

Essex Futures BT– Masters Scholarship 2026-27

Project information: Heat Network Technology

Data centres produce a lot of excess heat and uses a significant amount of energy to cool the equipment. Can BT use heat network technology to transport this to heat surrounding businesses, creating energy efficient heating for them, and potential an additional revenue stream for us?

The associated questions:

1. What are the (site specific) opportunities in this space?
2. What infrastructure would be needed to actualise these opportunities?
3. How can we mesh this with our current cooling equipment?
4. What are the benefits (financial or otherwise)?

The output would be a report with business recommendations based on the answers to the above questions, using data centre power data as well as weather data, and ties into the weather and cooling models a previous PhD student produced.