



Household Energy Efficiency headline release: Great Britain Data to Q4 2019

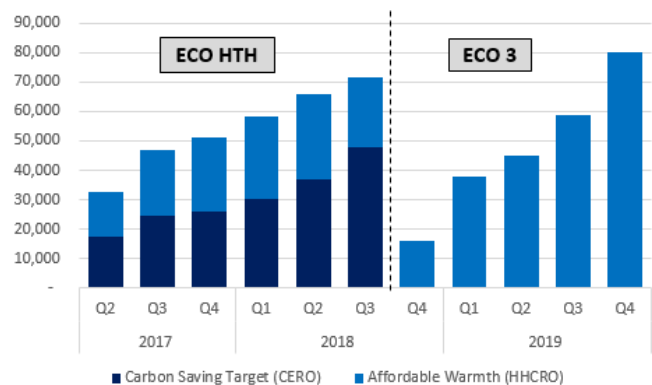
27 February 2020

National Statistics

This release presents the latest statistics on the Energy Company Obligation (ECO), the Green Deal (GD) and an update on the measurement of the one million homes improved target.

- **Around 2.8 million measures have been installed in around 2.1 million properties through ECO and under the GD framework to the end of December 2019.** Around 2.7 million of these installed measures (97 per cent) were delivered through ECO.

Chart: ECO measures installed, by quarter, Q2 2017 – Q4 2019



- Since the start of ECO3 in October 2018, 238,100 measures have been installed, including 28,200 measures installed in December 2019. In Q4 2019, 80,000 measures were installed; a 36 per cent increase on measures installed in the previous quarter and the highest quarterly delivery since Q2 2016.
- The Government set a target to upgrade the energy efficiency of around one million more homes over the five years to April 2020. With four months of the target period remaining, **around 963,900 homes have had at least one improvement measure** installed under the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) or Green Deal (GD).

What you need to know about these statistics:

The Energy Company Obligation (ECO) was introduced in January 2013 to reduce energy consumption and support people at greater risk of living in fuel poverty. The larger energy companies are set obligations to install insulation and heating measures in order to achieve reductions in energy usage and heating costs.

The Green Deal (GD) is a government initiative that is designed to help home owners install energy efficiency measures into their properties, and the costs of these measures are paid back through their energy bill over a period of time; this is in the form of a Green Deal Finance Plan (GD Plan).

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Introduction

This release presents the latest quarterly 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 and GD Plans, together with home insulation levels are available in the [detailed statistical report](#). Both schemes cover Great Britain.

The main headline statistics presented in this release for measures installed are up to December 2019, with selected non-measure based statistics for January 2020. The quarterly reports are now published earlier but the ECO costs data for the final quarter are not yet available. Costs data will now be published in the monthly report that follows a quarterly report.

Energy Efficiency Measures, Households and Carbon Savings

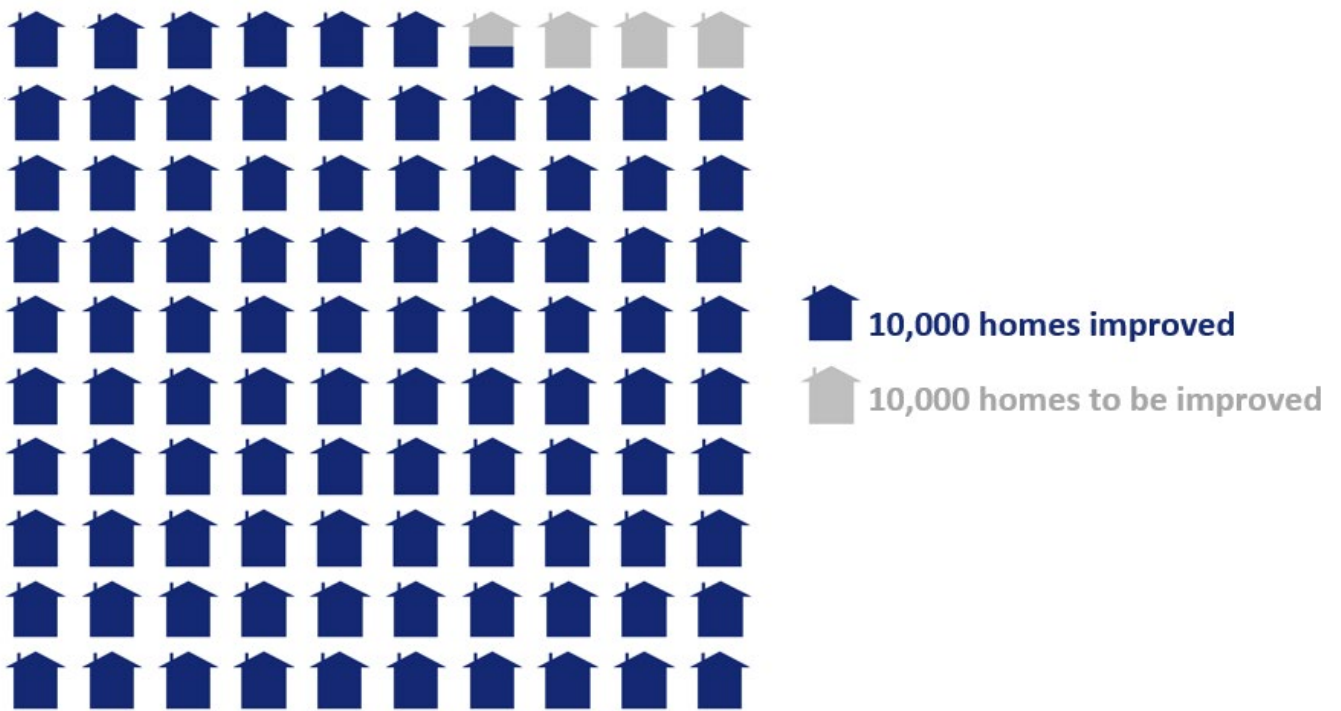
In the [data tables](#) accompanying this publication, tables 1.1 - 1.4 show the combined number of measures across the schemes including 1m homes target and estimated carbon and energy savings.

Since 2013, around 2.8 million measures were installed in around 2.1 million properties through ECO and under the Green Deal Framework to the end of December 2019. Around 2.7 million of these installed measures (97 per cent) were delivered through ECO (Tables 1.1 and 1.2).

In Q4 2019, around 80,000 measures were installed through ECO in around an additional 37,000 households (Tables 3.3 and 4.1).

The Government has 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. With four months of the target period remaining, around 963,900 homes have had at least one improvement measure installed under ECO or the Green Deal (Infographic 1, Table 1.3).

Infographic 1: Proportion of the 1 million homes target achieved, up to end December 2019



The provisional estimated lifetime carbon savings of measures installed by the end of December 2019, under ECO (including Affordable Warmth), Cashback, GDHIF and GD Plans was up to 50.5 MtCO₂ with provisional estimated lifetime energy savings up to 195,600 GWh (Table 1.4).

ECO Measures Installed and Households

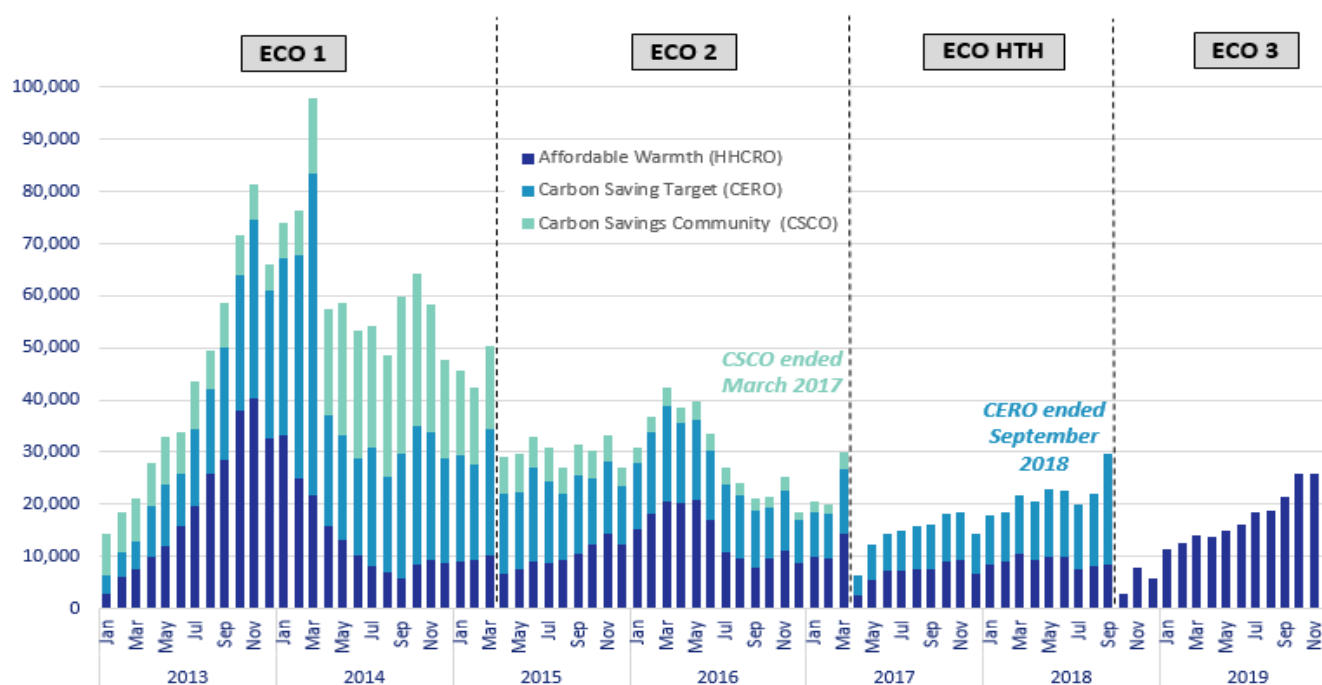
In the [data tables](#) accompanying this publication, tables 2.1 - 2.8 show the detailed tables for each phase of ECO, tables 3.1 - 3.6 present all ECO measures including geographic analysis and tables 4.1 - 4.5 present the number of households receiving ECO measures.

Provisional figures show there were around 2,674,900 measures installed in 2,064,700 households under ECO up to the end of December 2019 (Tables 1.1 and 1.2).

Since the start of ECO3 in October 2018, 238,100 measures have been installed, including 28,200 measures installed in December 2019, the highest monthly delivery to date under ECO3 and provisionally a nine per cent increase in the number of measures compared to November 2019 (Table 2.5). The December 2019 delivery is the second highest monthly total since the start of ECO Help-to-Heat in April 2017. Suppliers have until March 2022 to deliver their ECO3 obligations (Chart 1).

Over the months to date of ECO3, an average of 15,900 measures have been delivered per month while over the last six months (July – December 2019) an average of 23,100 measures have been delivered. This is the highest final six months of a year since 2015, exceeding even the last six months of 2016 when the ECO obligation was larger.

Chart 1: ECO measures installed, by obligation, by month, up to end December 2019



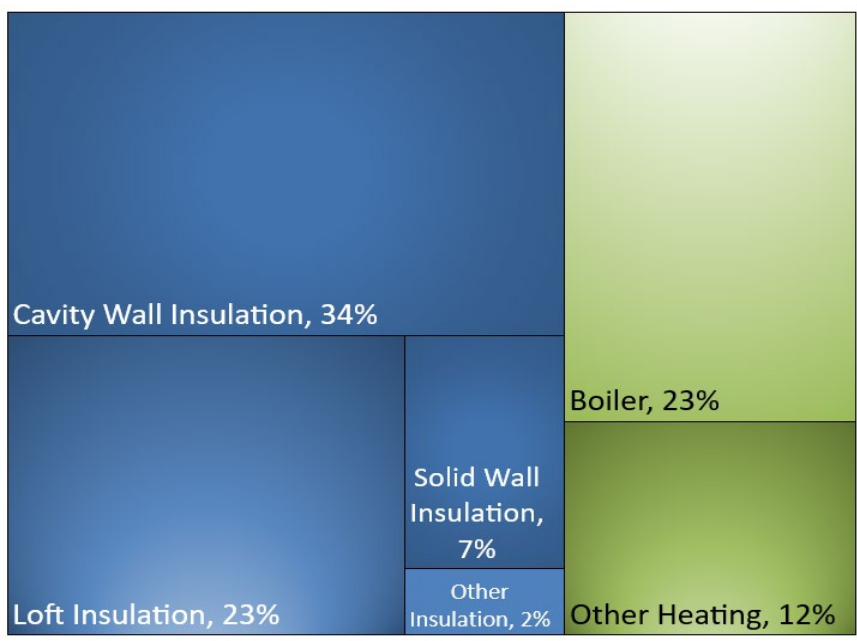
Through ECO, the combination of Affordable Warmth and the Carbon Savings Community Obligation have delivered around 1.59 million measures in around 1.15 million low income and vulnerable households, or households in specified areas of low income, by the end of December 2019 (Tables 2.6, 2.7 & 2.8). Since the start of April 2017, around 382,100 Affordable Warmth

measures have been installed in around 255,500 low income and vulnerable households (Tables 2.7 and 2.8).

Under ECO3, the whole obligation is delivered through Affordable Warmth with 80,000 measures installed to an additional 37,000 households in Q4 2019 (Tables 3.1 and 4.1).

Of all notified ECO measures installed to end of December 2019, 66 per cent of measures have been insulation measures, including cavity wall insulation (34 per cent), loft insulation (23 per cent), solid wall insulation (seven per cent) and ‘other insulation’ (two per cent). The remainder are mostly heating measures, with 23 per cent boiler measures and a further 12 per cent for ‘other heating’ measures (Tables 2.6, 2.7 and 2.8 and Infographic 2).

Infographic 2: ECO measures by measure type, up to end December 2019



2.67 million ECO measures installed in Great Britain
 Insulation 66% Heating 34%

Chart 2a shows that the share of heating measures has increased in ECO3 compared to previous ECO phases. Half of ECO3 measures have been for heating measures with boilers representing 30 per cent of measures and a further 20 per cent from ‘other heating’ measures up to December 2019. This is due to the Affordable Warmth obligation, the only sub-obligation to include boilers, making up the whole of ECO3 (Table 2.8).

Chart 2b compares the share of measures within the Affordable Warmth obligation only. Of all notified ECO3 measures installed up to the end of December 2019, 19 per cent were for cavity wall insulation, 13 per cent were for loft insulation and six per cent were for solid wall insulation. These are significantly higher than the share of insulation measures through Affordable Warmth across all ECO phases, where eight per cent were for cavity wall insulation, nine per cent were for loft insulation and two per cent were for solid wall insulation. In ECO3 the share of other insulation has increased to 13 per cent. This is due to under floor insulation being the most

popular associated insulation measure with a broken boiler. To date, the scheme has delivered 33,100 broken boiler replacements with an associated insulation measure, which has been under floor insulation in 82 per cent of cases (Tables 2.6, 2.7 & 2.8).

Since the start of ECO an average of 1.30 measures have been installed per household receiving measures. Prior to the start of ECO3, the Affordable Warmth ratio was 1.41 measures per household reflecting that when a heating measure is installed it is often accompanied with heating controls as a secondary measure. Over the first 15 months of ECO3 the average number of measures per household has increased rapidly to an average of 1.86 over the last three months. ECO3 has also seen an increased likelihood of measures being installed in homes which also received ECO measures in earlier phases of the scheme. Over the last 3 months 80,000 measures were installed in 43,100 households of which 6,100 households (14 per cent) had previously received an ECO measure.

Chart 2a: Share of all ECO measures installed, by measure type, by ECO phase, up to end December 2019

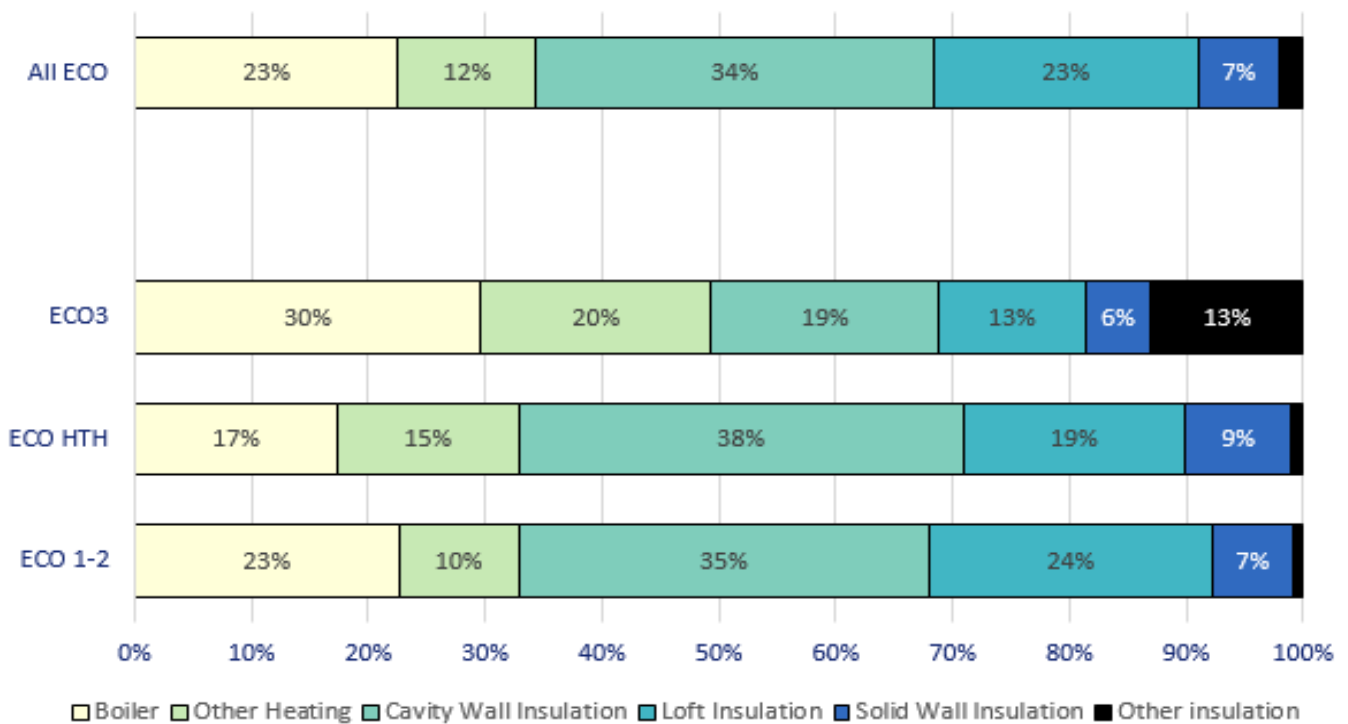
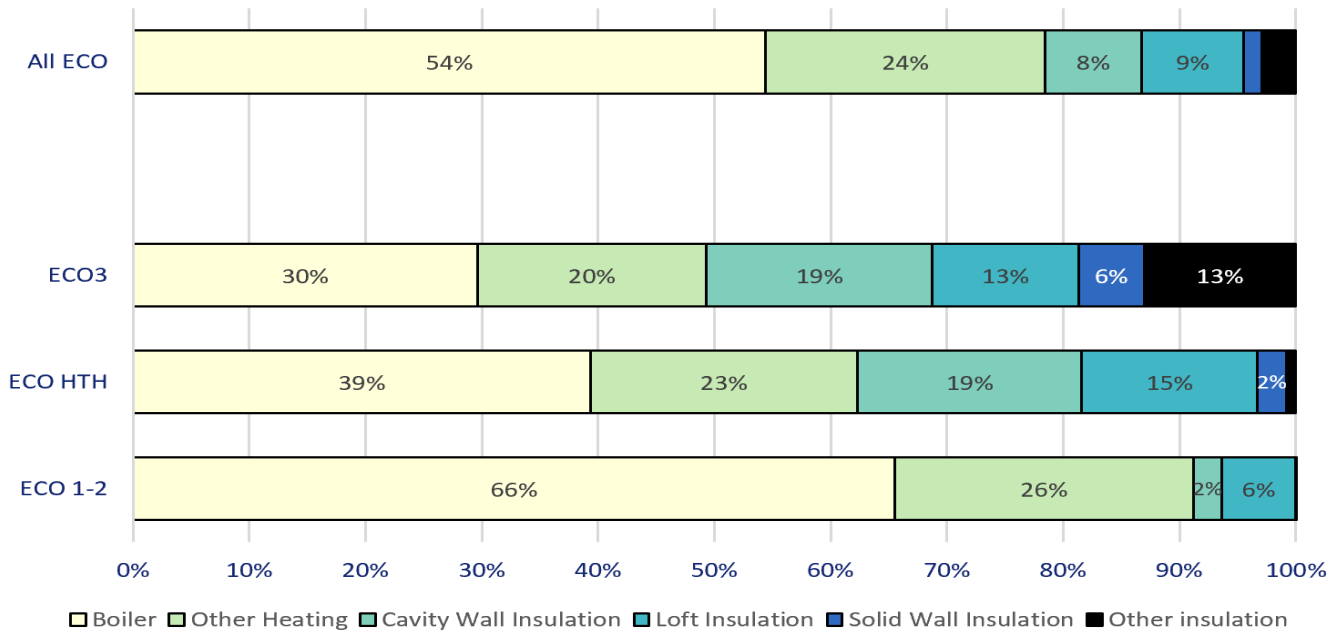
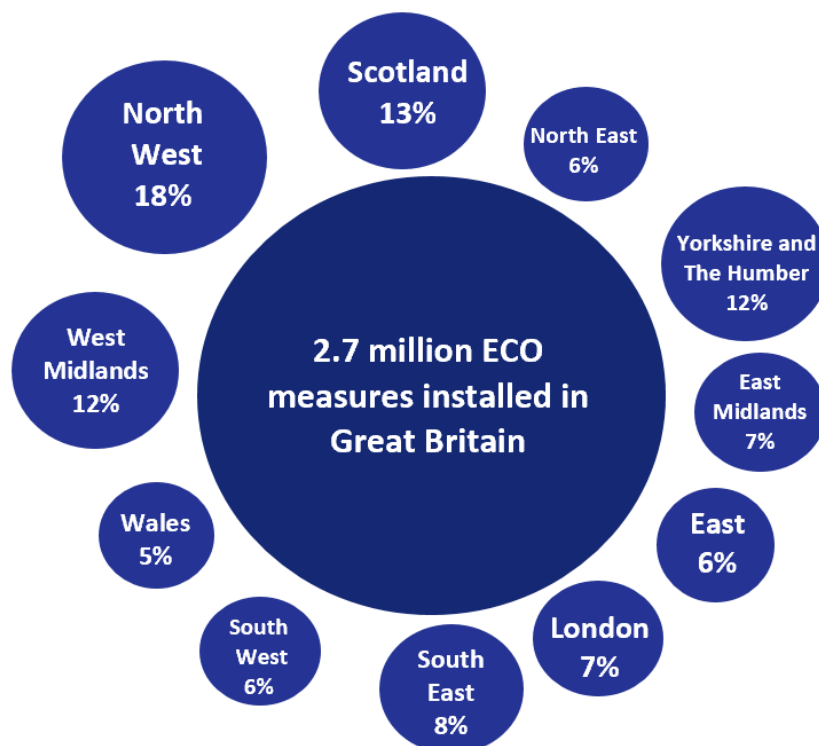


Chart 2b: Share of all Affordable Warmth measures installed, by measure type, by ECO phase, up to end December 2019



Up to the end of December 2019, around one fifth (18 per cent) of ECO measures were in the North West (487,100), the highest in any region. Thirteen per cent of ECO measures were installed in Scotland (336,900) and five per cent were in Wales (146,200). In Q4 2019 around 19 per cent of ECO measures were in the North West (14,900), the highest in any region. Twelve per cent of ECO measures were installed in Scotland (9,800) and around five per cent were in Wales (4,400) (Infographic 3, Table 3.3).

Infographic 3: ECO measures by region, up to end December 2019

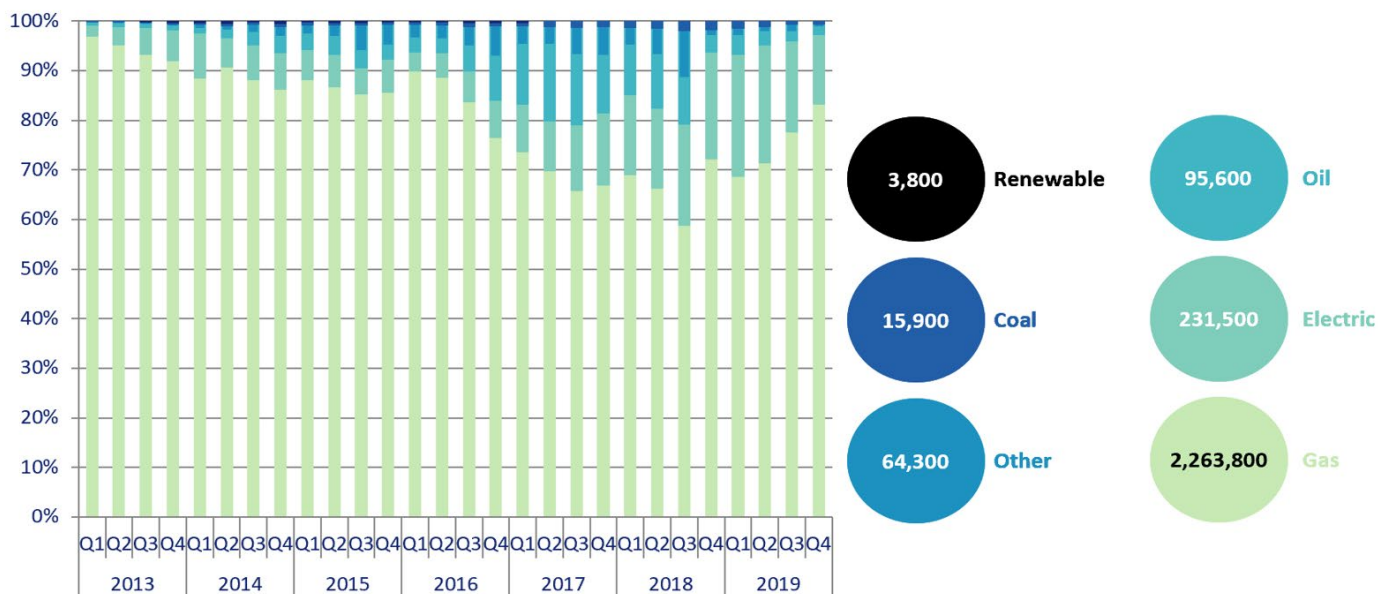


Around eight per cent of all households in Great Britain had a measure installed under ECO (i.e. around 77 per 1,000 households), up to the end of December 2019. The North West and North East regions had the highest amounts in England, with 116 and 102 households with ECO measures per 1,000 households respectively. There were also around 114 per 1,000 households in Scotland and 80 per 1,000 households in Wales (Map 1, Table 4.1 and Table 4.4).

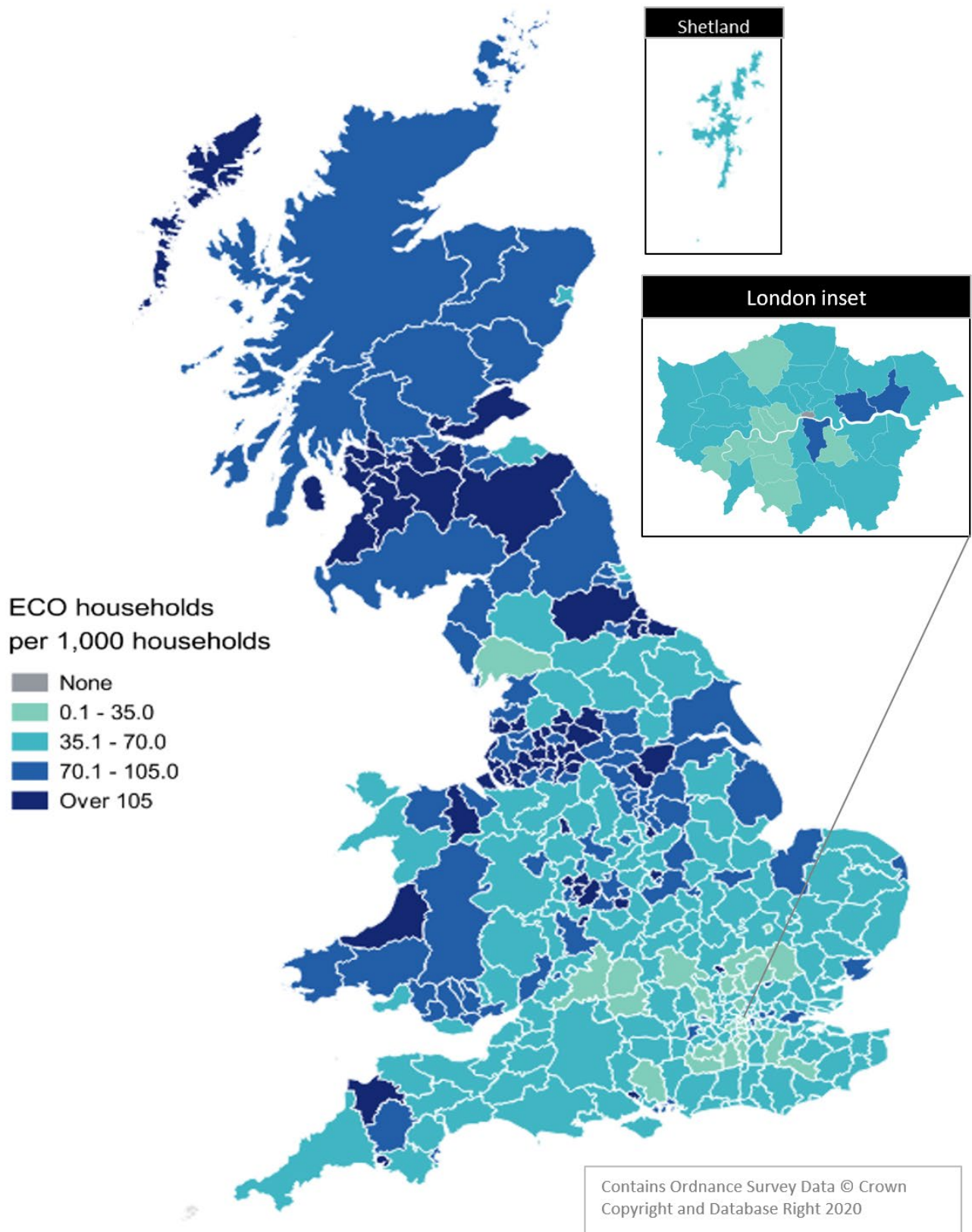
The interactive map for indicators of domestic energy efficiency includes the percentage of households receiving ECO measures down to Lower Layer Super Output Area up to September 2019. The map also shows the number of loft and wall insulation measures installed. www.domesticenergymap.uk

In total, to end December 2019, around 85 per cent of ECO measures were installed in properties that used gas as their main fuel type (around 2,263,800 measures). This figure has decreased from 97 per cent in the first quarter of ECO to 59 per cent in the last quarter of ECO Help-to-Heat (Q3 2018) before rising to 83 per cent in Q4 2019 (Chart 3, Table 3.2).

Chart 3: ECO measures by main fuel type of property, by quarter, up to end December 2019

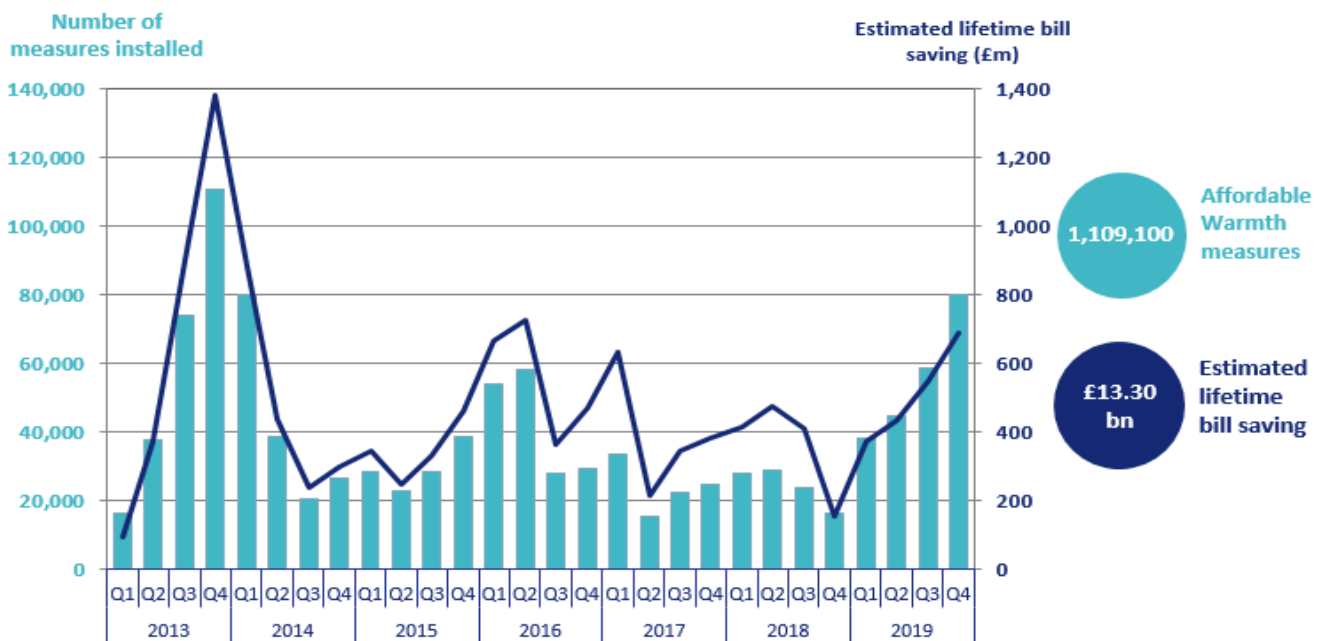


Map 1: Households in receipt of ECO measures by Local Authority per 1,000 households, up to end December 2019



Around 1,109,100 Affordable Warmth ECO measures installed up to the end of December 2019 are estimated to deliver £13.3bn worth of notional lifetime bill savings. In Q4 2019, Affordable Warmth delivered around 80,000 measures delivering around £691m of lifetime bill savings (Chart 4, Table 2.1).

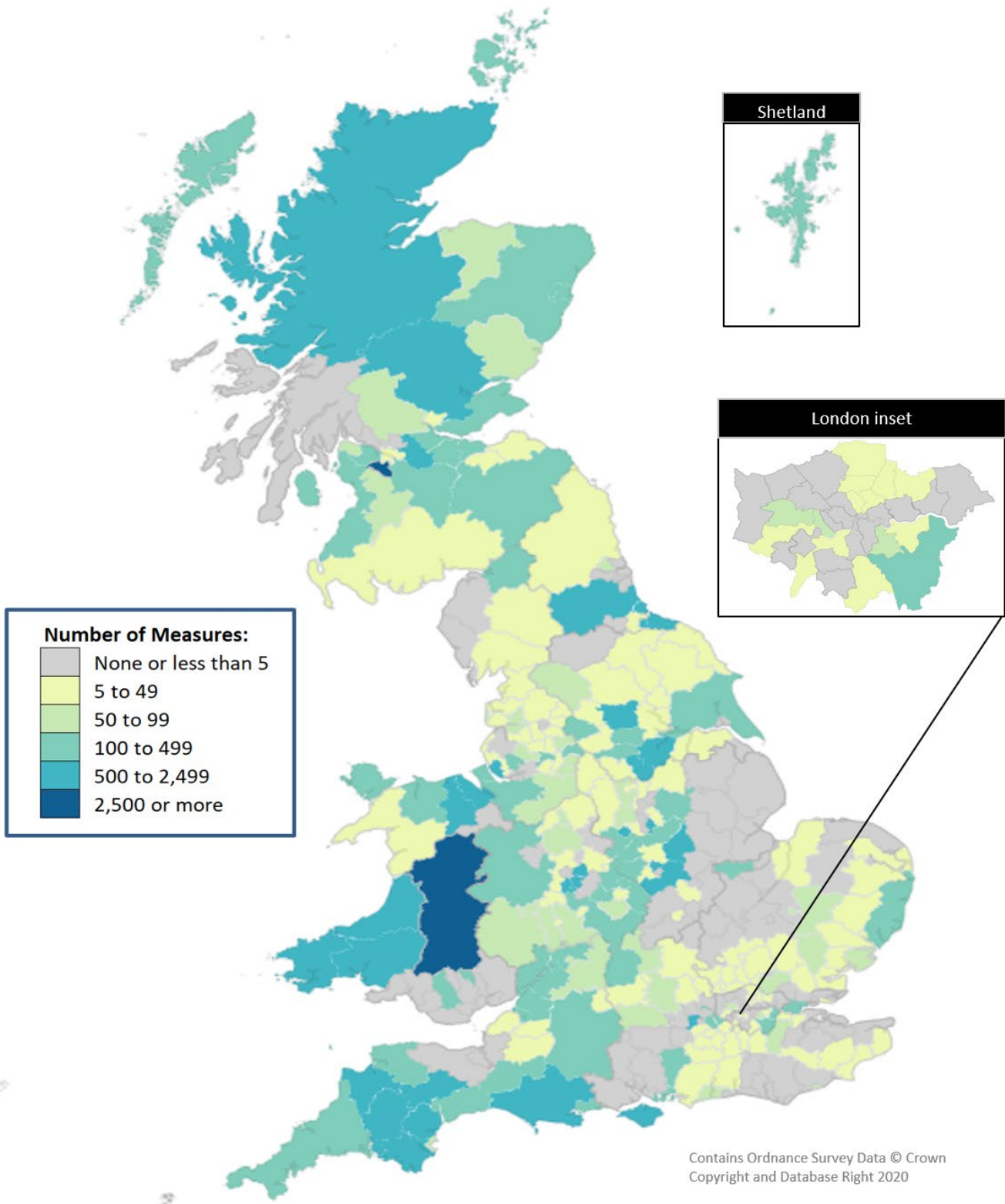
Chart 4: Estimated lifetime bill savings for Affordable Warmth measures, by installation quarter, up to end December 2019



Local Authorities can determine whether a home is eligible for an Affordable Warmth measure under the ‘Flexible Eligibility’ mechanism, which is permitted to deliver up to 25 per cent of the ECO3 obligation. Up to December 2019, 141 local authorities had seen 50 or more measures installed through Flexible Eligibility, 35 of which had over 500 measures installed. The South West region had the highest share in England, with 18 per cent of all flex measures installed in Great Britain. Scotland also had 18 per cent of the flex measures, whereas Wales had 16 per cent (Table 3.5).

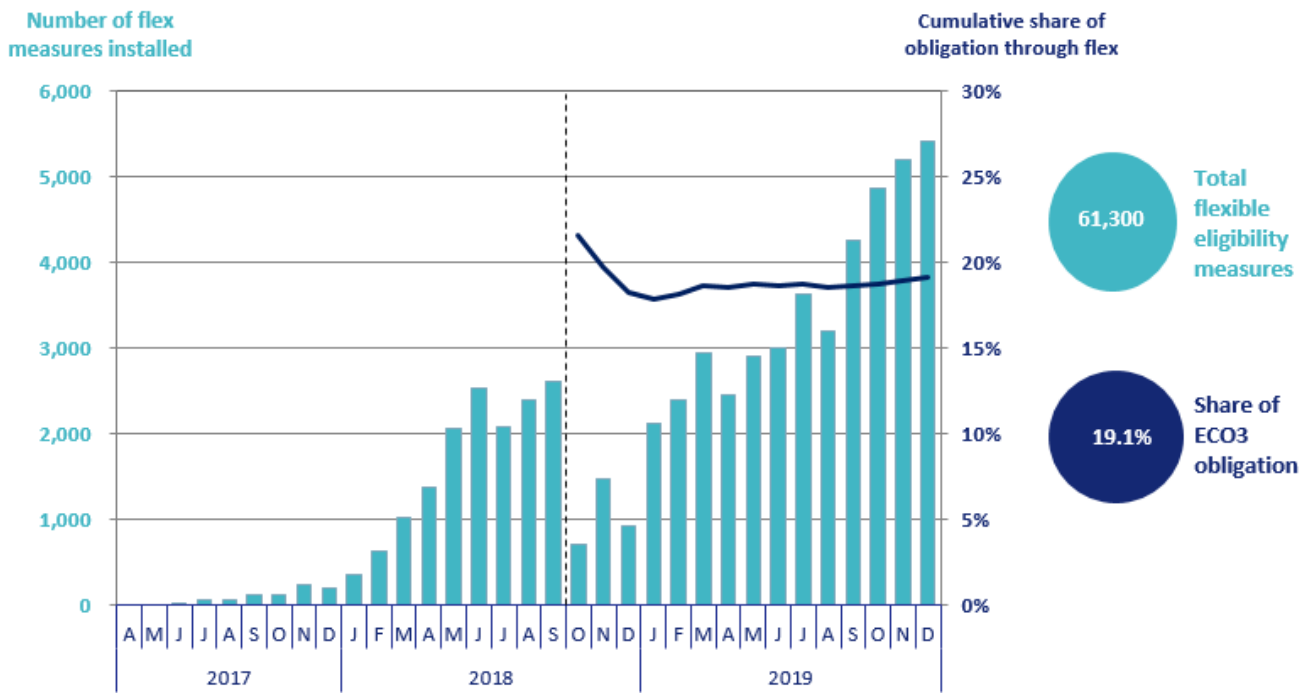
Since the introduction of Flexible Eligibility, 61,300 measures have been delivered through this aspect of the scheme up to the end of December 2019 (Tables 2.7 & 2.8). Under ECO3 (since October 2018), up to 25 per cent of the obligation can be delivered through Flex, with around 19 per cent of this obligation delivered through Flex up to the end of December 2019 (Chart 5).

Map 2: ECO measures installed through Flexible Eligibility, by Local Authority (April 2017 - December 2019)



Local Authorities are shown only if they have at least 5 flexible eligibility measures. In total, 291 Local Authorities had at least 1 flex measure up to December 2019.

Chart 5: Number of ECO3 Flexible Eligibility Measures by installation month and share of Affordable Warmth obligation delivered through flex, up to end December 2019¹



¹ The share of obligation delivered through Flexible Eligibility only covers ECO3 because a different cap of 25 per cent is allowed under this phase. Approximately 14 per cent of the ECO HTH Affordable Warmth Obligation was delivered through Flexible Eligibility, which exceeded the 10 per cent cap for that phase but the excess is expected to be re-elected into ECO3 later this year.

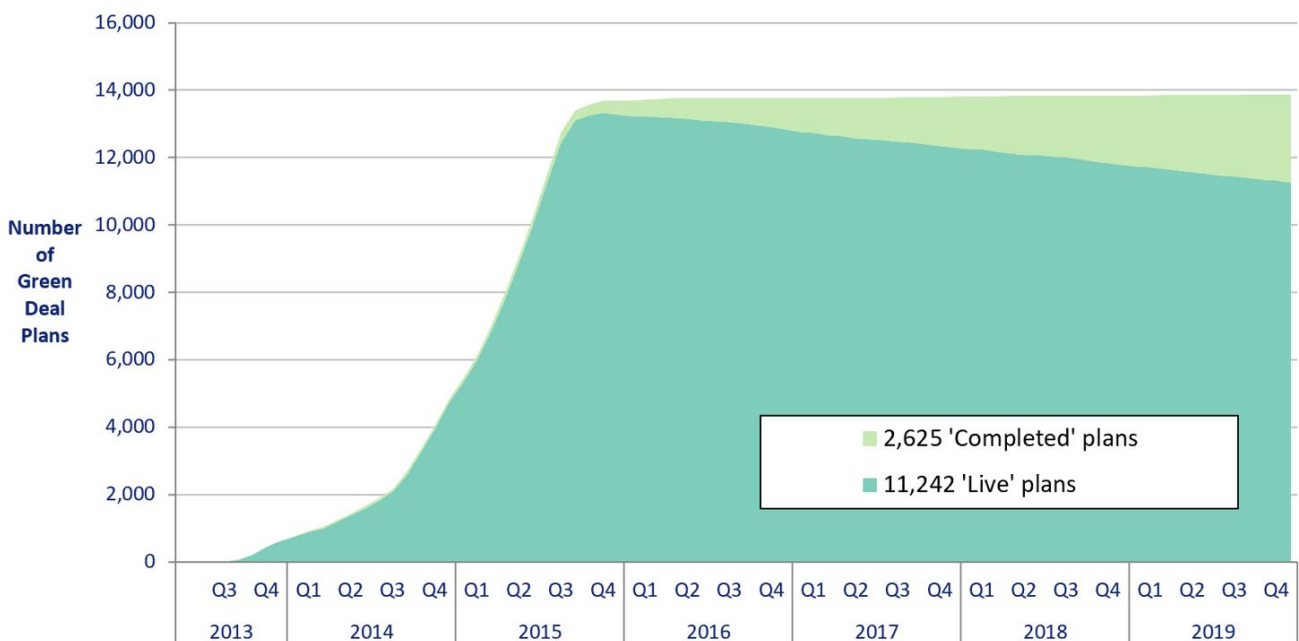
The Green Deal

In the [data tables](#) accompanying this publication, tables 7.1 - 7.3 show the number of Green Deal plans and measures.

Green Deal (GD) Plans – there were 13,867 ‘live’ or ‘completed’ GD Plans in unique homes at the end of January 2020. Of these, 11,190 were ‘live’ (all measures installed) and 2,677 were ‘completed’ (all measures installed and paid off). At the end of January 2020, 81 per cent of all plans were ‘live’. Over the last three months (November 2019 - January 2020) 164 plans were ‘completed’, compared to 124 completions in the previous three months (Table 7.1).

Table 7.1 contains monthly data up to January 2020, but in Chart 6 below only complete quarters are shown.

Chart 6: Domestic Green Deal Plans, by ‘Live’ or ‘Completed’ status, by quarter, up to end December 2019



Technical information

Further information regarding the methodology and quality assurance process used to produce estimates for this statistical series can be found here:

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

Definitions

The Energy Company Obligation required the larger energy suppliers to achieve savings in homes. (CERO & CSCO are measured in terms of lifetime carbon savings, Affordable Warmth is measured in terms of lifetime bill savings).

Over the course of ECO3 the threshold is gradually tightening bringing more smaller energy suppliers into the Obligation. Suppliers are obligated if they exceed the number of domestic customers stated and either the electricity or gas supplied threshold.

ECO3 Supplier Obligation Thresholds: 2013-2022

	Up to 3 Dec 2018	3 Dec 2018 – 31 Mar 2019	1 Apr 2019 – 31 Mar 2020	1 Apr 2020 – 31 Mar 2021	1 Apr 2021 – 31 Mar 2022
Number of domestic customers	250,000	250,000	200,000	150,000	150,000
Electricity supply to domestic customers	400 GWh	500 GWh	400 GWh	300 GWh	300 GWh
Gas supply to domestic customers	2,000 GWh	1,400 GWh	1,100 GWh	700 GWh	700 GWh

Within the Energy Company Obligation there are sub-obligations

Carbon Saving Target (CERO)	This covered the installation of measures like solid wall and hard-to-treat cavity wall insulation, which ordinarily can't be financed solely through Green Deal Plans. From April 2017 this included a rural sub-obligation where at least 15 per cent of a supplier's CERO for Help-to-Heat must be achieved in rural areas. (Closed end September 2018)
Carbon Saving Communities (CSCO)	This provides insulation measures to households in specified areas of low income. It also makes sure that 15 per cent of each supplier's obligation is used to upgrade more hard-to-reach low-income households in rural areas. (Closed end March 2017)
Affordable Warmth² (HHCRO)	This provides heating and insulation measures to consumers who receive particular means-tested benefits. Since April 2017 it enables those in social housing living in E, F and G rated properties to receive insulation measures, and some heating measures. This obligation supports low-income consumers who are vulnerable to the impact of living in cold homes, including the elderly, disabled and families. From October 2018 this included a rural sub-obligation where at least 15 per cent of a supplier's ECO3 must be achieved in rural areas.
Flexible Eligibility	Local Authorities can determine eligible homes under the new 'Flexible Eligibility' mechanism, introduced in 2017. Up to 25% of the Obligation can be delivered through Flexible Eligibility under ECO3, up from 10% under ECO Help-To-Heat. Households can be assessed by local authorities to be 'living in fuel poverty'; or assessed to be 'living on a low income and vulnerable to cold'.
Innovation Measures	Under ECO3, suppliers are able to meet up to 10% of their obligation to deliver innovation measures to eligible households. A further 10% can be used to monitor the actual energy performance of measures in homes.

² Also known as The Home Heating Cost Reduction Obligation

Accompanying tables

The underlying tables are available in Excel format on the department's statistics website <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/household-energy-efficiency-national-statistics#headline-releases>

Further information

Future updates to these statistics

The next headline release on the gov.uk website is planned for publication at 9.30am on **19 March 2020** and will contain the latest available information on headline ECO measures and an update of Section 6 ECO costs to December 2019.

The next detailed (annual) release will also be published on **19 March 2020**. This will contain more detailed analysis of ECO and Green Deal delivery up to the end of 2019 together with an updated assessment on the share of homes insulated in Great Britain.

The next quarterly release is planned for publication at 9.30am on **28 May 2020**

Revisions policy

The [BEIS statistical revisions policy](#) sets out the revisions policy for these statistics, which has been developed in accordance with the UK Statistics Authority [Code of Practice for Statistics](#).

The number of ECO measures reported for November 2019 has been revised significantly from 22,283 to 25,837 (up 16 per cent) since the 23 January 2020 release. This is due to one major obligated supplier being unable to submit their full set of measures to Ofgem by the end of December 2019.

Uses of these statistics

These statistics are used by Government to monitor the delivery and effectiveness of the ECO and GD schemes. They are used to monitor the delivery of the ECO obligation and the share of the obligation delivered through key aspects of the scheme, including Flexibility Eligibility and innovation measures. The data are used within the [National Energy Efficiency Data-framework](#) to assess the impact of these measures in different types of homes.

User engagement

Users are encouraged to provide comments and feedback on how these statistics are used and how well they meet user needs. Comments on any issues relating to this statistical release are welcomed and should be sent to: EnergyEfficiency.Stats@beis.gov.uk

The BEIS statement on [statistical public engagement and data standards](#) sets out the department's commitments on public engagement and data standards as outlined by the [Code of Practice for Statistics](#).

National Statistics designation

National Statistics status means that our statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value, and it is our responsibility to maintain compliance with these standards.

The statistics last underwent a [full assessment](#) against the [Code of Practice for Statistics](#) on 12 June 2014

Pre-release access to statistics

Some ministers and officials receive access to these statistics up to 24 hours before release. Details of the arrangements for doing this and a list of the ministers and officials that receive pre-release access to these statistics can be found in the [BEIS statement of compliance](#) with the Pre-Release Access to Official Statistics Order 2008.

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