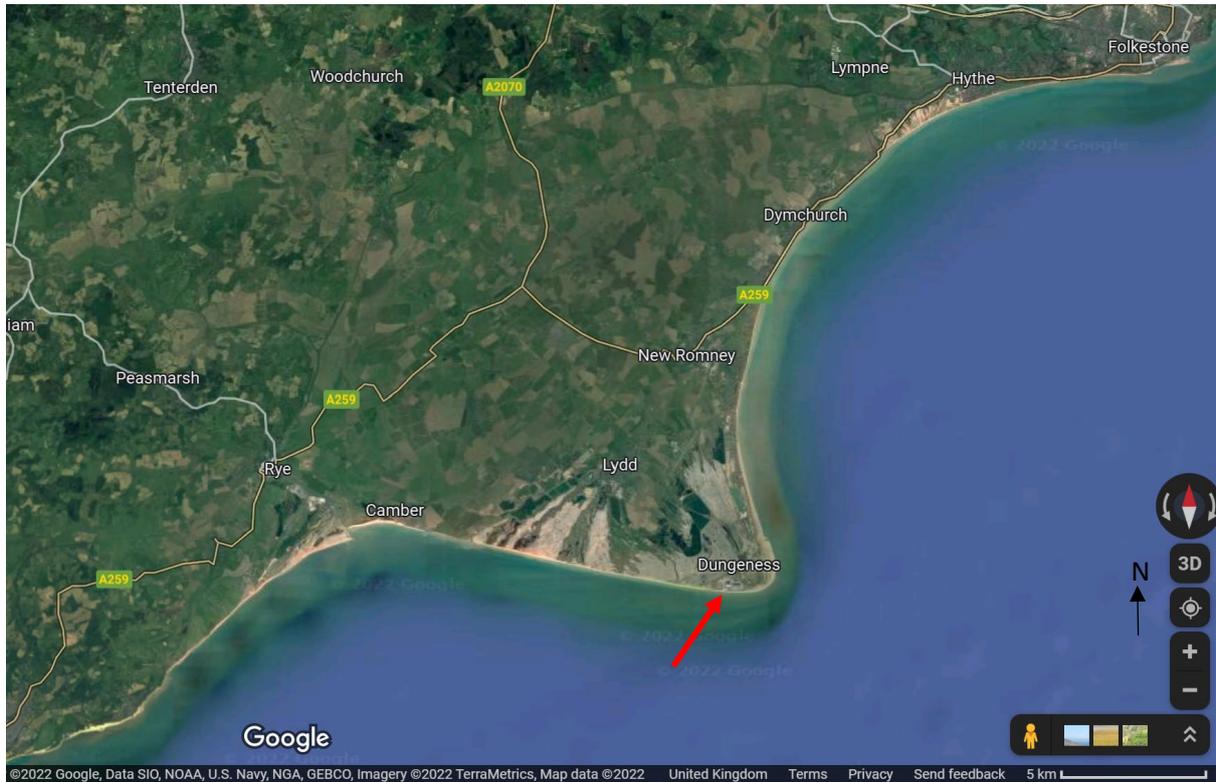
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Figure 1 – A map to show the modal age by region in the UK in 2020



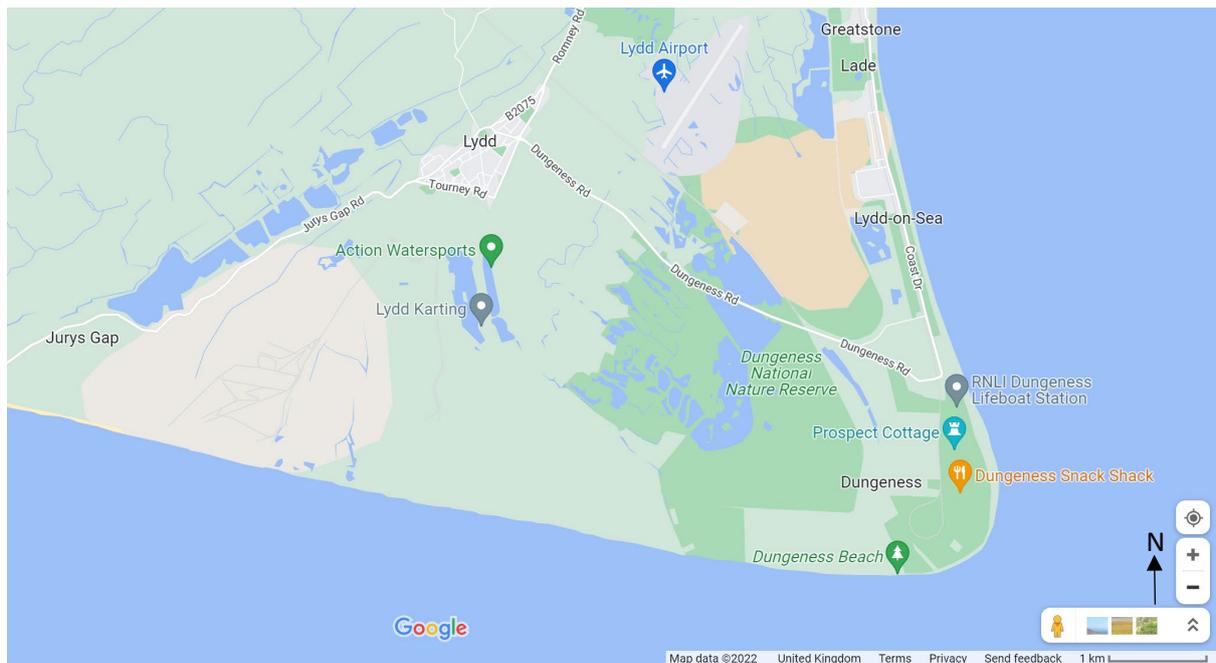
Scale unknown. © Alasdair Rae.

Figure 2 – A satellite image showing the location of Dungeness Power Station in Kent



© Google Maps

Figure 3 – A map of the Dungeness cusped foreland



© Google Maps

Figure 4 – Abridged Article from BBC News dated 8th June 2021

Dungeness B: Kent's last nuclear power station closes early

The final nuclear power station on the Kent coast is to close ahead of schedule after issues found within the reactors rendered it beyond repair.

Dungeness B shut for repairs in 2018, but had been forecast to begin producing electricity again in August.

Owners EDF said defueling would begin immediately and last several years.

It marks the end of more than 50 years of generating nuclear power in the region, after neighbouring Dungeness A ceased production in 2006.

The station, which is on the tip of a headland surrounded by a nature reserve, employs about 500 staff, with a further 250 contractors working on the site.

Most jobs are expected to continue through the defueling process, which could take up to ten years, French energy giant EDF said.

Folkestone and Hythe MP Damian Collins said that while the majority of jobs were secure for many years to come, he would "continue to work for the long term future of the nuclear industry" in the area.

"I will continue to press for new generation nuclear power at Dungeness, through the deployment of small modular reactors," he said.

"What is needed now is certainty and security for the workforce," he added.

The trade union Prospect, which represents scientists, engineers and other specialists, said it would work with EDF to "ensure the retention or redistribution of as many jobs as possible over the coming years".

It had originally been due to close in 2008, but after two ten-year extensions, was expected to continue generating until 2028.

Station director John Benn said Dungeness B had "been a cornerstone of life in Kent for decades".

"It is a very special place and the team has a real sense of family - we are part of the community," he added.

Mr Benn said the EDF had taken a "hard decision" that would provide "our teams, our community and our business a clear understanding of the future".

Sue Ferns, Prospect's senior deputy general secretary, said Britain faced an "energy gap" between demand and supply without greater government investment.

"If we are to achieve our net zero goals and maintain security of supply it is imperative that the government stops prevaricating and gets on with the job of building a new generation of nuclear power stations," she said.

Figure 5 – Abridged Article from BBC News dated 29th September 2021

Hinkley nuclear power station on track for 2026 opening

The UK's newest nuclear power station is on track to open by the end of 2026, the company building it has said.

Hinkley Point C in Somerset has been under construction by EDF Energy for five years.

Nigel Cann, who is in charge of the project, told the BBC his team was "absolutely focussed" on switching the plant on within that timescale.

Hinkley is the first nuclear power station to be financed entirely by two private companies.

EDF Energy and China General Nuclear Power Group are both state-owned but the plant is still an experiment on a global scale, and its progress is being carefully watched.

EDF Energy made the final decision to build at Hinkley Point on 29 September 2016. EDF Energy said construction would take 10 years, and it has had five.

Now the construction is battling with big increases in costs of building supplies, and the UK's wider problems with HGV drivers.

Nigel Cann, the man in charge of building Hinkley Point C, said he is "absolutely focussed" on finishing by 2026. When Hinkley was approved in 2016, EDF estimated the cost at £18bn. Today, the company puts the bill at nearer £23bn.

The power station will provide about 7% of the UK's total electricity needs.

Until recently, nuclear was considered expensive, albeit reliable, power. Hinkley will provide about 7% of the UK's total electricity needs.

Wind and solar are much cheaper, but of course the wind does not always blow. In fact, this September wind produced 13.3% of the UK's total electricity, compared with 25% across 2020.

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Figure 6 – A 3D model of the Hinkley Point C Nuclear Power Station in Somerset



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