



Department for  
Business, Energy  
& Industrial Strategy



# Household Energy Efficiency Headline Release

Statistical Release:  
National Statistics



27 March 2018

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Any enquiries or comments in relation to this statistical release should be sent to BEIS's Household Energy Efficiency Statistics Team at the following email address: [EnergyEfficiency.Stats@beis.gov.uk](mailto:EnergyEfficiency.Stats@beis.gov.uk)

The statistician responsible for this publication is Stephen Oxley.  
Contact telephone: 0300 068 5025

Further information on energy statistics is available at:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-business-energy-and-industrial-strategy/about/statistics>

This document is also available from our website at:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/household-energy-efficiency-national-statistics>

# Headline Release

## Introduction

This release presents the latest statistics on the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) and the Green Deal (GD), and includes an update on the measurement against the one million homes target. More detailed analysis of ECO, GD Assessments, GD Plans, the Green Deal Home Improvement Fund, Green Deal Communities programme and home insulation levels are available in the [detailed statistical report](#).

## Key points

### Energy Efficiency Measures, Households and Carbon Savings

- Around 2.4 million measures were installed in around 1.8 million properties through ECO and under the Green Deal Framework to the end of January 2018 (the latest month that we have complete data for). Around 2.3 million of these installed measures (96 per cent) were delivered through ECO (Tables 1.1 and 1.2).
- The Clean Growth Strategy<sup>1</sup> announced a target to upgrade around one million homes through the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) and other Government domestic energy efficiency schemes, including insulation and other energy efficiency measures. The period covered is over five years from the start of May 2015 through until the end of April 2020. In the two years and nine months so far of the target period, around 677,000 homes have had at least one improvement measure installed under ECO or the Green Deal. (Infographic 1, Table 1.2.1).

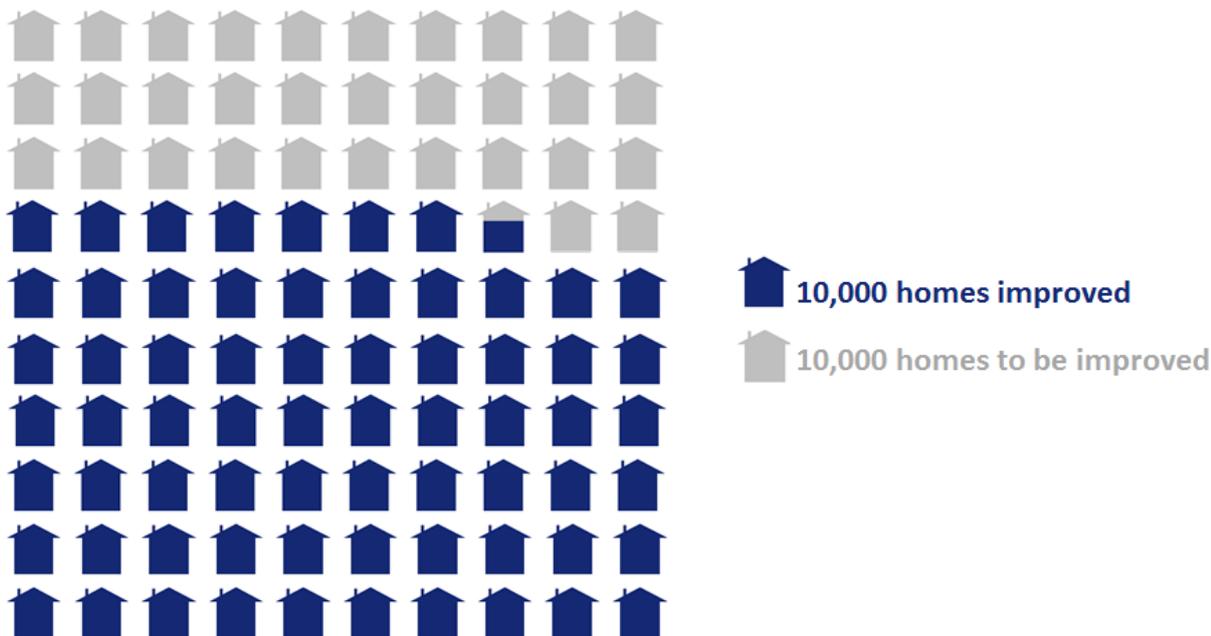
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<sup>1</sup> Clean Growth Strategy: Page 13

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/651916/BEIS\\_The\\_Clean\\_Growth\\_online\\_12.10.17.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/651916/BEIS_The_Clean_Growth_online_12.10.17.pdf)

“Support around £3.6 billion of investment to upgrade around a million homes through the Energy Company Obligation (ECO), and extend support for home energy efficiency improvements until 2028 at the current level of ECO funding.”

### Infographic 1: Proportion of the 1 million homes target achieved, up to end January 2018

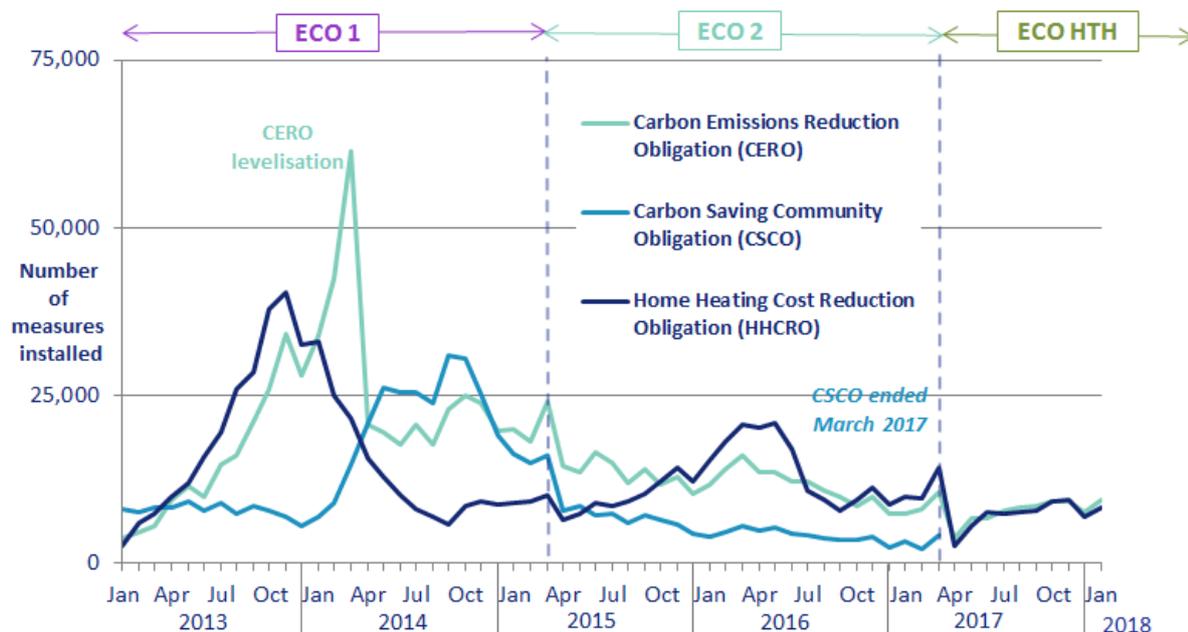


- The provisional estimated lifetime carbon savings of measures installed by the end of December 2017, under ECO (excluding Affordable Warmth), Cashback, GDHIF and GD Plans was between 32.5 – 34.0 MtCO<sub>2</sub> with provisional estimated lifetime energy savings between 130,547 – 136,929 GWh (Table 1.3).

#### ECO Measures Installed and Households

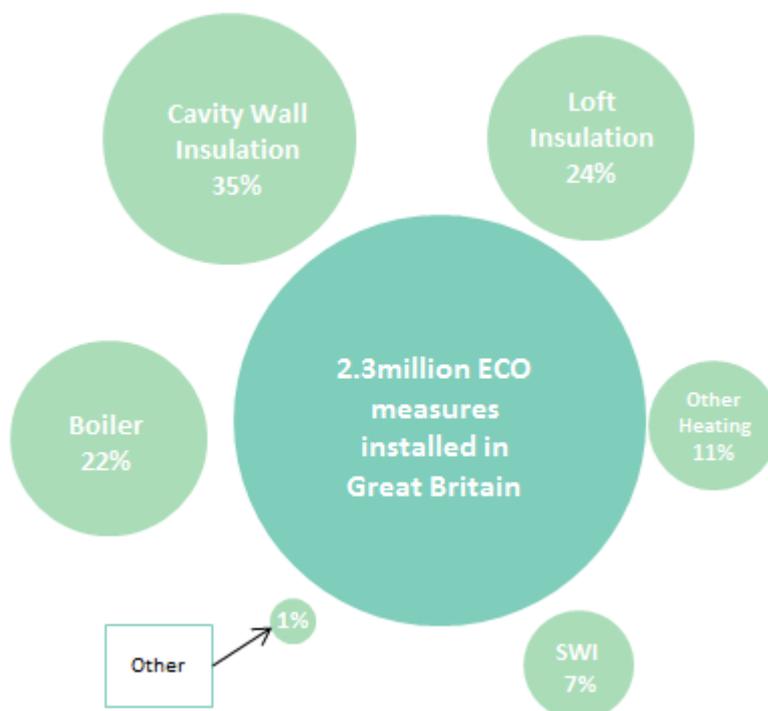
- Provisional figures show there were 2,260,231 measures installed under ECO up to the end of January 2018; with 17,881 installed in January. Over the first 10 months of ECO Help-to-Heat, the average number of measures per month has been around 50 per cent lower than under ECO2 (April 2015-March 2017); however the estimated cost per year of the ECO Help-to-Heat Obligation is around 75 per cent of ECO2. January delivery was 23 per cent higher than the 14,504 installed in December 2017, but this is due to December having fewer working days. Obligated suppliers have until September 2018 to meet their new targets. (Chart 1, Table 2.1 and 2.1a).

**Chart 1: ECO measures installed, by obligation, by month, up to end January 2018**



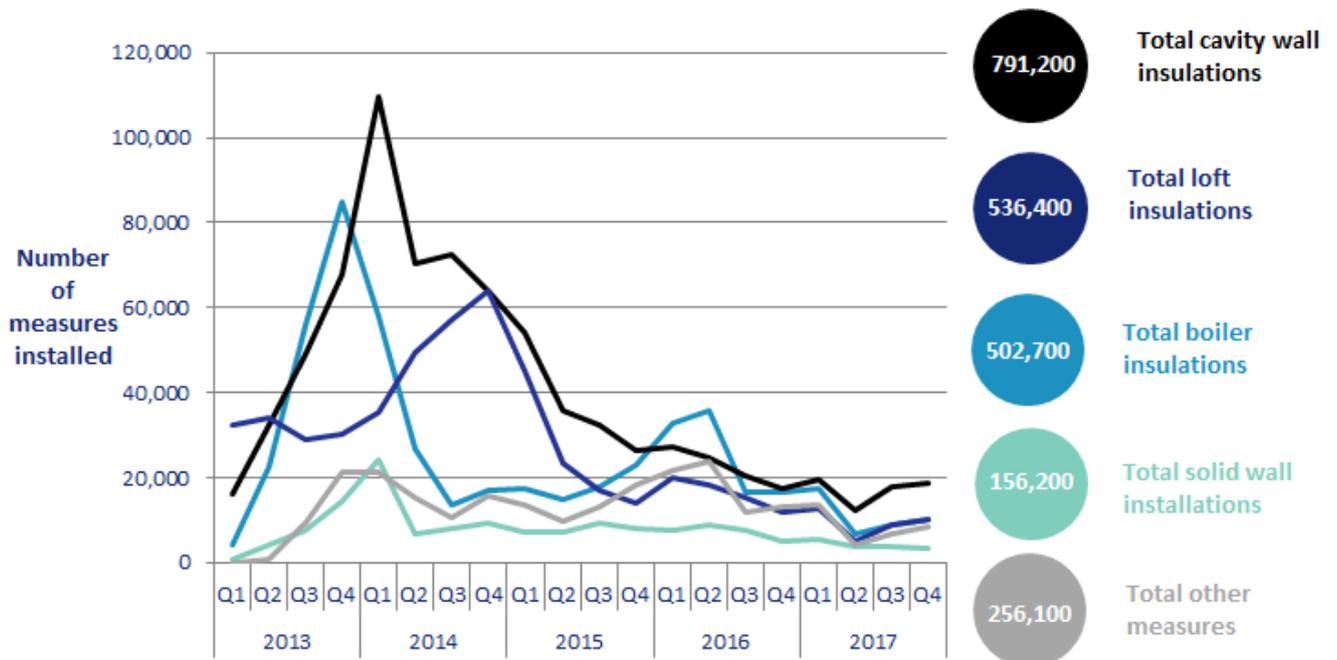
- Through ECO, the combination of Affordable Warmth and the Carbon Savings Community obligations have delivered around 1.32 million measures in around 995,000 low income and vulnerable households, or households in specified areas of low income, by the end of January 2018. (Tables 2.1.1 & 2.1.1a). Within ECO Help-To-Heat, the Affordable Warmth obligation has delivered around 73,000 measures in around 56,000 households, by the end of January 2018 - although some of these households may have also received an ECO 1 or 2 measure (Table 2.1.1a).
- Of all notified ECO measures installed to end of January 2018, 35 per cent were for cavity wall insulation, 24 per cent were for loft insulation and 22 per cent were for boiler upgrades. There were around 157,200 solid wall insulations which accounted for seven per cent of all measures (Table 2.1.1 & 2.1.1a and Infographic 2).
- Of all notified ECO Help-To-Heat measures installed to end of January 2018, 38 per cent were for cavity wall insulation, 20 per cent were for boiler upgrades and 19 per cent were for loft insulation. Fifteen per cent were for 'other heating' and there were around 12,600 solid wall insulations which accounted for 8 per cent of all measures (Table 2.1.1a).

## Infographic 2: ECO measures by measure type, up to end January 2018



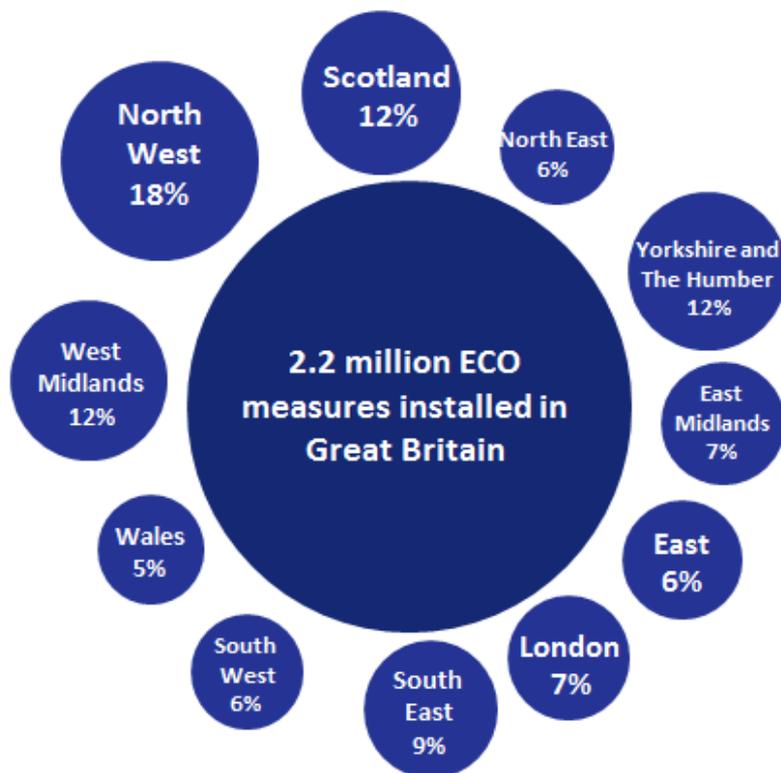
- Chart 2 shows that the highest quarterly delivery of cavity wall insulation was Q1 2014 (just under 110,000 measures, 44 per cent of all measures for that quarter), which was partly due to a carbon saving score uplift in this period. While the number of measures is lower in Q4 2017, cavity wall insulation represented 37 per cent (19,000) of all Q4 2017 measures. The highest quarterly delivery of loft insulation was Q4 2014 (64,000 measures, 38 per cent of that quarter's measures) which was partly due to the ECO amendment order (allowing cheaper measures to be installed). Loft insulation represented 20 per cent of all measures (10,000) in Q4 2017. The highest quarterly delivery for boilers was Q4 2013 (nearly 85,000 measures, 39 per cent of all Q4 2013 measures), when energy companies were focussing on their Affordable warmth target. Boilers represented 20 per cent (10,000) of all measures in Q4 2017. The highest quarterly delivery for solid wall insulation was Q1 2014 (just over 24,000 measures, 10 per cent of all Q1 2014 measures). Solid wall insulation represented 7 per cent (3,000) of all measures in Q4 2017 (Chart 2, Table 2.1.2).

**Chart 2: ECO measures installed, by measure type, by quarter, up to end December 2017**



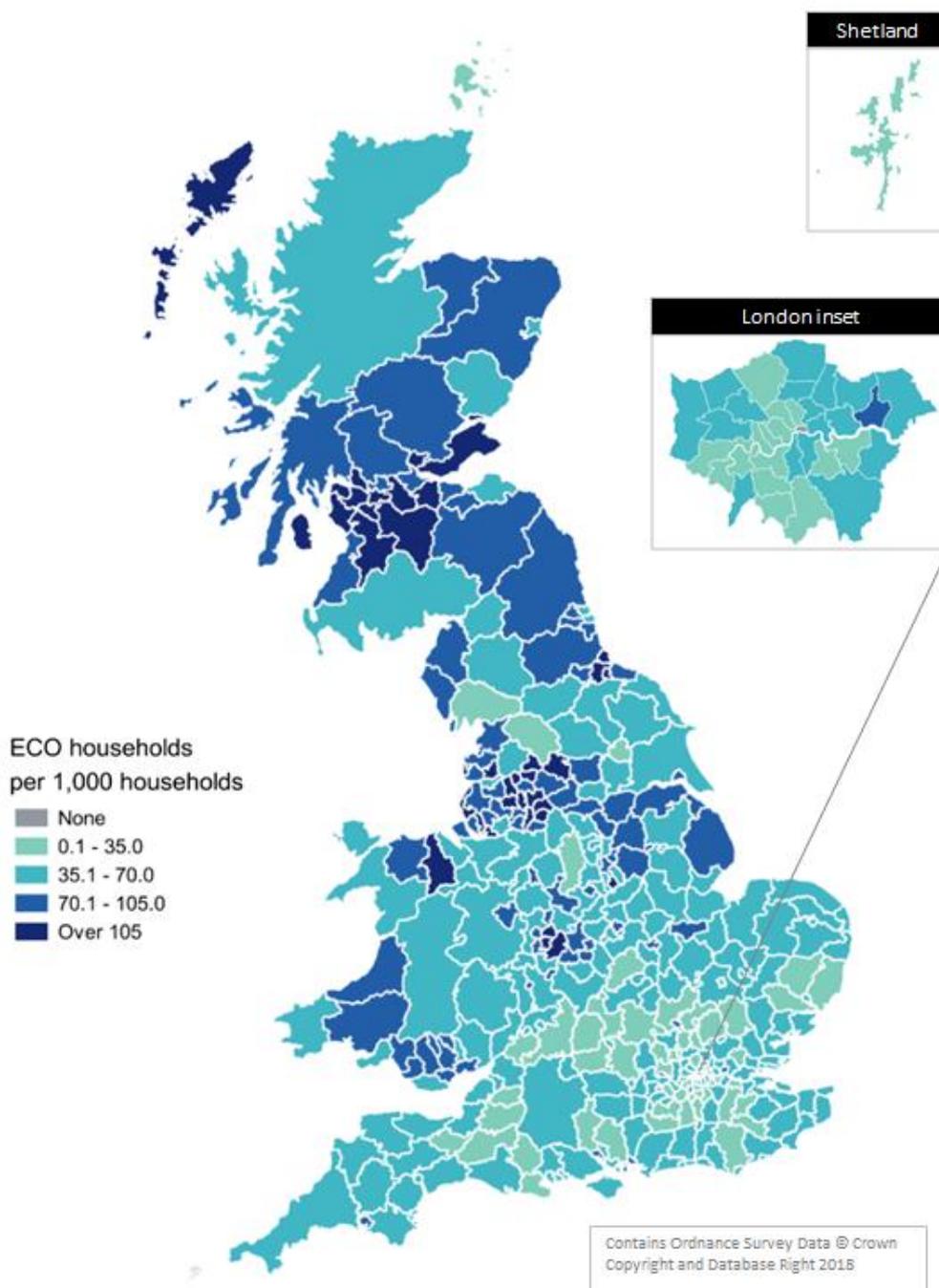
- Up to the end of December 2017, around one fifth (18 per cent) of ECO measures were in the North West (414,733), the highest in any region. 12 per cent of ECO measures were installed in Scotland (273,985) and five per cent were in Wales (120,354) (Infographic 3, Table 2.2).

**Infographic 3: ECO measures by region, up to end December 2017**



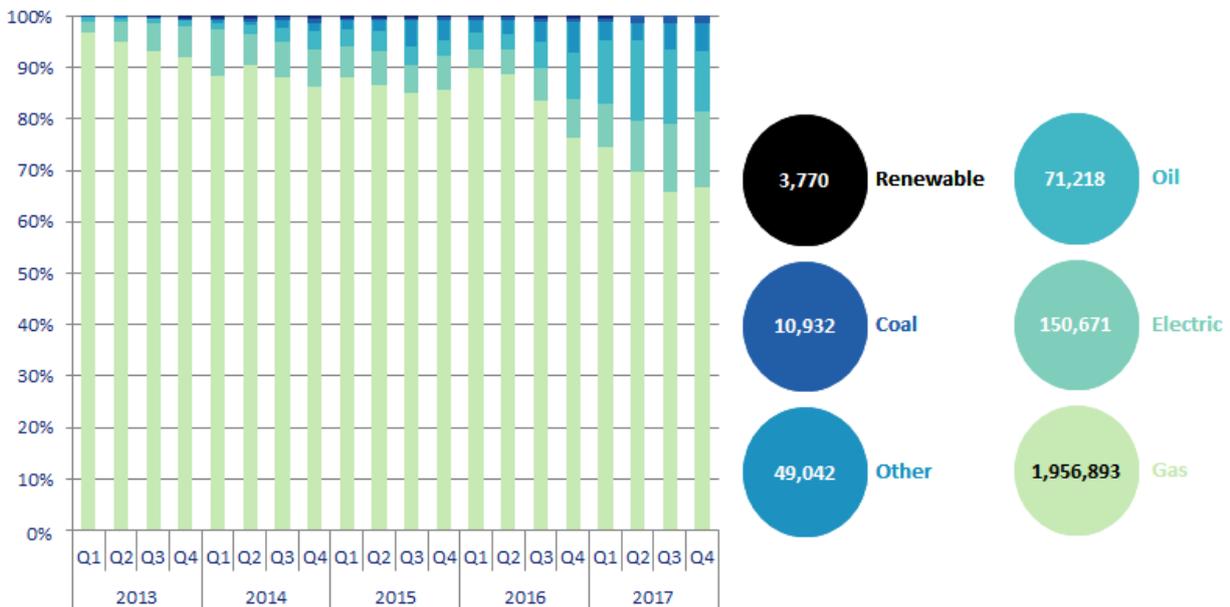
- Around seven per cent of all households in Great Britain had a measure installed under ECO funding (i.e. around 67 per 1,000 households), up to the end of December 2017. The North West and North East had the highest amount with 103 and 91 households with ECO measures per 1,000 households respectively. In Scotland there were also around 95 per 1,000 households and 68 per 1,000 households in Wales. (Map 1, Table 2.2.3 and Table 2.2.4).

**Map 1: Households in receipt of ECO measures by Local Authority per 1,000 households, up to end December 2017**



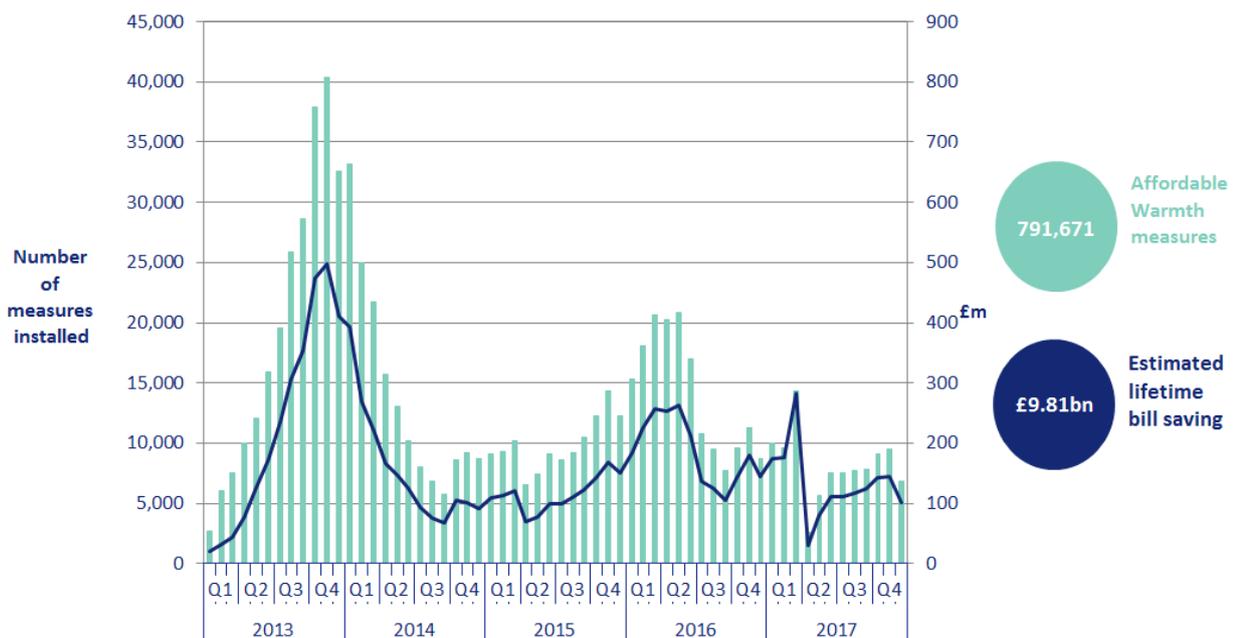
- In total, to end December 2017, around 87 per cent of ECO measures were installed in properties that used gas as their main fuel type (1,956,893 measures); however this has decreased from 97 per cent in the first quarter of ECO to 67 per cent in Q4 2017 (Chart 3, Table 2.3).

**Chart 3: ECO measures by main fuel type of property, by quarter, up to end December 2017**

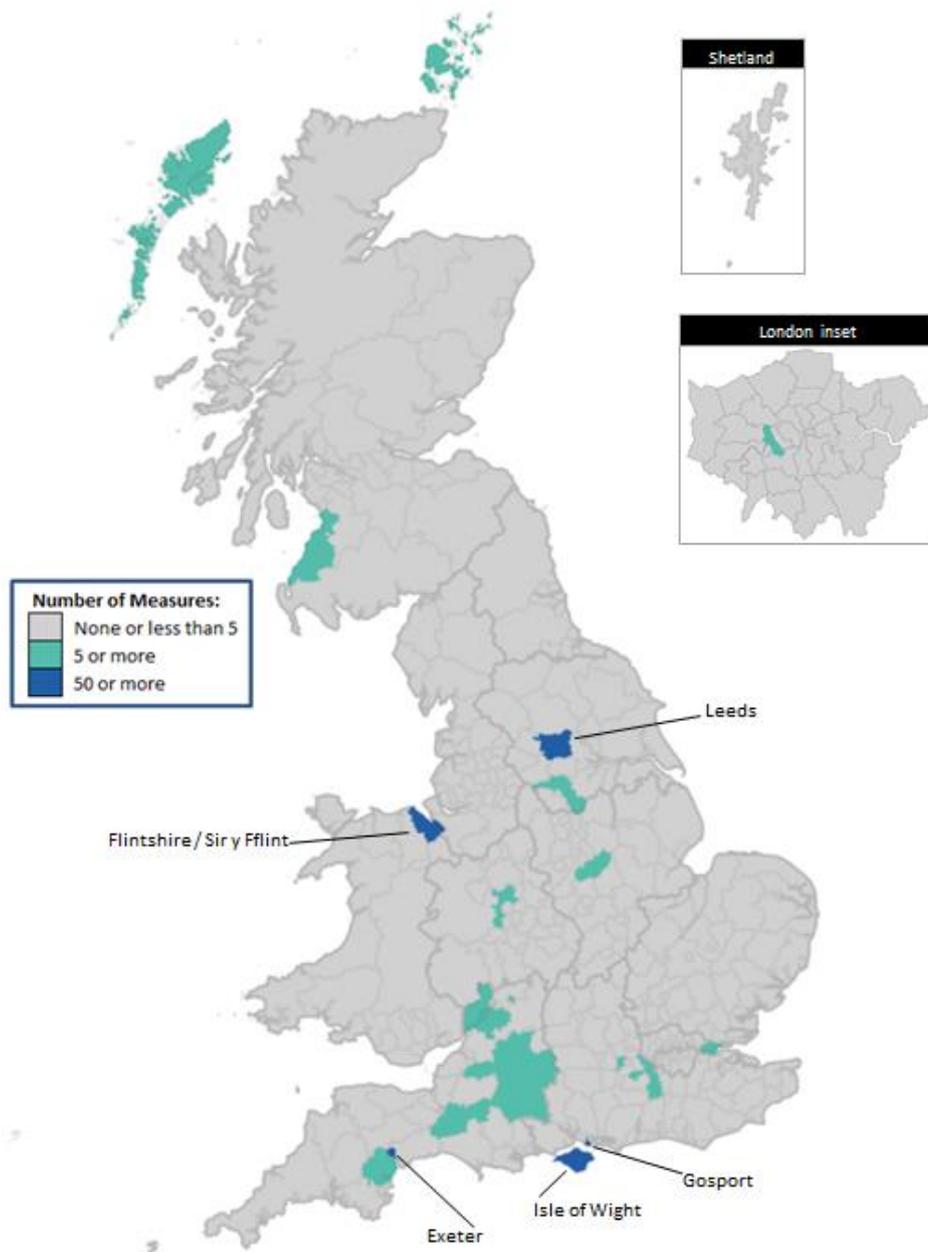


The 791,671 Affordable Warmth ECO measures installed up to the end of December 2017 are estimated to deliver £9.8bn worth of notional lifetime bill savings (Chart 4, Table 2.6).

**Chart 4: Estimated lifetime bill savings for Affordable Warmth measures, by installation month, up to end December 2017**



**Map 2: ECO Help-to-Heat measures installed through Flexible Eligibility, by Local Authority, up to end December 2017**



Local Authorities are shown only if they have at least 5 flexible eligibility measures. In total 61 Local Authorities had at least 1 flex measure up to December 2017.

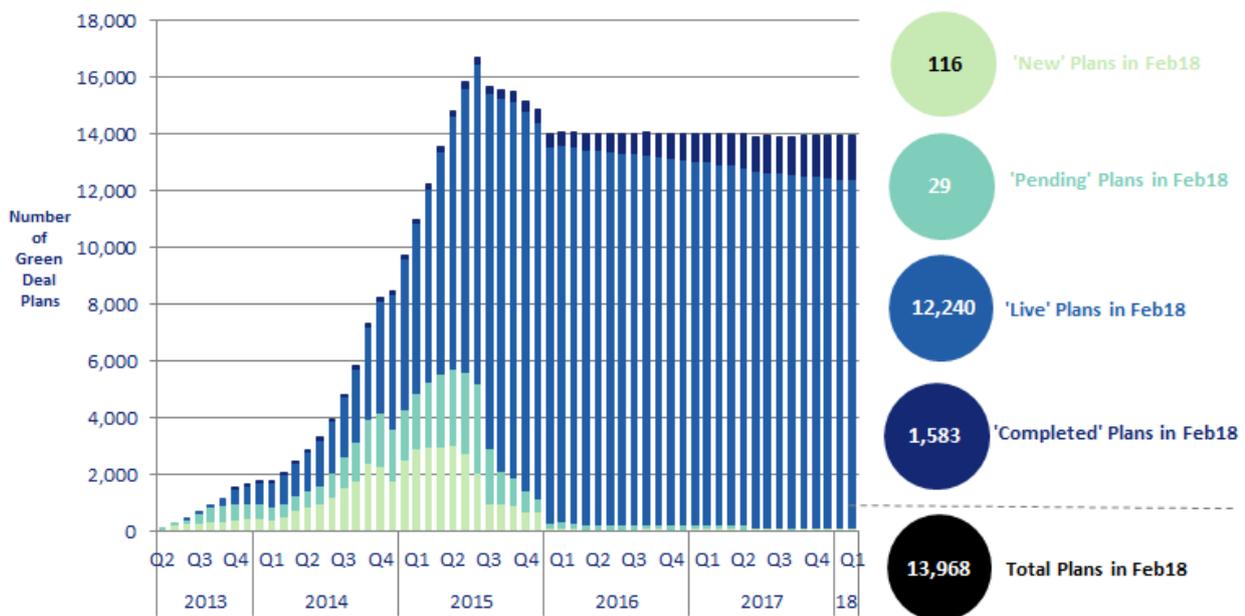
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Under ECO Help-to-Heat up to 10 per cent of the Affordable Warmth Obligation can be delivered through ‘Flexible Eligibility’. Under this scheme, local authorities can determine eligible homes under the new ‘flexible eligibility’ mechanism. Up to December 2017 five local authorities had seen 50 or more measures installed through Flexible Eligibility, Isle of Wight having the most with 168 measures (Table 2.2.1a).

The Green Deal

- GD Assessments – 697,812 were lodged up to the end of February 2018. Since April 2017 the number of Green Deal Advice Reports (GDARs) has fallen sharply since they are no longer required for ECO Help-To-Heat which started then (Table 3.1).
- GD Plans – 13,968 households had GD Plans at the end of February 2018; an increase of 19 from the end of November 2017. Of these, 116 were ‘new’ (quote accepted), another 29 were ‘pending’ (Plan signed), 12,240 were ‘live’ (all measures installed) and 1,583 were ‘completed’ (all measures installed and paid off). 88 per cent of all Plans were ‘live’ (Chart 5, Table 3.2).

**Chart 5: Total Domestic Green Deal Plans, by status, by month, up to end February 2018**



## Home insulation levels in Great Britain<sup>2</sup>

It is estimated that at the end of December 2017:

- There were 28.1 million homes in GB. Of these, 19.6 million had cavity walls with the remaining 8.5 million having solid walls and 24.3 million properties had a loft (Table 4.2).
- There were 249,000 more properties with cavity wall insulation compared to at the end of December 2016; 195,000 more had loft insulation of at least 125mm, and 16,000 more had solid wall insulation (Table 4.1).
- 13.5 million homes had cavity wall insulation (69 per cent of homes with cavity walls). Of the 5.4 million homes without cavity wall insulation, 4.1 million are easy to treat standard cavities, and 1.3 million are hard to treat (including standard cavity wall property with issues such as structural faults or presence of a conservatory, creating access issues and some unfillable cavity walls). There are around 0.7 million properties which may or may not have cavity wall insulation (Chart 6, Table 4.4).
- 16.0 million homes had loft insulation of at least 125mm (66 per cent of homes with lofts). Of the 8.1 million homes with lofts without at least 125mm of insulation, only a small number are estimated to have no insulation. Around 5.8 million of these homes require easy to treat loft insulation, and 2.3 million are hard to treat (including room in roofs, flat roofs and some unfillable lofts) (Chart 6, Table 4.5).
- 734,000 homes had solid wall insulation, which is nine per cent of homes with solid walls (Chart 6, Table 4.6).

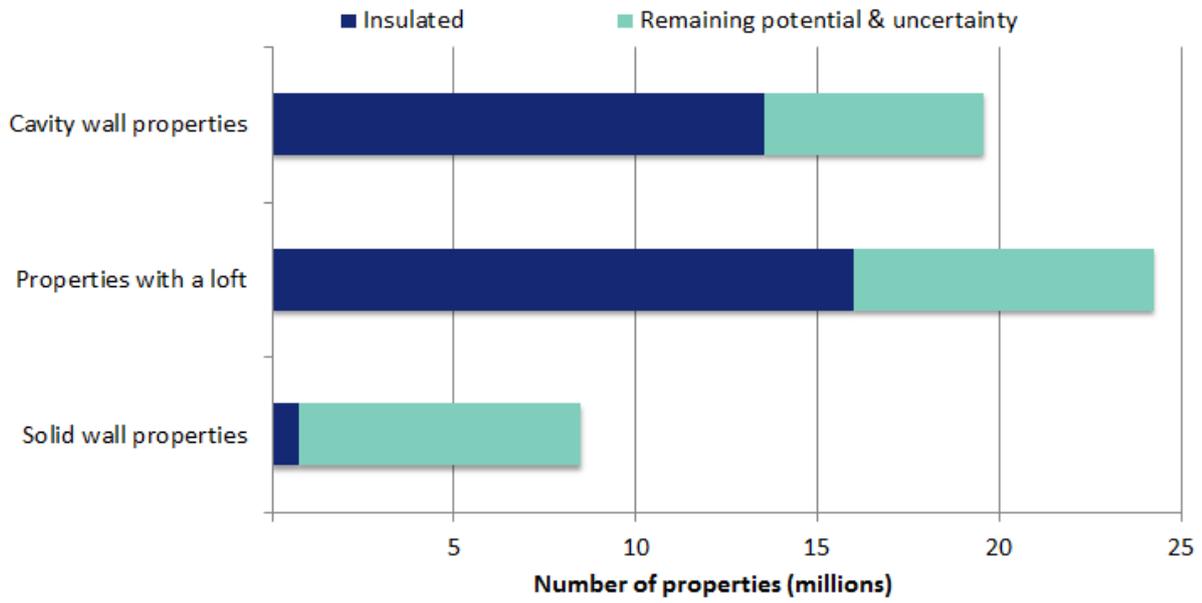
At the end December 2017 there were:



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<sup>2</sup> Estimates of home insulation levels in Great Britain have been updated based on the new methodology, (rebased to the 2013 housing surveys). Please see the [methodology note](#) for more details.

**Chart 6: Home insulation levels in Great Britain, up to end December 2017**





## National Statistics

This is a National Statistics publication.

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the UK Statistics Authority: Code of Practice for Statistics. The Statistics Authority published its report on 12 June 2014:

<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/assessment-reports/index.html>.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs
- are well explained and readily accessible
- are produced according to sound methods, and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

## Accompanying tables

All accompanying tables for this statistics release are located [here](#).

## Methodology Note and Background Quality Report

The methodology note and background quality report summarising the methodology used to produce estimates for this statistical series and to summarise the quality assurance of these statistics, can both be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/household-energy-efficiency-statistics-methodology-note>

## Next Releases

The next headline release on the gov.uk website is planned for publication at 9.30am on **19 April 2018** and will contain the latest available information on headline ECO Help-To-Heat measures.

