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A new method for estimating the smart readiness of building stock data using Display Energy Certificate data

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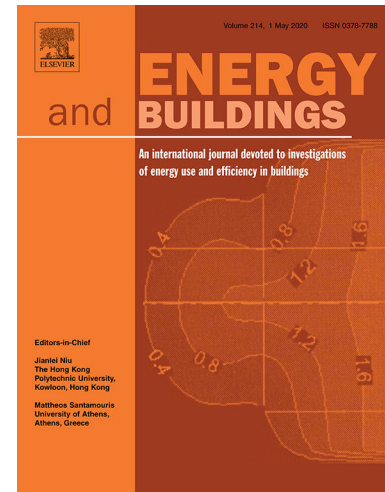
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1 A new method for estimating the smart readiness of ~~large numbers of~~
 2 ~~buildings~~building stock data using Display Energy Certificate data

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7
 8 **Abstract**

9 The Smart Readiness Indicator (SRI) was introduced by the revised Energy Performance of Buildings
 10 Directive (EPBD) 2018/844/EU, as a voluntary scheme for rating the smart readiness of buildings. The
 11 methodology addresses the benefits of smart technologies and their functionalities in buildings to offer
 12 low-energy, healthier, and environmentally comfortable buildings that balance the needs of occupants
 13 and the energy grid. This is a case study implementation of the SRI calculation to the university campus
 14 scale. The SRI methodology is applicable on a building-by-building basis; however, the assessment of
 15 large stocks and energy hubs is not addressed and will be the focus of this study. Other studies have
 16 proposed a method to extend the calculation to building clusters which, however, involves assessing
 17 all the buildings in the cluster in detail. The current case study extends to a much larger number of
 18 buildings ~~and~~, therefore, the assessment of each individual building was not considered effective. A
 19 critical implementation of the SRI calculation is presented here that considers leverages publicly
 20 available information like Display Energy Certificate (DEC) advisory recommendation reports for a
 21 university campus. A complex building is used to verify the proposed method based on the SRI detailed
 22 methodology. This~~The proposed method~~ provides a solution to the large-scale processing of building
 23 information across multiple complex buildings, hence benefiting decision-makers early on. Furthermore,
 24 the method benefits from the inclusion of building-specific recommendations based on DEC surveys.
 25 For the 98 buildings examined, a campus SRI score range has been estimated and focus areas have
 26 been identified as the foundation of smart energy and net-zero transition pathways.

27 **Keywords:** EPBD, Smart Readiness Indicator, Display Energy Certificate, automated SRI calculation,
 28 university campuses

29
 30 **Abbreviations**

Abbreviations	
AHU	Air-handling unit
AI	Artificial Intelligence
AR	Advisory Report (DEC)
<u>BACS</u>	<u>Building Automation and Control Systems</u>
CCC	Climate Change Committee
CHP	Combined Heat and Power
DEC	

DHW	Display Energy Certificate
DSM	Domestic Hot Water
EC	Demand-side Management
EPBD	European Commission
EU	Energy Performance of Buildings Directive
HVAC	European Union
HE	Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning
ICT	Higher Education
IoT	Information and Communication Technologies
IPCC	Internet of Things
ML	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
NZEB	Machine Learning
SRI	Nearly Zero Energy Buildings
TABS	Smart Readiness Indicator
TBS	Thermally Activated Building Systems
VBA	Technical Building Systems
	Visual Basic for Applications

31 1. Introduction

32 Climate adaptation and resilience ~~is tightly~~ [intrinsically](#) connected to the adaptation of the urban
 33 environment, as rapid urbanisation is both a key concern and an opportunity to tackle climate change
 34 [1]. Globally, compliance with the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C limiting global warming target has spurred
 35 a race to net-zero emissions by 2050 with the United Nations urging governments to strengthen their
 36 action plans through strict National Determined Contributions (NDC) [2]. ~~S~~ Significant advances in
 37 international policy now provide route maps to net-zero transitions, with the energy sector being a major
 38 focus. Buildings are large energy consumers, and the growing energy demand predictions ~~are~~
 39 [calling call](#) for unprecedented technological, planning and social changes [1]. In the UK, compliance with
 40 the CCC's binding Sixth Carbon Budget requires building carbon emissions to be eliminated by 2050
 41 [3]. Europe has committed to making all new buildings nearly zero-energy (NZEB) starting ~~from~~ [in](#) 2020
 42 and progressing towards zero-emission buildings by 2030. A comprehensive revision of the 2018
 43 Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) and the European Green Deal [4] ~~aim~~ [aims](#) to
 44 achieve a fully ~~decarbonized~~ [decarbonised](#) building stock by 2050, positioning Europe as the first
 45 climate-neutral continent [5]. ~~The directive also,~~ For the first time in EU legislation, ~~the directive also~~
 46 recognises the importance of building intelligence in driving down energy demands, enhancing building
 47 environments and the role that buildings can play in a flexible, decarbonised energy system that shifts
 48 from being infrastructure-lead to service-lead [6].

49 A key implementation mechanism of the EPBD directive is the "Renovation Wave" strategy ~~that was~~
 50 presented in 2020, as part of the European Green Deal that aims to double the energy renovation rate
 51 of buildings by 2030 and encourage wider deep retrofits [7]. Consolidation of some key measures was

52 considered necessary to achieve this rate. These include the digitalisation of the [Energy Performance](#)
 53 [Certificatesbuilding energy performance certification](#) (EPC), the introduction of building renovation
 54 passports and building system modernisation that better integrates energy systems to the building level
 55 (domains include heating, cooling, ventilation, charging of electric vehicles and renewable energy). The
 56 latter has been the focus of the “Smart Readiness Indicator” (SRI), ~~an~~. ~~This~~ instrument ~~that~~ was
 57 introduced by the EPBD to address the gap in the assessment and certification of smart building
 58 technical systems [8]. ~~The scheme~~. As explained further below, [the scheme](#) provides an assessment
 59 methodology and certification. On a building-by-building basis, it rates a building’s potential to integrate
 60 smartness under nine domains like EPCs and Display Energy Certificates (DEC) ~~demonstrate~~,
 61 [demonstrating](#) a building’s energy efficiency rating.

62 Increasingly, energy transition pathways highlight the role that sub-national actors like cities,
 63 communities, public-private entities etc., play in addressing climate change [9]. The necessity for a
 64 whole systems and cross-sector response to the climate crisis has also been highlighted in various net-
 65 zero transition roadmaps and frameworks [10–12]. At district scale, university campuses typically
 66 represent large building portfolios, are large energy consumers [13] and pose significant potential for
 67 decarbonisation [14]. Drawing from previous research [15], this paper emphasises buildings and
 68 campuses as active participants in the energy system, exploring the integration of smart technologies
 69 to tap into their carbon mitigation potential. In lieu of an established smart energy campus-specific
 70 assessment, this research applies the SRI assessment to the building stock of a reference university
 71 campus to assess the extent to which publicly available building data can provide the basis for stock-
 72 level assessment. The SRI, covering various energy vectors like heating, power, and electric vehicles,
 73 was considered an appropriate starting point for university campus smart energy assessments.
 74 Additionally, the use of publicly available data for the assessment is examined as an alternative to the
 75 traditional resource-intensive building survey-based SRI assessment, [aiming. The aim is](#) to overcome
 76 this resource barrier and also link the SRI assessment to established building energy efficiency
 77 schemes like EPCs and DECs.

78 1.1. Smart Readiness Index (SRI) and Display Energy Certificates (DEC)

79 The governing frameworks that the EU has brought forward to drive national energy efficiency regulation
 80 and standards are in the form of three directives: The Energy Efficiency Directive [16], the Energy
 81 Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) [17] and the Renewable Energy Directive [18]. Having come
 82 into play in 2002 and with two updates in 2010 and 2018, the EPBD is increasingly tightening the energy
 83 efficiency requirements for buildings in the EU. The last amendment, EPBD 2018/844/ EU, introduced
 84 the smart readiness indicator (SRI) and the need for a common EU rating scheme for three key building
 85 functionalities: adaptation to occupant needs, adaptation to external grid signals and optimisation of in-
 86 use building operation to increase energy efficiency and overall performance. It also mandates the
 87 development of a common definition and assessment methodology to guide national implementation.
 88 As a result, a consortium research study was commissioned by the European Commission (EC) that
 89 produced the current calculation framework detailed in a report published in 2020 [19] and ~~co-~~
 90 ~~ordinated~~[coordinated](#) the [methodology’s](#) non-committal testing and validation phase ~~of the~~
 91 [methodology](#). Initial testing revealed, albeit on a limited number of buildings, a premise of ‘low total SRI
 92 score’ and [a](#) large opportunity for smart-readiness improvement in areas such [as](#) dynamic envelopes,
 93 and flexibility and storage capabilities [20].

94 [As a spreadsheet tool](#), the calculation framework, ~~in the form of a spreadsheet tool~~, organises qualitative
 95 indicators in a matrix of technical domains, technical services related to each domain, and impact
 96 criteria (see Table 1).

97 The SRI assessment allows buildings to be evaluated using one of three possible methodologies. In its
 98 simplest version, Method A, the calculation follows a [check-listchecklist](#) approach that allows self-
 99 assessment but not for certification purposes. It ~~is~~ also focuses on a subset of the smart-ready services
 100 ~~as opposed to~~[instead of](#) the full list that the detailed assessment Method B considers. Method B requires
 101 on-site inspection, and certification is possible when a trained expert ~~is~~ [carryingcarries](#) out the
 102 assessment. Method C, ~~finally~~, allows the assessor to select only the smart-ready services relevant to
 103 the [assessed](#) building ~~being assessed~~. Overall, the methodology applies different weighting factors, for
 104 climate zone and building type, to each of the domains and impact criteria that, if needed, can be
 105 customised by the user based on the assessment specifics. [Although the SRI is a relatively new topic,](#)

106 various studies have highlighted that the SRI process can be resource-intensive, is and restricted to a
107 building-by-building assessment approach [21,22], with. Most studies are limited to specific case study
108 buildings [23–25], but they nonetheless report on methodological gaps that the SRI needs to address
109 for different contexts and climates [26,27]. This study [28] which focused on specific regional building
110 contexts like Mediterranean non-residential buildings, found that SRI scores were not reflective of the
111 buildings' energy performance needing weighting factor adjustment. Additionally, energy retrofit was
112 found less effective in improving the SRI score based on two case study buildings. The subjective score
113 assessment by the assessor and ~~at~~ the difficulty ~~to draw~~ drawing comparisons between different
114 buildings with different services present [23], ~~were~~ also highlighted [29]. District-level studies are limited
115 in number; one of them suggests the extension of the EPC framework to quantify the load-shifting
116 potential of districts [30] with theoretical application scenarios presented here [31]. Canale et. al [32]
117 propose the categorisation of residential building stocks under typologies to estimate building stock-
118 wide SRI levels in Italy. A lack of studies was therefore found addressing the detailed calculation of the
119 SRI based on specific building data at scale and will be the focus of this study.

120 The EU Commission recognises the SRI additionalities with the EPC scheme (and subsequently DEC)
121 in the efforts to enhance building energy performance and occupant awareness on energy efficiency.
122 Furthermore, the SRI guidance qualifies EPC assessors for issuing SRI certificates. In that light, this
123 research seeks to examine potential links and the integration of the more established EPC/DEC
124 schemes with the SRI scheme. Particularly relevant to university campuses, the DEC scheme has been
125 in place since 2008 and monitors the measured energy performance of large public non-domestic
126 buildings in England and Wales [24][33]. DEC's present the annual energy use and associated carbon
127 emissions of a building, alongside a normalised A-G grade that represents its performance relative to
128 benchmarks produced for similar buildings. For buildings that require DEC's, an accompanying Advisory
129 Report (AR) must also be produced every 7-10 years [24][33]. The ARs contain building improvement
130 recommendations with accompanying estimates of the likely economic and environmental impacts
131 (e.g., "Consider installing building-mounted solar water heating" with a predicted 'long' payback period
132 and 'medium' impact on building emissions). These recommendations, produced by DEC software in
133 conjunction with the knowledge and expertise of the building's assessor, therefore provide further detail
134 on a building's characteristics and its improvement potential.

135 A public DEC database has been available for several years [25][34]. While this does not include all the
136 variables collected in the DEC process, it does cover building performance, including annualised
137 electricity and fossil-thermal energy consumption, alongside key building characteristics such as total
138 floor area, main internal environment (e.g. air-conditioned or naturally ventilated), and main heating
139 fuel. Additionally, the recommendations and associated predicted impacts from the ARs are also
140 included. As a source of large-scale, disaggregated, and long-term empirical data, DEC's have been
141 used to research the non-domestic stock in numerous studies over the years. This includes statistical
142 analyses of building performance [26–28][35–37], as well as studies that use the DEC data as inputs
143 for building simulation [29][38].

144 1.2. Smart energy integration and decarbonisation of university campuses

145 Considering the wider energy system, the SRI aims to align with the EU's action plan for the
146 digitalisation of energy, 'Digitalising the energy system - EU action plan' [30][39]. Smart-ready buildings
147 are thought to play a key role in facilitating the integration of renewable energy in decentralised, flexible
148 energy systems [34][40]. A smart-ready building, with the use of automation and smart technologies, is
149 expected to be healthier, more comfortable, low-energy and flexible. Flexibility enables smart-ready
150 buildings to operate as active nodes in a smart energy system [32][41]. A systematic literature review
151 demonstrated how university campuses have integrated various smart energy vectors in their
152 operations, like smart energy monitoring and renewable generation monitoring, to optimise their energy
153 usage [33][15]. Using Internet of Things (IoT) technologies, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine
154 Learning (ML) they can proactively manage energy usage, allowing for demand-side response
155 management. Other universities utilised dynamic energy pricing, adding flexibility to the power grid by
156 exploring load-shifting opportunities or even decoupling from the central grid and operating in self-
157 sufficient mode (Ibid.). Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) are also used for smart
158 learning and governance as well as monitoring internal environmental conditions and adapting to
159 occupant needs (Ibid.).

160 At a district- or campus -scale, clustering of buildings can increase the opportunities for energy sharing
 161 and load shifting [34][30], although these are not currently considered in the SRI. Additionally, while the
 162 SRI offers an assessment of the readiness of buildings to participate in flexibility schemes, it does not
 163 provide any basis for quantifying the flexibility potential. The importance of clustering and scale has
 164 been recognised by the International Energy Agency (IEA) Annex 67 ~~that~~which also highlights the
 165 importance of user comfort and acceptance of any flexibility strategies [35][42].

166 Research highlights that currently, building energy performance certification (EPC) lacks harmonisation
 167 with smartness and excludes any smart building and smart city elements [36][43]. Instead, it suggests
 168 a methodology to extract Building Automation and Control Systems (BACS) information and SRI input
 169 from BIM models and integrate both to a next-generation EPC scheme [36] [43]. Another study [37][44]
 170 suggests reorganising EPCs under eight assessment themes, including the SRI, comfort, outdoor air
 171 pollution, real energy consumption, district energy and enhanced communications, to create a hybrid
 172 assessment method. The potential interactions of the two schemes have also been recognised
 173 elsewhere, highlighting that learnings from the EPC scheme can be taken forward to the SRI, but also
 174 arguing that the SRI can contribute to closing the performance gap and benefitting building energy
 175 performance certification by further facilitating energy renovations [37–39][44–46].

176 1.3. Research goals

177 Considering the ~~above~~ need to catalyse building energy renovation and the transition to a decarbonised
 178 energy system, the research aims to identify connections between smart readiness and common
 179 building energy certification schemes i.e., using publicly available building information to assess smart
 180 readiness at building stock level. With a specific focus on university campuses, it is believed that this
 181 methodology can provide a blueprint for rapidly drawing insights for the technical domains of a large
 182 number of buildings, without undertaking detailed surveys, as part of the initial screening. This approach
 183 could benefit organisations in the early stages of planning their transition to district level
 184 decarbonisation.

185 Contributions:

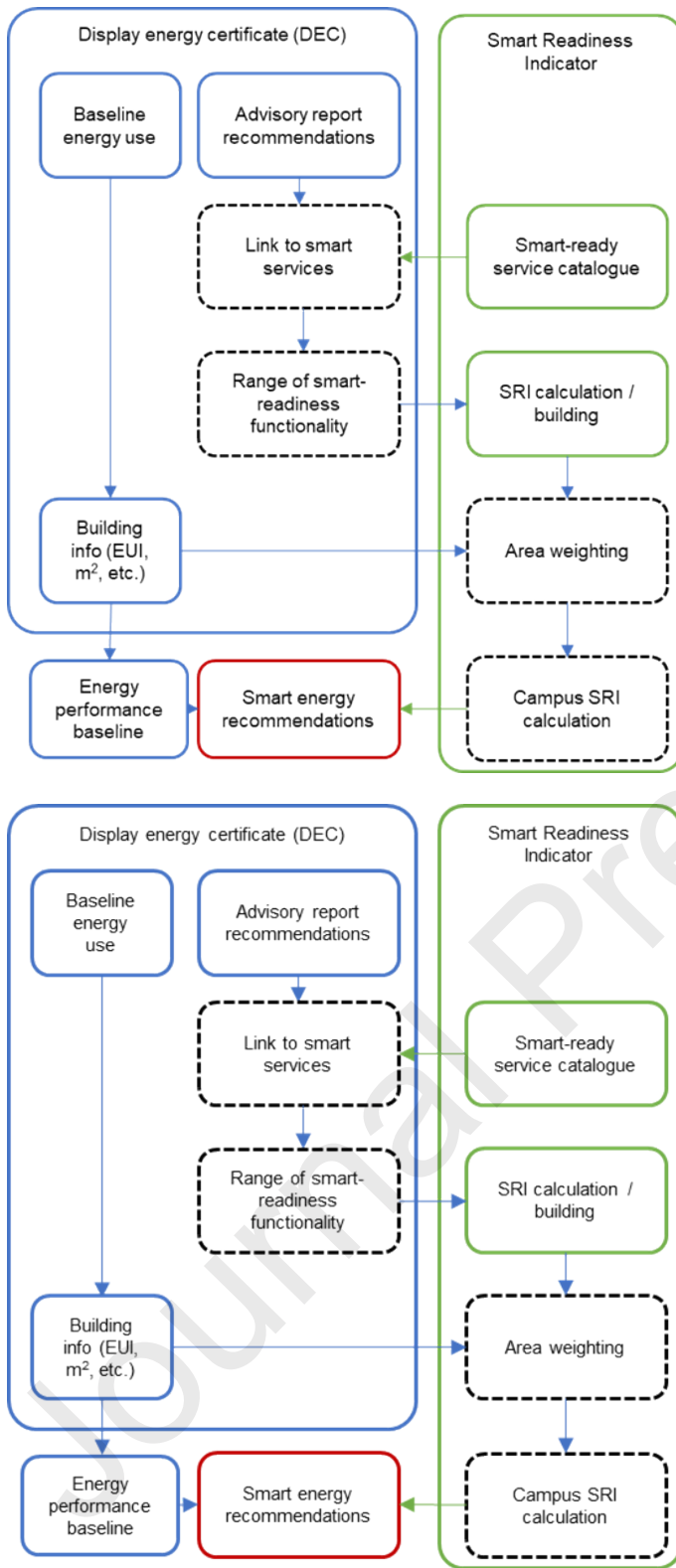
- 186 • ~~Propose a novel~~ method to automatically use DEC advisory report recommendations to
 187 assess the SRI services for each building within a campus stock and calculate an area-
 188 weighted whole-campus Smart Readiness Indicator.
- 189 • ~~Propose a method of~~The approach's novelty also lies in scoping potential smart integration
 190 interventions for university campuses based on their current degrees of smart readiness and
 191 the areas lacking in smart-readiness.

192 2. Methodology

193 Considering the limitations of the SRI methodology ~~as previously mentioned~~that requires extensive data
 194 collection and onsite inspection undertaken per building, this method proposes to utilise the DEC
 195 advisory reports to extract existing building information and evaluate campus smart readiness at a
 196 disaggregate (individual building) level. Utilising the DEC advisory report recommendations, this new
 197 methodology entails:

- 198 • collecting DEC data for each building ~~in~~on the campus,
- 199 • generating links between DEC advisory report recommendations and SRI services,
- 200 • calculating the SRI scores (for best and worst case) per building using the DEC data,
- 201 • producing an overall area-weighted SRI score for the whole campus.

202 Based on the steps above, Figure 1, illustrates how the SRI calculation is adapted to integrate DEC
 203 recommendations with the smart-ready service assessment. By linking smart-ready services to DEC
 204 recommendations, a range of scores can be automatically calculated for each building and an area-
 205 weighted score estimated for the whole campus. Post-processing the campus DEC recommendations
 206 and smart-ready services also provides insights into what measures can be implemented to improve
 207 the smart-readiness of the campus and an overview of campus operational energy performance based
 208 on DEC's.



209

210

211 *Figure 1: Method diagram for the assessment of campus-wide smart readiness using DEC advisory reports. Dotted*
 212 *outlines signify the proposed method modifications.*

213 The assessment and rating scheme utilises a calculation spreadsheet [19], that at the time of writing is
 214 only available for testing purposes. Several smart-ready services are assessed and scored based on
 215 their functionality levels over nine smart domains and seven impact criteria. Overall, the detailed Method
 216 B, lists a total of 54 services, compared to 27 applicable to the simplified Method A. Method C, as

217 explained previously, allows flexibility to the assessor to create a bespoke selection of relevant services.
 218 Weights are assigned to each service and impact score based on the climate zone and type of the
 219 building (i.e. residential or non-residential). The key principles and domains of the SRI framework are
 220 summarised in Table 1. For each of the smart services, a score of 0-4 is assigned based on the
 221 functionality level, with level 0 referring to a non-smart-ready service and the highest level signifying an
 222 advanced functionality for this service. The highest score achievable per smart service varies between
 223 2-4. In the case of services or domains that may be irrelevant to the assessed building, they are
 224 discounted from the calculation following a triage process [19]. The overall SRI score is calculated as
 225 the weighted sum of all sub-scores per impact criterion ~~taking into account~~ *considering* domain
 226 weightings. Specific domain scores are also calculated by applying impact weightings.

227 2.1. DEC data collection

228 For the present implementation study, DEC and AR data was collected for certificates lodged until late
 229 2021. The complete database consists of 426,633 certificates, across all building uses and locations in
 230 ~~the UK, England and Wales~~. The SRI for university campuses was tested using a UK urban university
 231 campus.

232 The process of narrowing down to the desired university campus DEC data was undertaken using 3DStock;
 233 a highly detailed, fully disaggregate building stock model which includes DEC and EPC data address-
 234 matched to each property [40][47]. A list of buildings within the university campus was matched to
 235 addresses within 3DStock, which were used to identify the associated DEC data and ARs. DEC data was
 236 grouped based on the building and lodgement year, and for buildings with multiple years of lodged
 237 DEC data and ARs, the most recent year was selected. Depending on the internal breakdown, a single
 238 building may require multiple DEC data to be lodged (e.g. separate DEC data for sections of the building
 239 associated with distinct occupiers or uses). These cases were identified using the 'Building Reference
 240 Number' within the DEC database.

241 Across the database, the majority of AR recommendations use a set of ~~standardised~~ *standardised*
 242 'recommendation codes' [44][48]. For example, ~~CON17~~ *CON17* is to consider installing HVAC timer
 243 controls. Across all recommendations in the ~~entire~~ DEC database, 13.4% ~~of recommendations~~ are not
 244 provided with a recommendation code. Keywords were used to link these unclassified
 245 recommendations to specific recommendations within the DEC process where possible. Unclassified
 246 recommendations were listed and checked for overlapping content, followed by categorisation to the
 247 closest AR recommendation group (see Table 1). ~~Key words~~ *Keywords* from the coded
 248 recommendations were extracted and ~~then~~ matched to the unclassified recommendations where
 249 possible. For 9% of the unclassified recommendations, this was not possible, since they could not
 250 ~~clearly~~ be linked (e.g. "install water-saving devices").

251 Table 1 presents the full list of SRI smart domains available through the EPBD guidance [19]. In the
 252 SRI methodology, ~~assessment of the~~ smart-ready services ~~is made~~ *are assessed* against the impact
 253 criteria presented in the same table. Similarly, the DEC recommendations are organised under different
 254 groups ~~too~~. The two methods overlap in most categories, except for the fabric recommendations that
 255 the DEC assessment includes, ~~and~~ the disaggregation of lifts and catering ~~as well as~~ ventilation
 256 systems, and heating systems. During the DEC data collection, 76 unique coded recommendations
 257 were identified, split under 13 coded categories.

258 *Table 1: EPBD SRI domains [19] and DEC advisory recommendation groups*

SRI Domains	Smart service impact criteria	DEC recommendation groups [42][49]
Heating (H)	Energy efficiency	Operation and management (OM)

SRI Domains	Smart service impact criteria	DEC recommendation groups [42] [49]
Domestic hot water (DHW)	Maintenance & fault prediction	Fabric (BF)
Cooling (C)	Comfort	HVAC controls (CON)
Controlled ventilation (CV)	Convenience	Ventilation – Natural (V)
Lighting (L)	Health, well-being and accessibility	Ventilation – Mechanical (V)
Dynamic building envelope (DE)	Information to occupants	Ventilation – Mixed (V)
Electricity (E)	Energy flexibility and storage	Small power (SP)
Electric vehicle charging (EV)		Lighting
Monitoring and control (MC)		Cooling (AC)
		Lifts (LE)
		Catering (CA)
		Boilers (HS)
		Hot water (HW)
		Alternative energy (AE)
		Maintenance (X)

259 2.2. DEC to SRI links

260 The premise of the proposed method is that DEC recommendations and smart-ready services can be
261 linked to draw an understanding of a buildings' and subsequently campus's smart readiness (i.e. a
262 [building's](#) DEC recommendations can be used as input data for its SRI calculation). ~~Where a~~
263 ~~building recommendation is linked to an SRI service in this way~~. A corresponding potential range of
264 smart functionality levels is also assigned [when a building recommendation is linked to an SRI service](#)
265 [in this way](#). When all the separate recommendations for a building are processed, they make up the list
266 of smart-ready services and levels applicable per building. Where appropriate, DEC recommendations

267 are linked to multiple SRI domains. DEC recommendations that could not be directly linked to a service
 268 were excluded. So, for example, a DEC recommendation to consider installing HVAC timer controls
 269 (CON17) has been linked to SRI domains H-1a (heat control, demand side), C-1a (cooling control,
 270 demand side) and V-1a & V-1c (ventilation, [air-flow/airflow](#) control).

271 Following the single-building SRI methodology [19], this study assigns functionality levels to the smart-
 272 ready services based on the respective DEC recommendation. Considering the brevity of the DEC
 273 recommendations, ~~there is this approach introduces~~ a level of uncertainty ~~introduced by this approach~~
 274 to attributing functionality levels. To limit the uncertainty, a minimum and a maximum functionality
 275 ~~level/levels~~ have been produced for each of the recommendation and service matches. In the example
 276 above, the interpretation of the recommendation to install timer controls results in the following scores:
 277 H-1a(0-2), C-1a(1-2), V-1a (0-1) and V-1c(0-1) minimum and maximum levels respectively. This way,
 278 the possibility of zero HVAC time controls is represented by a zero smart functionality level for the
 279 service up to the maximum functionality implied by the recommendation (e.g. the minimum functionality
 280 level for H-1a is “No automatic control” and the maximum attributed level is “Individual room control
 281 (e.g. thermostatic valves, or electronic controller)”. Finally, where a building has multiple
 282 recommendations linked to individual services, the maximum attributed score was considered per
 283 service. So, if the example building had two recommendations that are linked to functionality levels of
 284 0-2 and 0-3 for the H-1a service, then an overall range of 0-3 would be applied. Through this process,
 285 all possible links were made. The scores can be nonetheless reviewed and adapted ~~by prospective~~
 286 ~~assessors should the method be implemented centrally~~.

287 The processing of the DEC data, including the code to translate recommendations to SRI services and
 288 functionality levels was written in a PostgreSQL database. A full list of the links between DEC
 289 recommendations and SRI services, along with the corresponding minimum ~~&and~~ maximum levels, is
 290 provided in APPENDIX A.

291 2.3. SRI calculation at building and campus level

292 ~~Having linked the DEC recommendations to the SRI services,~~ The calculation for a specific set of
 293 buildings can be produced ~~by linking the DEC recommendations to the SRI services~~. The calculation
 294 steps are outlined here and illustrated in Figure 2:

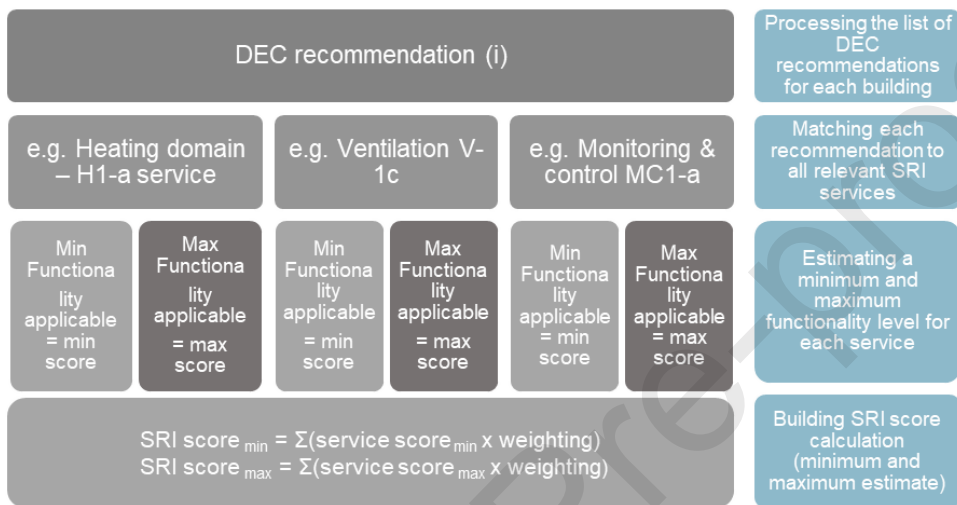
- 295 1) Initial triage process is completed for the campus by excluding whole domains where not applicable
 296 to the buildings as per the SRI methodology e.g., electric vehicle charging if it is known that none
 297 exists. When calculating the SRI for individual buildings, this can be done through ~~a~~ detailed survey,
 298 but under the present proposal, which aims to calculate SRI at scale, such an approach is not
 299 practical. Triage for the smart-ready services is, therefore, done automatically, based on the DEC
 300 matching process described previously. Where a link between a DEC recommendation to an SRI
 301 service exists, this service will be included in the calculation. Services not linked to a
 302 recommendation are excluded. This way, the calculation assesses the smart readiness of existing
 303 services as described in DEC recommendations so as not to ~~negatively~~ affect the assessment ~~negatively~~ [21]. The
 304 services not included in the calculation signify the areas for further improvement towards smart-
 305 ready buildings and considerations for expanding the DEC recommendations to include smart
 306 considerations.
- 307 2) Process the DEC recommendations for each building, using the method described in the previous
 308 section.
- 309 3) The SRI calculation is based on the latest calculation spreadsheet, provided by EPBD for testing
 310 purposes ~~[43][50]~~. Two overall SRI scores are calculated; ~~once~~, each using the minimum and
 311 maximum functionality levels for each ~~of the services/service~~ from the DEC recommendations.
- 312 4) The building- and campus-scale SRI calculations were implemented by adapting the existing SRI
 313 Excel files with VBA code to cycle through large numbers of buildings. The code iteratively goes
 314 through the SRI calculation per building and calculates the minimum and maximum score per
 315 building and per DEC AR: ~~(see equations (1), (2))~~. For this selection, the code calculates minimum
 316 and maximum total area-weighted SRI scores for the campus stock, ~~(see equation (3))~~, using the

317 floor area data for all buildings in each assessed building and the assessment, using the following
 318 equations: total campus floor area.

$$319 \quad \text{Smart Readiness Indicator}_{\min} = \sum_i^n \text{service score}_{\min} \times \text{impact weight for domain} \quad (1)$$

$$321 \quad \text{Smart Readiness Indicator}_{\max} = \sum_i^n \text{service score}_{\max} \times \text{impact weight for domain} \quad (2)$$

322



323

324 *Figure 2: SRI calculation steps per building*

$$325 \quad \text{Smart Readiness Indicator}_{\text{total}} \equiv \sum_i^m \text{SRI}_i \times (\text{building area weighting})_i \quad (3)$$

326

327

2.4. Case study

328 The case study implementation of the DEC-based SRI calculation was undertaken in two parts,
 329 described below:

- 330 - Building-scale: FirstlyFirst, a comparison between the standard SRI calculation and the
 331 proposed method for a single university building. The detailed Method B was used to
 332 include included the full range of smart -services. The selection for the building was based on
 333 two main criteria: availability of technical and operational information and sufficient complexity
 334 in terms of building systems to maximise the scope of the testing. A desktop assessment was
 335 undertaken for testing purposes, as there was sufficient information for all the assessment
 336 domains.
 337 - Campus-scale: Secondly, a calculation of the overall campus score for the university buildings
 338 that have with a DEC and using the methodology described in this study.

339 A summary of the campus and the building used in the case study is provided in the following
 340 subsections.

341 University campus summary

342 The studied university campus comprises 216 buildings spread around a large urban area. [According](#)
 343 [to the studied DEC, more than a third of the studied buildings were built between 1945 and 1980, a](#)
 344 [third was built pre-1914, 20% of the buildings were classed as post-1980, and around 8 % of the](#)
 345 [buildings were built between 1919 and 1939. In terms of usage, around 27% of buildings are classed](#)
 346 [as labs with medical uses, residential and teaching buildings each occupy around 20% of the campus.](#)
 347 [Libraries occupy around 12% of buildings; the remaining buildings comprise administration buildings](#)
 348 [and chemical and engineering labs. Lastly, in terms of energy efficiency, about half of the studied](#)
 349 [buildings had a rating of C and above.](#)

350 Out of the total 216 buildings, 98 were within the research scope, i.e., large enough [floor area](#) to require
 351 a DEC. In the case of the studied campus, many buildings are Victorian terrace conversions under the
 352 size threshold of 250m². [In terms of Regarding](#) ARs, the median number of recommendations found per
 353 building-and-lodgement year is 14, with [thean](#) interquartile range of 11-15. [A recommendation code](#)
 354 [was not provided](#) for 6.7% of the campus's AR recommendations, ~~a recommendation code was not~~
 355 ~~provided.~~

356 Case study: key building characteristics

357 A Grade II listed university building was selected for assessment. It is a 5-storey, 4,599m² multi-use
 358 building ~~originally~~ built in the early 20th century as a science teaching and lab building. It has been
 359 recently partly refurbished to provide teaching, research laboratory and social spaces. Additionally, the
 360 building is shared by four different departments ~~that were~~ introduced at different stages ~~and that, which~~
 361 the refurbishment sought to consolidate. An overview of the building characteristics and the resulting
 362 triage exclusions is displayed in Table 2.

363 The results of the triage process indicate that the heating, cooling and domestic hot water domains are
 364 present, with multiple systems serving different parts of the building ~~(, e.g. low-temperature hot water~~
 365 ~~(LTHW) from district heating and gas boilers, chillers and localised direct expansion (DX) heat pumps).~~
 366 Regarding the ventilation domain, all labs and ~~generally~~ most of the building ~~isare~~ served by air-handling
 367 units with mechanical ventilation and heat recovery, ~~however, there are.~~ ~~However,~~ some office areas
 368 ~~withhave~~ natural ventilation and manual window opening. The dynamic envelope features are limited
 369 to manually operated roller blinds for solar shading and manual window opening, not connected to the
 370 mechanical ventilation plant. The labs within the building have been designed for close-control
 371 requirements that do not ~~usually~~ allow for ~~fluctuations in~~ temperature and humidity ~~in most~~
 372 ~~cases-fluctuations.~~ In terms of electricity, the building does not generate renewable energy or have
 373 electricity storage capacity. Relevant services ~~were therefore excluded as well as and~~ those associated
 374 with combined ~~-heat and power (CHP), that) were excluded, which~~ is also not present in the building.
 375 In terms of monitoring and reporting, the building is connected to a central building ~~-management~~
 376 system that monitors the operation of the equipment in real ~~-time~~. Reporting for end-uses is available
 377 through historical energy data. Finally, the building does not present any flexibility capacity and demand-
 378 side management control. Building information ~~is~~ organised based on the SRI calculation process and
 379 the available input options.

380 *Table 2: Building information organised based on the SRI calculation process and the available input options.*

Building information	Triage process		
	Domain	Input information	Services excluded
Building type: Non-residential	Heating	District heating (multiple systems present including gas boilers and heat pumps)	H-1b: Emission control for Thermally Activated Building Systems (TABS) (heating mode);

Building usage: Educational building		Multiple generators	
Building state: Renovated		Thermal energy storage not present	H1-f: Thermal Energy Storage (TES) for building heating (excluding TABS)
Location: Western Europe, United Kingdom		Hydronic system	
Total useful floor area of the building: 4,599 m ²	Domestic hot water	Non-electric with storage and no solar collectors (LTHW and gas boilers heat to indirect hot water storage calorifiers)	DHW-1a: Control of DHW storage charging (with direct electric heating or integrated electric heat pump)
Year of construction: 1915	Cooling	Hydronic system Thermal energy storage not present	C-1g: Control of Thermal Energy Storage (TES) operation
	Ventilation	Mechanical ventilation present with heat recovery	n/a
	Lighting	LED controlled via sensors for daylight, absence detectors, PIR's and local light switches.	n/a
	Dynamic envelope	Dynamic envelope features not present; roller blinds for shading; manually openable windows for natural ventilation	n/a
	Electricity	Renewable generation and storage not present	E-2: Reporting information regarding local electricity generation; E-3: Storage of (locally generated) electricity; E-4: Optimizing self-consumption of locally generated electricity
	Electrical vehicle (EV) charging	EV charging not present	Whole domain excluded from calculation
	Monitoring and control	Central monitoring and reporting system; no grid integration; no Demand-side Management (DSM) control	n/a

381 3. Results

382 3.1. Building level method comparison

383 The building-level results presentation uses two approaches. In the first, labelled 'DEC method (using
384 method B triage)', DEC recommendations are used to assign the SRI functionality levels to the smart services ~~and~~. The
385 triage process is based on building information as per the usual survey-based SRI method. The
386 comparison aims to test how the automatically assigned service functionalities compare with the
387 detailed assessment. The second approach, labelled 'DEC method (automated triage)', was fully
388 automated with the DEC recommendation links used to assign the SRI levels *and* to carry out the triage
389 process. The minimum and maximum SRI levels were calculated for both approaches.

390 For the selected building, this triage included 41 of the total 54 services of the SRI and was based on
391 the detailed building information described previously. For the second building level test for the 'DEC
392 method (automated triage)' 13 links were found: 1 heating, 1 domestic hot water, 1 cooling, 3
393 ventilation, 0 lighting, 2 electricity, 0 dynamic envelope, 0 electric vehicle charging, and 5 monitoring
394 and control services. Each result was also compared to the traditional survey-based detailed manual
395 SRI calculation as per method B, labelled 'SRI assessment (method B)'. All calculations are
396 summarised in Figure 3 and ~~Figure 4 below~~. ~~Figure 4~~ ~~below~~. In terms of the impact criteria
397 presented in Figure 3, the detailed SRI assessment scores were in the lower medium smart readiness
398 ranges (30-50%) in 5 out of the 7 areas. Health, ~~and~~ well-being scored 26%~~%~~, and energy flexibility
399 showed the lowest score signifying that the technological systems of the building offer little in terms of
400 energy flexibility and storage. The detailed triage method and maximum functionalities ~~follows~~ ~~follow~~
401 these patterns more closely, whereas the SRI scores calculated using the minimum range of
402 functionality appear consistently lower compared to the SRI detailed assessment. On average, the
403 maximum score error for this comparison is +2.6% for the maximum calculation and -22.9% for the
404 minimum, with the range of differences for specific impacts going from -9% (comfort) up to +17%
405 (health). The fully automated calculations also showed similar patterns for the maximum functionality
406 calculation that better represents the building smart readiness impacts compared to the minimum
407 functionalities per service. ~~On average~~ For this comparison, the ~~maximum average~~ calculation error was
408 -11.4% and the minimum -27.4%. The average error combined for the two triage methods was +4.4%
409 for the maximum calculation and -25.1% for the minimum calculation.

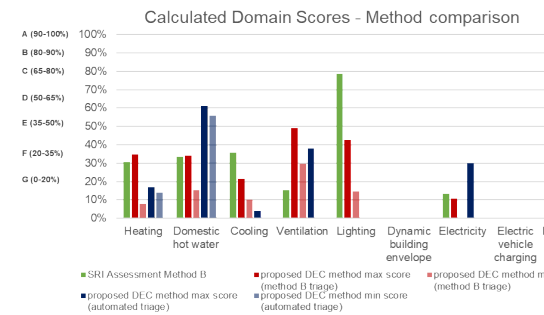
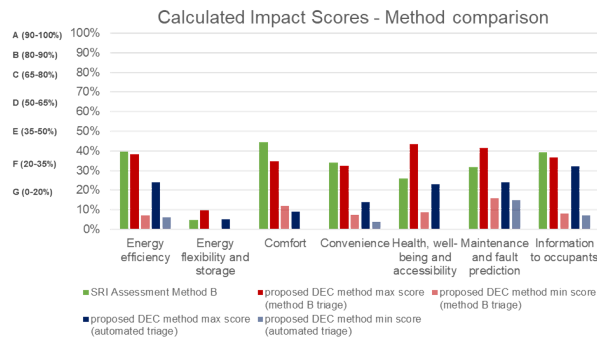


Figure 4: Smart readiness score per domain by calculation method. SRI ratings also shown next to the vertical axis.

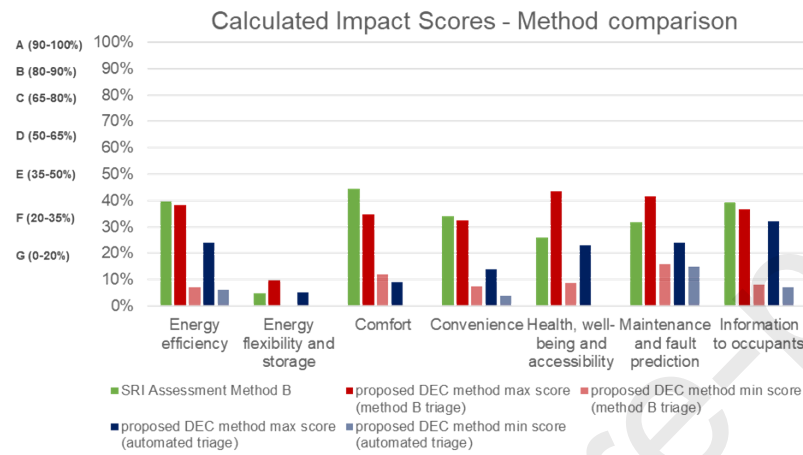


Figure 3: Smart-readiness scores per impact criteria and by calculation method. SRI ratings also shown next to the vertical axis.

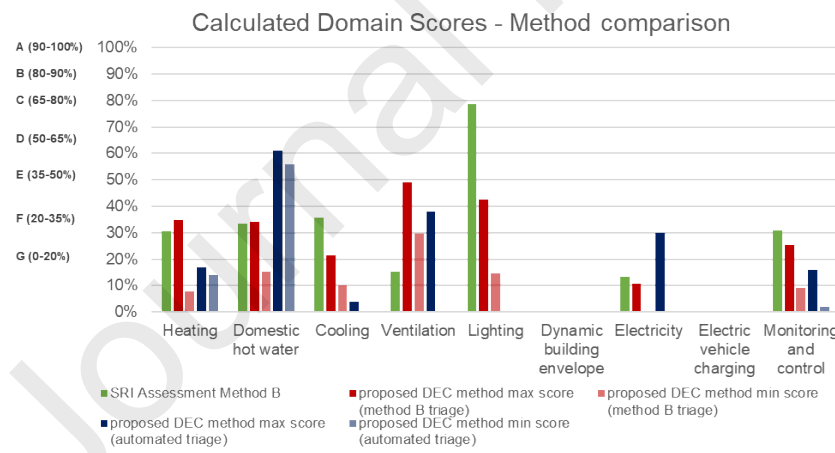


Figure 4: Smart readiness score per domain and by calculation method. SRI ratings also shown next to the vertical axis.

410 Regarding the assessed technological domains, the electric vehicle charging was omitted from the
 411 calculation from the initial triage process, as no charging isit was not significantly present on the campus
 412 based on the information available. The remaining domains scored between 15-36% except for lighting
 413 that, which scored very highly at 79%, considering the available detailed design information on lighting
 414 efficiency and controls. From the comparison between the proposed DEC automated triage and the

415 proposed DEC method B triage methods, there is less agreement in terms of technological domains as
 416 opposed to impact areas. The example of lighting shows that whole domains can be left out from the
 417 calculation if there is no mention of them in the DEC recommendations. Additionally, domain scores
 418 can be overestimated when there are limited links to services i.e., most services are excluded, but
 419 those included score high, e.g. the domestic hot water.

420 For both impact scores and domains, the results show that the translation of the DEC recommendations
 421 to a minimum SRI functionality is more likely to be onerous to the calculation and underestimate the
 422 building's smart readiness, while the maximum functionality is more likely to match the standard SRI
 423 assessment.

424 3.2. Campus results

425 As explained in Section 2.12.3, the proposed DEC-based SRI method can be integrated into an
 426 automated workflow to calculate the SRI score for large numbers of buildings. This process iterates
 427 through bulk DEC data, automatically processes the recommendations, and calculates the resulting
 428 SRI scores for each building within a sample. For this case study, the scores for 98 university campus
 429 buildings have been calculated and results are presented in Figures 5, 6, 7, 8, 9. Figure 5, Figure
 430 6, Figure 7 and Figure 8. A summary of the results is organised per impact criteria, domain, and the total
 431 scores per building and for the whole campus:

- 432 • **Impact scores:** Based on the DEC recommendations and for the minimum functionality per
 433 service (Figure 5, Figure 6), the buildings' current smart-ready technological systems are
 434 expected to have a higher impact on maintenance and fault prediction, energy efficiency and
 435 information to occupants. The assessment showed lower impacts on occupant comfort and
 436 convenience in dealing with the current systems, while energy and flexibility and storage and
 437 health, well-being and accessibility do not appear to benefit from any of the smart-ready
 438 services. For the maximum functionality (Figure 6, Figure 5), energy efficiency, information to
 439 occupants and maintenance have on average scored an SRI F rating, between 21-27%. In this
 440 case, results demonstrated a higher potential for health, well-being and accessibility impacts,
 441 scoring 18% on average across all buildings. The rest of the impact criteria, i.e. convenience,
 442 comfort and energy flexibility and storage scored the lowest in this order.
- 443 • **Domain scores:** In terms of technological domains, results are presented in Figure 7 and Figure
 444 8, the domestic hot water scored the highest in both the minimum and maximum functionality
 445 calculations. Average scores ranged between 17-36%. This is partly expected for the campus's
 446 buildings as functionalities like DHW charging is likely to be controlled based on schedules and
 447 also likely to be monitored and reported, including retaining historical data. Similarly, lighting
 448 scored the next highest as lighting controls are becoming more common around the campus
 449 buildings. However, around half of the lighting scores remain below 15-20%, and this reflects
 450 the fact that DEC recommendations mostly suggest further control measures can be applied.
 451 Heating, DHW and lighting show the least variation between minimum and maximum
 452 functionality scores, which may suggest that the DEC recommendations are more relevant to
 453 these domains and more matches have been found.
- 454 • **Total SRI scores per building:** The total scores for all buildings are presented in Figure 9. On
 455 average, building scores ranged between 4-15% and an average G rating. Less than 25% of
 456 the buildings scored an F rating based on maximum functionality. Almost 75% of the buildings
 457 scored just 5% based on minimum functionality. Based on the findings of the building level
 458 comparison, the proposed maximum functionalities are more likely to match a detailed
 459 assessment. Nevertheless, the overall ratings for the 98 buildings signify the large potential for
 460 smart readiness integration for the campus.
- 461 • **Campus SRI score:** While the individual buildings scores ranged between ratings of F-G, the
 462 total area-weighted average for the whole campus scored 15% (G) for the maximum
 463 functionality and 5% (G) for the minimum. Overall, in terms of smart readiness, the campus
 464 presents a large potential for smart integration to facilitate further flexibility, health and well-
 465 being benefits and comfort in line with the SRI testing commissioned by the EC showing on
 466 average scores of 19% and 34% for residential and non-residential buildings respectively.

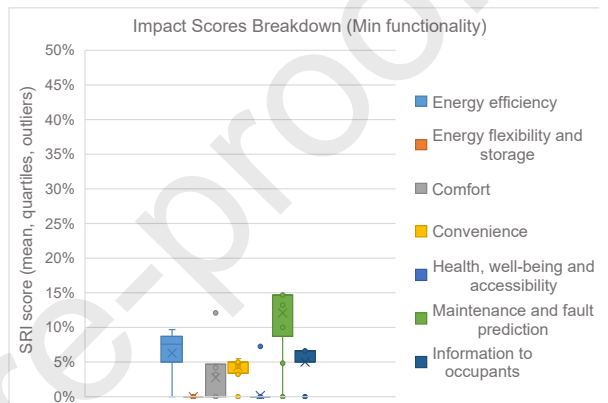
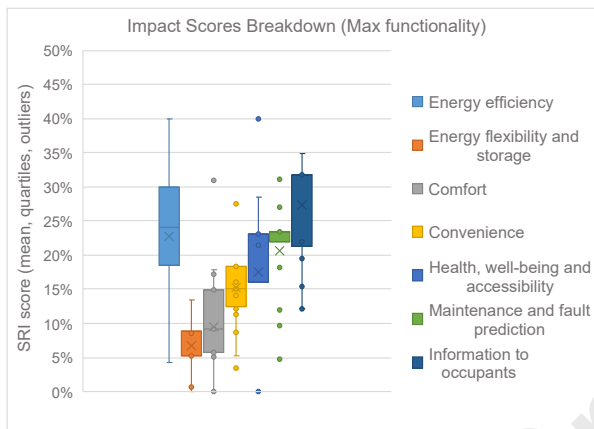
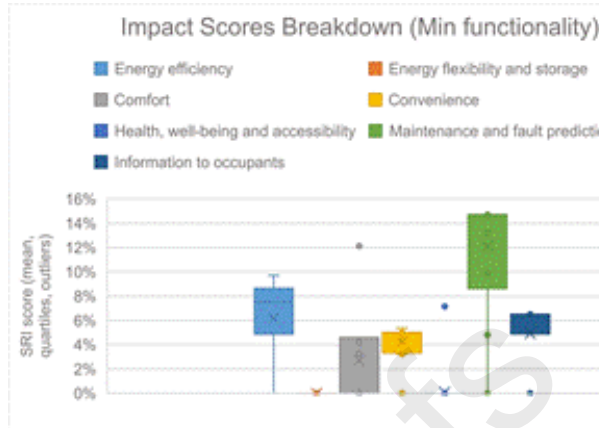
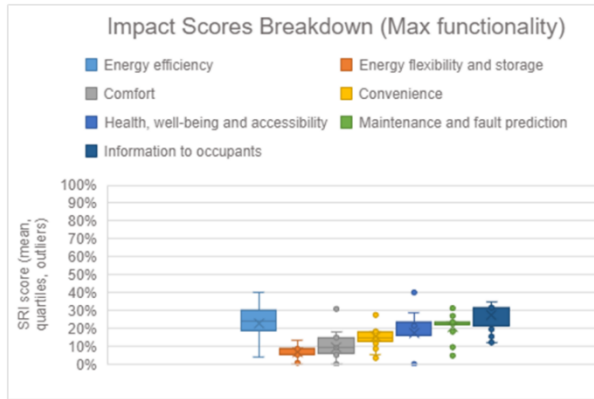


Figure 5: Impact scores calculated based on the maximum functionality per service.

Figure 6: Impact scores calculated based on the minimum functionality per service.

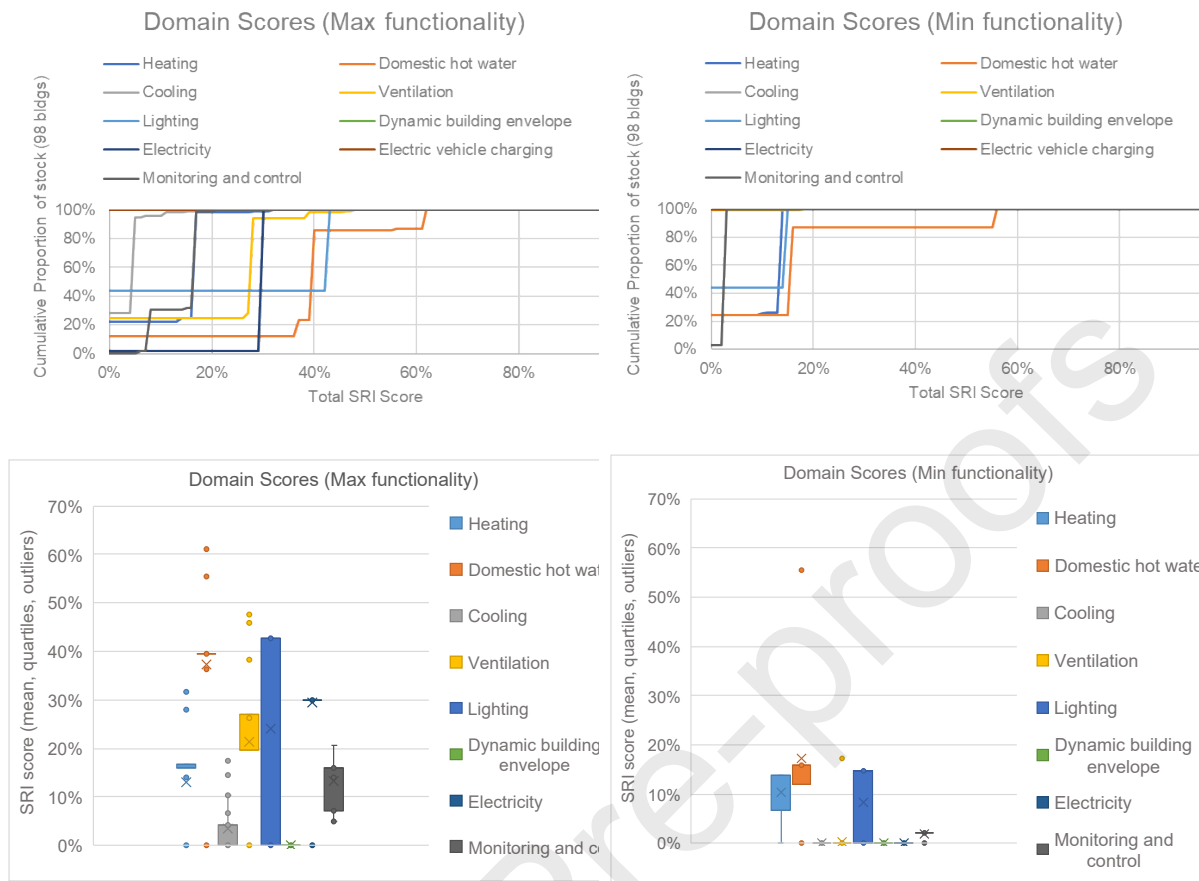
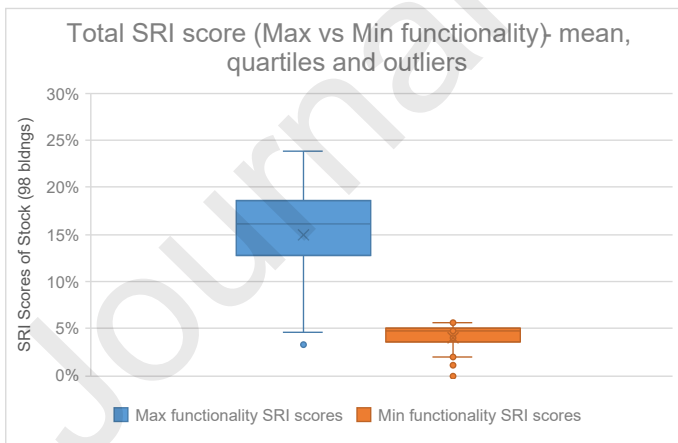
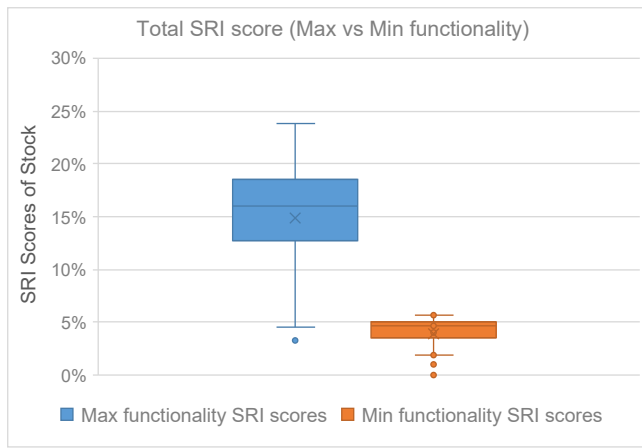


Figure 7: Domain scores based on the maximum functionality per service.

Figure 8: Domain scores based on the minimum functionality per service.





469

470 *Figure 9: Standard deviation of building scores for the 98 buildings included in the study for minimum and maximum*
 471 *functionality per service.*

472 3.3. Smart-ready intervention recommendations

473 The results demonstrate that various technological domains and impact areas offer a large potential for
 474 improvement across the university campus. In response to that and to organise the potential for smart
 475 integration measures, the SRI's key functionalities have been used as the underlying framework. The
 476 three functionalities are aggregated into: Building operation - increase energy efficiency and optimise
 477 in-use building operation; User - adapt to occupant needs; Grid - adapt to external grid signals. Table
 478 3, summarises the SRI services with the lowest scores colour-coded as per the frequency that they
 479 came up in the DEC recommendation matches and lack thereof. These are perceived as potential
 480 smart-ready interventions that could be integrated to achieve a higher SRI score.

481 *Table 3: Recommendations for smart-ready measures to increase the smart readiness of the [case study](#) campus.*

Legend	Services not identified in the assessment ■ Services present but sparsely identified & low score ■ Information from DECs widely available & low/medium score ■		
	Building operation & energy efficiency	User	Grid
Heating	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Retrofit for variable speed pump control for hydronic pumped systems with capability to respond to demand signals ■ 2. Electrification of heating systems where suitable. ■ 3. In case of new buildings or deep retrofits consider TABS ■ 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Control of heating systems to allow for occupancy detection and room controls that communicate with the BACS. ■ 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide thermal energy storage with capability to respond to external grid signals. ■ 2. Employ model predictive heating control based on load forecasting and grid signals. ■ 3. For multiple generators allow for dynamic priority control to include demand ■

			forecasting, carbon emissions and grid signals.
Domestic hot water	1. Retrofit for solar collectors to supplement heat generation		1. Automate DHW storage charging based on local renewable generation and grid information on carbon emissions, capacity etc.
	2. Performance reporting to allow for forecasting, predictive control and benchmarking and fault detection.		2. For multiple generators allow for dynamic priority control to include demand forecasting, carbon emissions and grid signals.
Cooling	1. For chilled water systems allow for demand-based control	1. Control of cooling systems to allow for occupancy detection and room controls that communicate with the BACS.	1. Employ model predictive cooling control based on load forecasting and grid signals.
	2. Install total interlock control so simultaneous heating and cooling can't take place		2. Provide thermal energy storage with capability to respond to external grid signals.
	3. In case of new buildings or deep retrofits consider TABS		3. For multiple generators allow for dynamic priority control to include demand forecasting, carbon emissions and grid signals.
	4. Performance reporting to allow for forecasting, predictive control and benchmarking and fault detection.		
Ventilation	1. Retrofit ventilation for variable air volume systems with Variable Frequency Drive for demand-based air flow	1. Introduce local Demand Control based on air quality sensors (CO ₂ , VOC,..) with local flow from/to the zone regulated by dampers	
		2. Predictive control for the heat recovery bypass to prevent overheating	

		3. Provide real-time IAQ information to occupants. Active occupant participation in ventilation actions and maintenance based on signals (e.g. window opening)	
Lighting	1. Roll-out the upgrade of lighting systems to incorporate daylight dimming and scene-based light control	1. Roll-out the upgrade of lighting controls with occupancy detection (manual on / dimmed or auto off)	
Dynamic envelope	1. Combine automated operation of windows with the HVAC system. Combination of rooms sensor data and centralised coordination for whole building strategies like free cooling	2. Automate shading device operation based on predictive control and HVAC operation	
Electricity	1. Maximise renewable electricity generation where possible 2. Introduce fault detection for the local electricity generation systems	1. Enhance on site renewable generation monitoring to allow for forecasting, benchmarking and real-time feedback to occupants	1. Optimise self-consumption of locally generated electricity, combined with thermal energy storage and electricity storage on site and offer the possibility to feed back to the grid or microgrid island function.
EV charging	1. Introduce EV charging capacity on site for >50% of parking spaces to offer recharging points	1. Report EV charging status to the occupant and automatic charging station assignment and authorisation for the driver	1. Enable 2-way EV charging capability to allow for grid signals and desired departure time optimisation
Monitoring and control	1. Include all relevant Technical Building Systems (TBS) in a central fault detection and diagnosing system	1. Introduce occupancy detection that interacts with the relevant TBS 2. Single interface energy use reporting of all energy carriers and combining the TBS of all domains	1. HVAC operation based on predictive control and grid signals 2. Demand management side coordinated over multiple TBS

482 4. Discussion and conclusions

483 Within the context of an increasing need to understand the smart readiness of the building stock, this
 484 paper presents a methodology for [automatically](#) estimating the SRI scores for buildings [automatically](#)
 485 using existing bulk data [from existing DEC assessments](#). We compare the proposed automated method
 486 (using DEC data), with a survey-based detailed smart readiness assessment of a case study building.
 487 This shows that existing DEC certificates [more suitably can](#) provide [an initial insight to](#) into the building's
 488 smart readiness. [more suitably at a high level. When planning smart and decarbonisation upgrades,](#)
 489 the method [presently provides a valuable insight to](#) can determine the campus's opportunities and
 490 shortcomings [when planning smart and decarbonisation upgrades. Additionally as it links the DEC and](#)
 491 [EPC recommendations to smart ready services. Overall](#), the aim of this work is to understand how the
 492 SRI methodology can be implemented with minimal resources and provide an overview of focus areas
 493 in that regard rather than a technical inspection of buildings.

494 Compared to others in [the literature that focus on single-building applications](#) and to the standard
 495 building-level EPBD SRI methodology, the proposed method is fast, requires minimum
 496 [resource resources](#) and therefore allows the assessment of any number of buildings. [In that respect,](#)
 497 [it](#) The method utilises well-established building assessment data (i.e. DEC) to derive a smart readiness
 498 assessment for a portfolio of buildings. The benefits of the proposed method lie in streamlining the data
 499 collection and calculation process. While a much deeper understanding of all the building-level technical
 500 systems is required to carry out the SRI assessment, with this method, an initial overview of the smart
 501 readiness of a campus stock is achieved with minimal pre-existing information. [This initial assessment](#)
 502 [can therefore be used by](#) Large portfolio managers [can therefore use this initial assessment](#) to scope
 503 areas and buildings to focus their smart transition and decarbonisation efforts. In summary, the
 504 advantages of the proposed DEC method are described in Table 4.

505 *Table 4: Method comparison for proposed DEC automated calculation and the SRI Detailed Method A.*

Comparison	Campus level assessment: proposed method	Building level assessment: standard method
Data collection	Bulk DEC download by address	Data collection, incl. including as-built system specifications and operational manuals. Site visit by the assessor mandatory if certification is sought.
Triage	Based on recommendations	Based on building data assessment
Building calculation SRI	Automated	Need to assign scores to each service
Campus calculation SRI	Area weighted SRI score for the campus stock	No recommendation

506

507 [On the other hand](#), the limitations of the proposed method [on the other hand](#) stem from the fact that
 508 DEC (and other similar schemes, like EPCs) are focused on building energy efficiency and therefore
 509 lack links to some of the SRI's domains. Although the main DEC recommendation categories match [to](#)

510 the SRI domains (~~see Table 1~~), ~~DEC, EC~~ recommendations mostly focus on low-carbon and energy
511 measures ~~with reference to~~ ~~concerning~~ control systems that provide insight ~~to~~ ~~into~~ some ~~of the~~ SRI
512 services. An example of this is the heating system recommendations, which mostly focus on energy
513 efficiency and low-carbon alternatives, ~~they do~~; however, ~~they~~ also touch on controls and reporting of
514 performance. Importantly, both schemes do not sufficiently address issues like occupant environmental
515 control, indoor environmental quality, and any potential energy rebound effects – occupants being able
516 to overcompensate on comfort when savings are made. ~~Although~~ occupant environmental control is
517 ~~given a high rating~~ ~~rated highly~~ as a smart-ready functionality, it is not ~~however~~ linked to a measurable
518 comfort indicator or energy use.

519 To maximise the links between the two assessment and certification methods and improve the potential
520 to use DEC data in this way, the DEC recommendations could be ~~expanded~~ ~~centrally reformed~~ to include
521 all the smart-ready domains. As other research suggests, a hybrid version of the schemes integrating
522 both into one could also be the answer to drive the integration of smartness to the building level in line
523 with the European Union's goals and enhance the way energy efficiency is monitored.

524 Additionally, a limitation of this work derives from the fact that the recommendation and smart readiness
525 links have been made using the ~~researcher's~~ ~~researchers'~~ judgment. The SRI process inherently allows
526 for subjectivity due to the fact that smart-ready service functionalities are descriptive
527 ~~[23,44,45]~~ ~~[29,31,51]~~. The same is true for the AR recommendations. However, any potential integration
528 of the two methods could benefit from a more rigorous approach overseen by the regulatory authorities
529 responsible for them and further standardisation of the proposed method. As presented, however, the
530 proposed method allows for flexibility to amend links and the assigned functionality levels.

531 In terms of further work, around half of the campus buildings were excluded from the study as they did
532 not hold a DEC. The assessment can be further expanded to include EPCs and their associated
533 recommendations. DEC's were initially selected as the most common and up-to-date assessments due
534 to the scheme's application to large public non-domestic buildings. In contrast, EPCs represent the
535 designed building and are only updated when major changes are undertaken in the building affecting
536 its energy use or properties are sold or rented. Extending the method to EPCs, ~~however~~, would allow
537 any type of building to be assessed and is therefore considered beneficial. ~~All in all~~ ~~Overall~~, it is
538 recognised that the aggregation of building SRI scores to a campus-wide score does not bring forward
539 potential interactions between the assessed buildings. However, this is also a limitation inherent in the
540 SRI calculation since on-site electricity generation and storage are investigated within the building
541 boundaries while harmonisation with the grid is considered.

542 Finally, the research aims to expand the scope of this analysis to the ~~whole UK~~ higher education sector
543 ~~in England and Wales~~. With a larger sample of buildings, the analysis is expected to surface potential
544 links between typology and building use and SRI scores and domains.

545 Declaration of competing interest

546 The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships
547 that could have influenced the work reported in this paper.

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552

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723 APPENDIX A

724 Table A 1: Full table of DEC recommendation – SRI smart service links

DEC Recommendation		SRI Links	
Code	Text	Number	Domain(s) min/max levels
AE3	Consider installing building mounted solar water heating.	0	(excludes smart service DHW-1d)
AE10	Consider a small-scale Tri-Generation system as an alternative to conventional separate boiler and chiller systems.	1	E-5 (min: 0, max: 0)
BF5	Consider applying reflective coating to windows and/or fit shading devices to reduce unwanted solar gain.	1	DE-1 (min: 0, max: 0)
BF16	Consider installing automatic closers to loading bay goods doors or shutters.	1	DE-2 (min: 0, max: 0)
CON2	Engage experts to review the HVAC control systems settings and propose alterations and/or upgrades and adjust to suit current occupancy patterns.	5	H-1a (min: 0, max: 3), C-1a (min: 0, max: 3), V-1a (min: 0, max: 1), V-1c (min: 0, max: 1), MC-9 (min: 0, max: 1)
CON10	Seek to minimise simultaneous operation of heating and cooling systems.	2	C-1f (min: 0, max: 1), MC-3 (min: 0, max: 1)
CON15	Consider installing weather compensator controls on heating and cooling systems.	3	H-1c (min: 0, max: 0), C-1c (min: 0, max: 0), MC-30 (min: 0, max: 2)
CON16	If natural ventilation does not provide adequate cooling during the day, consider introducing external air at night to cool the internal space.	0	-(excludes V-3)

CON17	Consider installing timer controls to energy consuming plant and equipment and adjust to suit current building occupancy.	4	H-1a (min: 0, max: 2), C-1a (min: 1, max: 2), V-1a (min: 0, max: 1), V-1c (min: 0, max: 1)
CON18	Consider upgrading major time controls to include optimum start/stop.	2	C-1a (min: 0, max: 3), V-1a (min: 0, max: 1)
CON20	Consider introducing variable speed drives (VSD) for fans, pumps and compressors.	3	H-1d (min: 0, max: 2), H-2b (min: 0, max: 1), C-1d (min: 0, max: 2)
CON23	Consider fitting zone controls to reduce over and under heating where structure, orientation, occupation or emitters have different characteristics.	4	H-1a (min: 0, max: 1), MC-3 (min: 0, max: 1), MC-9 (min: 0, max: 1), MC-30 (min: 0, max: 1)
HS18	Consider installing interlocks between heating systems and loading bay or vehicle access doors.	1	MC-30 (min: 0, max: 1)
HW19	Engage experts to propose specific measures to reduce hot water wastage and plan to carry this out.	4	DHW-1a (min: 0, max: 1), DHW-1b (min: 0, max: 1), DHW-2b (min: 0, max: 1), DHW-3 (min: 0, max: 1)
OM15	It is recommended that energy management techniques are introduced. These could include efforts to gain building users commitment to save energy, allocating responsibility for energy to a specific person (champion), setting targets and monitoring.	3	H-3 (min: 1, max: 2), DHW-3 (min: 1, max: 2), V-6 (min: 0, max: 2)
SP3	Consider installing automated controls and monitoring systems to electrical equipment and portable appliances to minimise electricity waste.	2	E-12 (min: 0, max: 2), MC-13 (min: 0, max: 1)
SP24	Enable power save settings and power down management on computers and associated equipment.	2	E-4 (min: 0, max: 1), MC-29 (min: 0, max: 0)

V1	Engage experts to propose and set up a ventilation servicing and maintenance regime and implement it.	1	MC-4 (min: 0, max: 0)
V8	Consider whether the humidity control system is essential and/or consider re-setting to more efficient parameters where close control is not critical.	1	V-3 (min: 0, max: 0)
V10	Consider with experts whether it would be worthwhile installing variable speed fans and volume control devices to the ventilation system.	2	V-1c (min: 0, max: 1), V-2d (min: 0, max: 1)
X1	The current metering provisions do not enable production of a specific and reasonably accurate Operational Rating for this building. It is recommended that meters be installed and a regime of recording data be put in place. CIBSE TM 39 gives guidance on this.	4	H-3 (min: 0, max: 1), DHW-3 (min: 0, max: 1), C-3 (min: 0, max: 1), MC-13 (min: 0, max: 1)
X4	Review staffing arrangements and set up formal systems for delegating authority for Building Energy Management System alterations and/or temporary overrides.	1	MC-29 (min: 0, max: 0)
X8	Ensure building occupants understand when the various ventilation and cooling modes of the mixed mode ventilation system are in operation to avoid windows being opened when mechanical cooling is on.	3	V-3 (min: 1, max: 2), V-6 (min: 0, max: 1), DE-2 (min: 0, max: 0)
X13	Engage experts to review the building lighting strategies and propose alterations and/or upgrades to daylighting provisions, luminaires and their control systems and an implementation plan.	2	L-1a (min: 0, max: 1), L-2 (min: 1, max: 2)
X25	Consider introducing a system of regular checks of Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) time and temperature settings and provisions to prevent unauthorised adjustment.	2	MC-29 (min: 0, max: 0), MC-30 (min: 1, max: 1)

725

726 **Declaration of interests**

727

728 The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal
729 relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

730

731 The authors declare the following financial interests/personal relationships which may be

732 considered as potential competing interests:

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