



Department
of Energy &
Climate Change

**Department of Energy & Climate
Change**

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Our Ref: 14/0140

Date 18/02/2014

Dear

Thank you for your e-mail dated 21 January in which you made the following request:

I'd like to have the latest figures on the number of homes benefit from the Green Deal and Energy Company Obligation (ECO) in South East England.

*Please provide me with a **county by county breakdown (for South East England)** of:*

Green Deal

- 1) The number of Green Deal Assessments (month by month since scheme started)*
- 2) The number of Green Deal Plans (month by month since scheme started)*
- 3) The number of 'Live' (all measures installed) Green Deal Plans (month by month since scheme started)*

ECO Measures

- 1) Number of ECO measures installed (month by months since scheme started)*

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ('the Act'), you have the right to:

- know whether we hold the information you require
- be provided with that information (subject to any exemptions under the Act which may apply).

I can confirm that the Department holds or can access the information you are seeking.

Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for central government is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3.5 working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Providing this information to your exact specification would, I estimate, exceed 3.5 working days to locate and analyse that information (for the reasons explained further below). In these circumstances we are not obliged under the Act to comply with your request. You may therefore wish to refine your request to narrow its scope to bring it within the appropriate limit although we have sought to provide you with as much information as we can.



We currently publish information on different aspects of the Green Deal and Energy Company Obligation (ECO), including the total number of Green Deal Plans, in our monthly Official Statistics series (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/green-deal-and-energy-company-obligation-eco-monthly-statistics-january-2014>). We also publish more detailed breakdowns on the Green Deal and ECO via the quarterly series: "Green Deal, Energy Company Obligation (ECO) and Insulation Levels in Great Britain, Quarterly report: to September 2013" (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/green-deal-energy-company-obligation-eco-and-insulation-levels-in-great-britain-quarterly-report-to-september-2013>). The latest available information covers January – September 2013.

We are able to provide you with statistics for part (1) from your request. However, providing a breakdown by month would require additional resource to extract this data (beyond the time/cost limit for FOI requests) as this level of information is not currently published by DECC. It would require detailed code to be written in order to extract the required data from our data warehouse on Green Deal Assessments and ECO measures by county by month. DECC currently only publish cumulative totals to the end of each quarter for any geographic breakdown tables. You can derive the quarter by quarter breakdowns from our publications by subtracting the latest quarter from the previous quarter; however to be helpful on this occasion we have done this for you. Please see attached Table 1 for the number of Green Deal Assessments lodged by administrative area, up to 30th September 2013, South East region, quarter by quarter (derived from the quarterly reports).

Also attached (Table 2) is the provisional number of ECO measures by administrative area, up to 30th September 2013, South East region, quarter by quarter (derived from the quarterly reports).

Tables 1 and 2 provide the breakdowns by administrative area rather than by county, as there are a number of Unitary Authorities (i.e. single tier Local Authorities), which do not have a county council.

In response to your requests (2 and 3) on Green Deal Plans, in future we intend to extend the analysis provided in quarterly releases as the data available increases and this will include a breakdown of information on Green Deal Plans. This information is therefore exempt under section 22 of the Act (information intended for future publication).

Section 22 is a qualified exemption and we have therefore considered the public interest test. We recognise there is a public interest in knowing the details of Green Deal Plans as this leads to greater transparency in government. However, we are taking an orderly and incremental approach to the release of detailed breakdowns of data around Green Deal, moving on to additional breakdowns as more information in each area of activity becomes available. We consider this to be the best use of public resources, pulling together the information to ensure it is accurate and published in a consistent and comprehensive format, rather than in a piecemeal fashion. Having considered the public interest, the department's decision is to withhold the requested information at this point.

Appeals Procedure



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If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to the Information Rights Unit (foi@decc.gsi.gov.uk).

Information Rights Unit (DECC Shared Service)
Department for Business, Innovation & Skills
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Home Energy Efficiency Directorate