



Department for  
Business, Energy  
& Industrial Strategy



# Household Energy Efficiency

## Headline Release

### Executive Summary

Statistical Release:  
National Statistics

23 March 2017



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# Executive summary

## Introduction

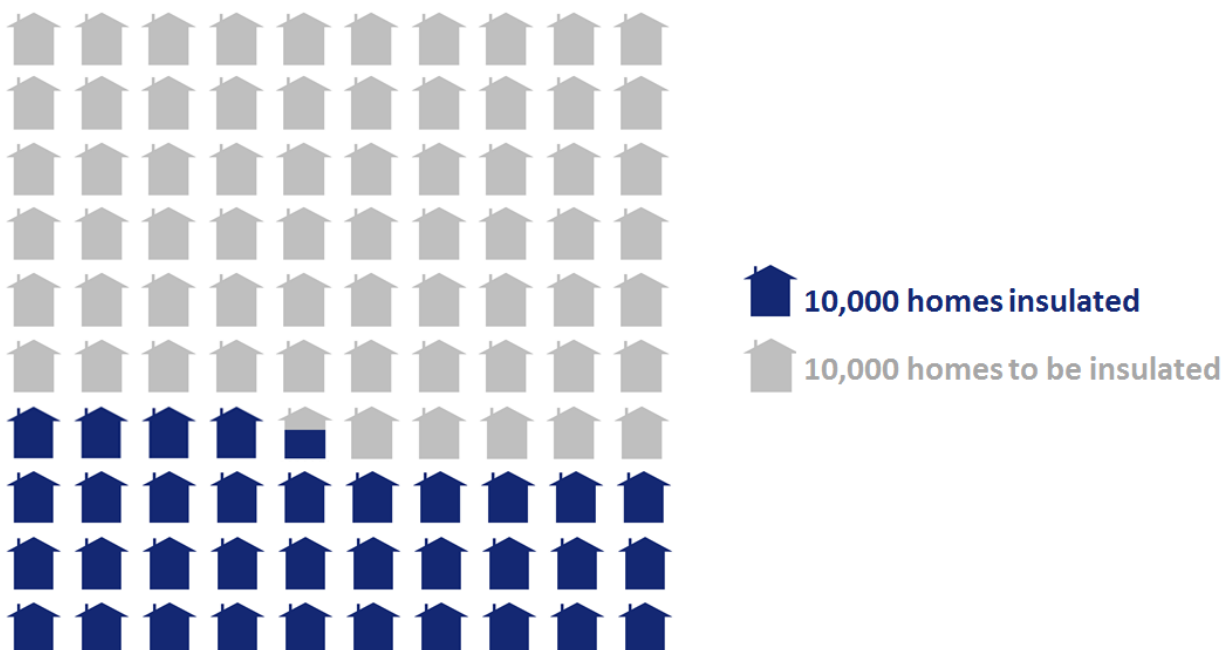
This release presents the latest statistics on the Energy Company Obligation (ECO) and the Green Deal (GD), and includes an update on the measurement against the one million homes insulated target. It also contains a final update of measures installed under the GD Communities scheme, as well as home insulation levels in Great Britain. More detailed analysis of ECO, GD Assessments, GD Plans, the Green Deal Home Improvement Fund and the Green Deal Communities programme are available in the [detailed statistical report](#).

## Key points

### Energy Efficiency Measures, Households and Carbon Savings

- The Government has established a target to “support low-cost measures on energy efficiency, with the goal of insulating a million more homes over the next five years, supporting our commitment to tackle fuel poverty.” Since the start of May 2015 to end January 2017 around 346,000 homes have had at least one insulation measure installed under ECO or the GD (Infographic 1, Table 1.2.1).

### **Infographic 1: Proportion of the 1 million homes insulated target achieved, up to end January 2017**

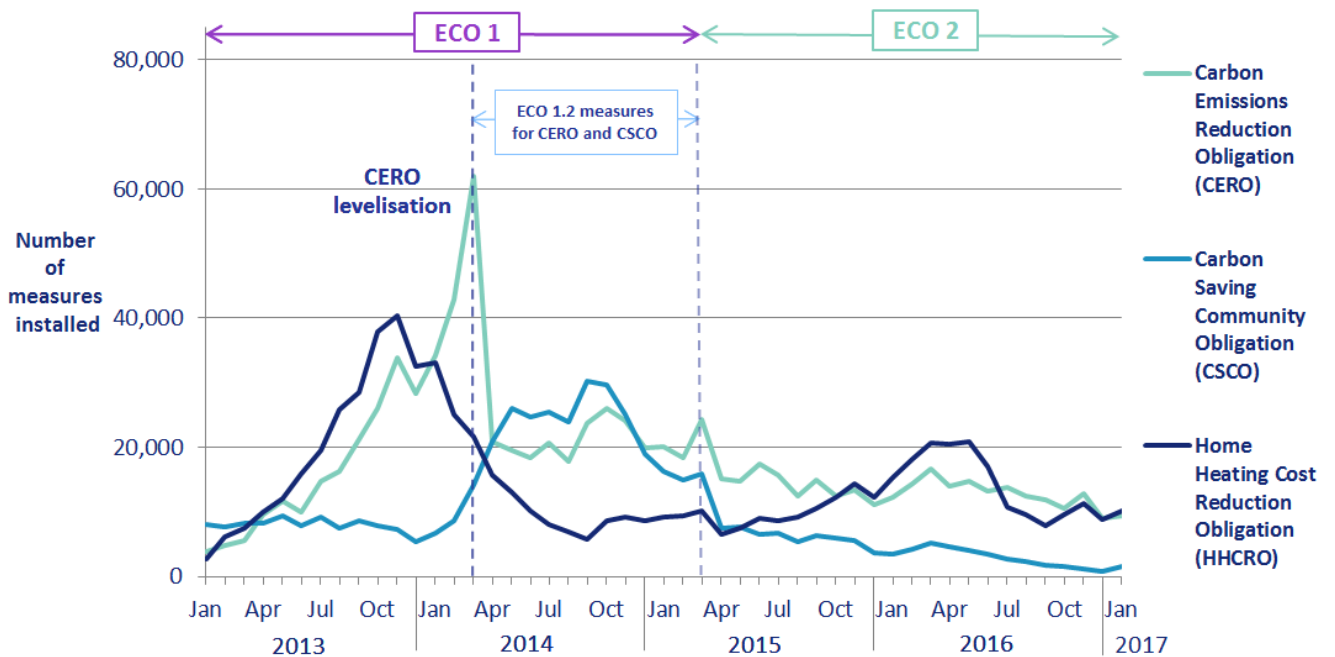


- Around 2.16 million measures were installed in around 1.70 million properties through ECO and under the Green Deal Framework to the end of January 2017 (the latest month that we have complete data for). Over 2 million of these installed measures (96 per cent) were delivered through ECO (Tables 1.1 and 1.2).
- The provisional estimated lifetime carbon savings of measures installed by the end of December 2016, under ECO (excluding Affordable Warmth), Cashback, GDHIF and GD Plans was between 29.6 – 31.1 MtCO<sub>2</sub> with provisional estimated lifetime energy savings between 119,300– 125,700 GWh (Table 1.3).

**ECO Measures Installed and Households**

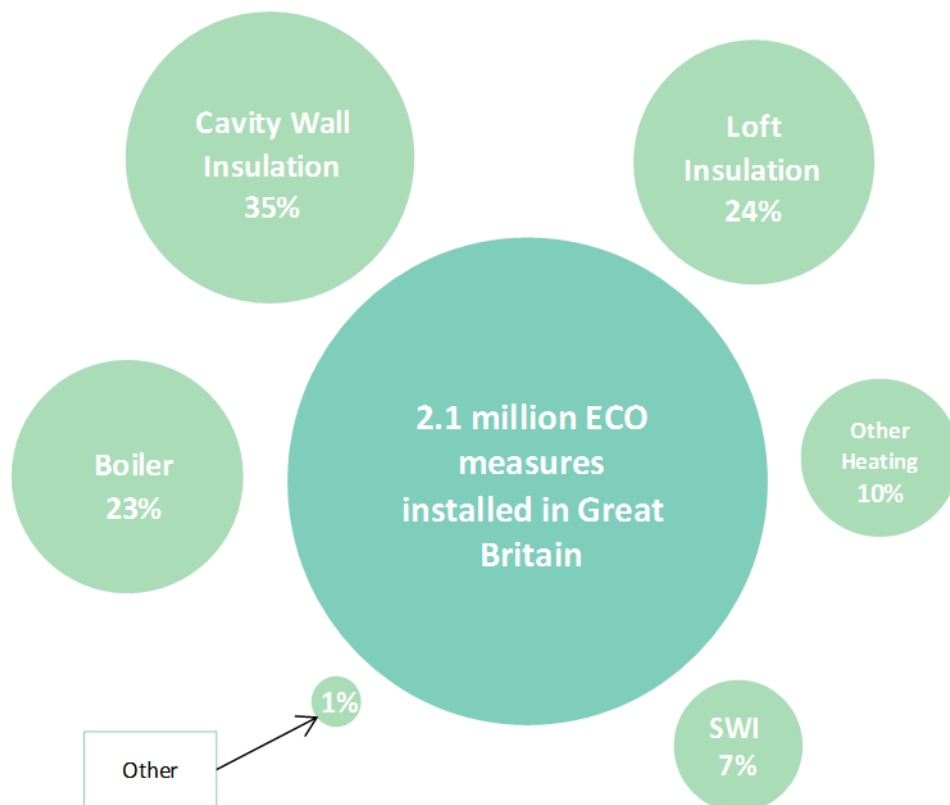
- Provisional figures show there were 2,062,782 measures installed under ECO up to the end of January 2017, with 20,863 installed in January, 13 per cent higher than the 18,540 installed in December 2016. However, January 2017 was the fourth lowest month since the start of ECO, which is mainly due to the low number of Carbon Emissions Reduction Obligation (CERO) measures and Carbon Savings Community Obligation (CSCO) measures. Chart 1 shows the continued downward trend of measures installed under CERO and CSCO, which is due to targets being reached before the end of the ECO 2 period

**Chart 1: ECO measures installed, by obligation, by month, up to end January 2017**



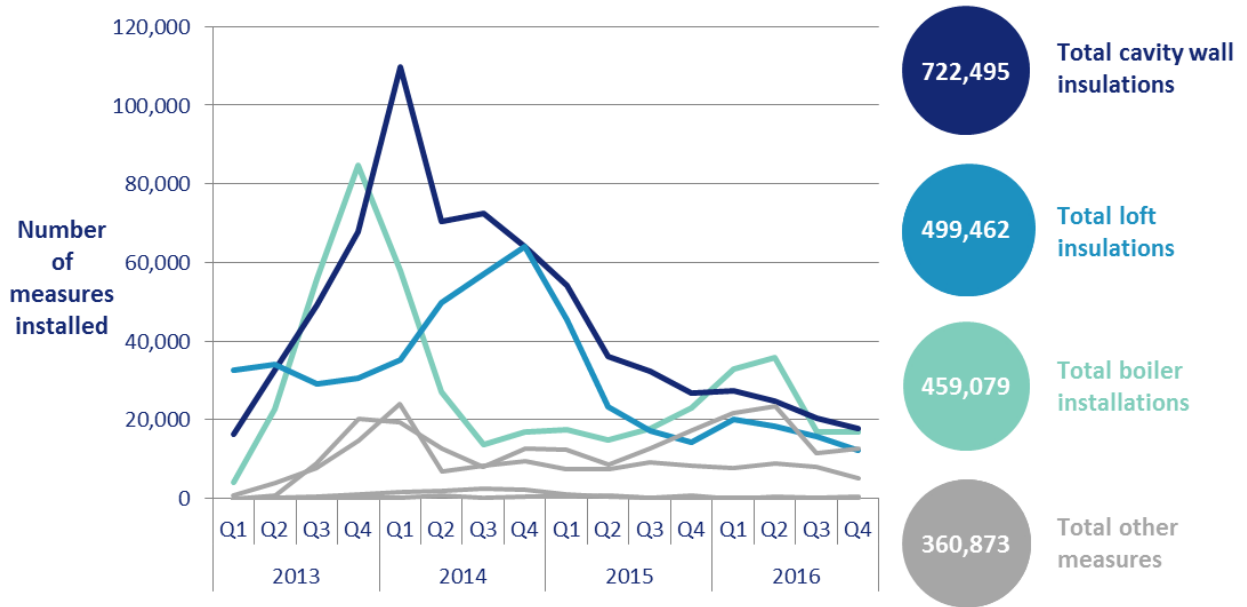
- Of all notified ECO measures installed, 35 per cent were for cavity wall insulation, 24 per cent were for loft insulation, and 23 per cent were for boiler upgrades. There were around 139,900 solid wall insulations which accounted for seven per cent of all measures (Infographic 2, Table 2.1.1).

**Infographic 2: ECO measures by measure type, up to end January 2017**



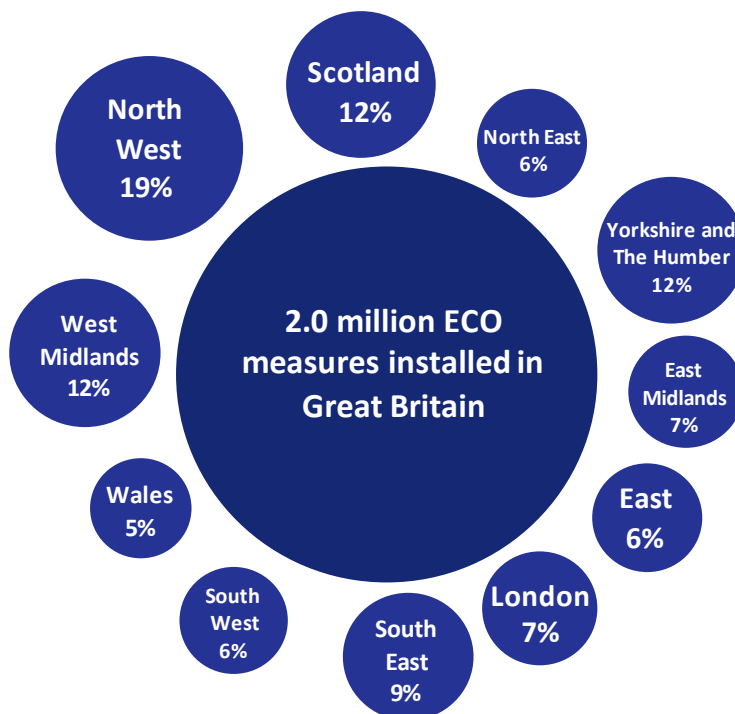
- Through ECO, the combination of Affordable Warmth and the Carbon Savings Community obligations have delivered around 1.2 million measures in around 904,000 low income and vulnerable households, or households in specified areas of low income, by end of January 2017 (Table 2.1.1).
- Chart 2 shows that the most common measure installed in Q1 2014 was cavity wall insulation (44 per cent of all measures), which was partly due to a carbon saving score uplift in this period (i.e. “levelisation”). Loft installations peaked in Q4 2014 (38 per cent) which was partly due to the ECO amendment order (allowing cheaper measures to be installed). Boilers peaked in Q4 2013 (39 per cent) when Energy Companies were focussing on their HHCRO target (Chart 2, Table 2.1.2).

**Chart 2: ECO measures installed, by measure type, by quarter, up to end December 2016**



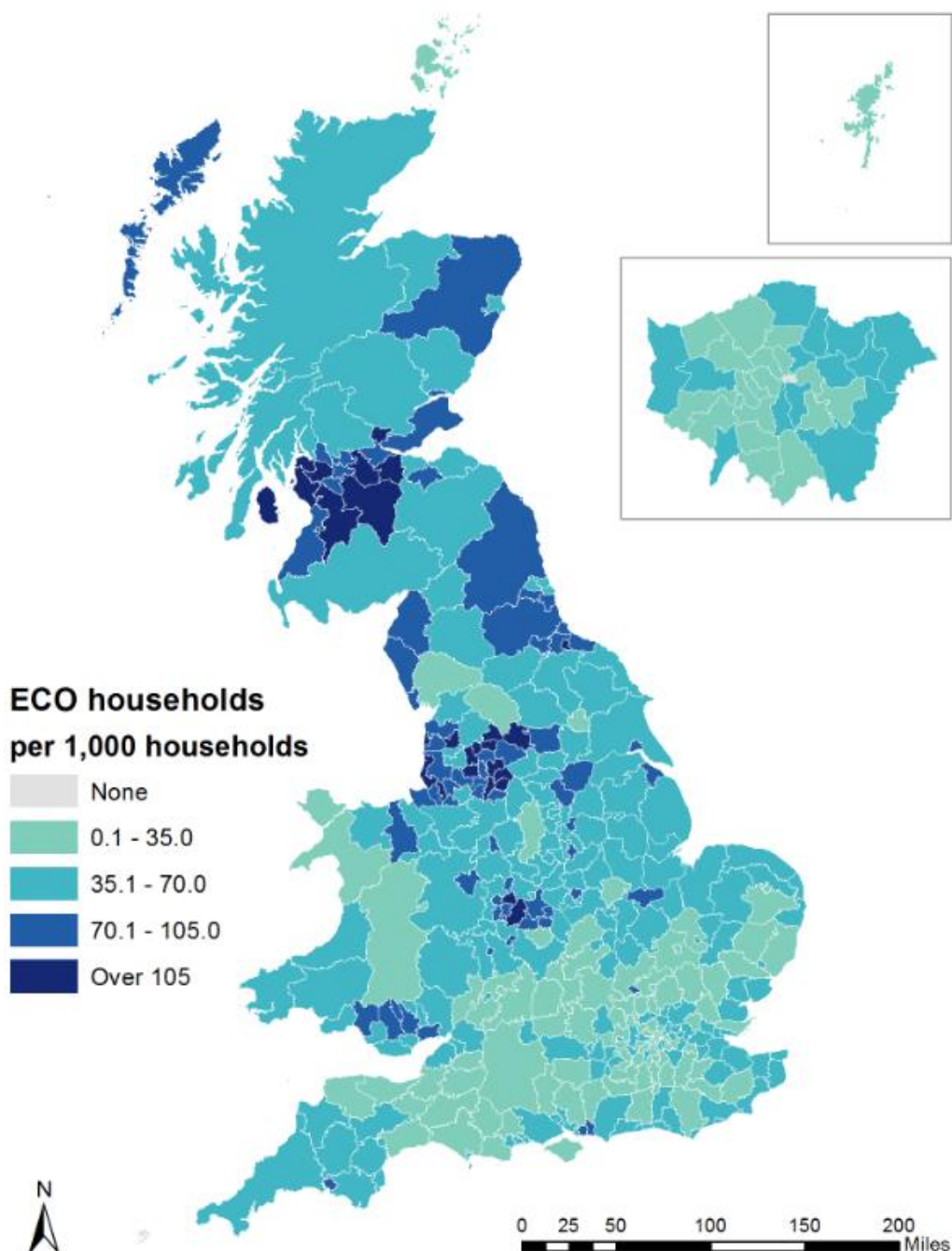
- Around one fifth (19 per cent) of ECO measures were in the North West (384,857), the highest in any region. 12 per cent of ECO measures were installed in Scotland (239,672) and five per cent were in Wales (107,356). (Infographic 3, Table 2.2).

**Infographic 3: ECO measures by region, up to end December 2016**



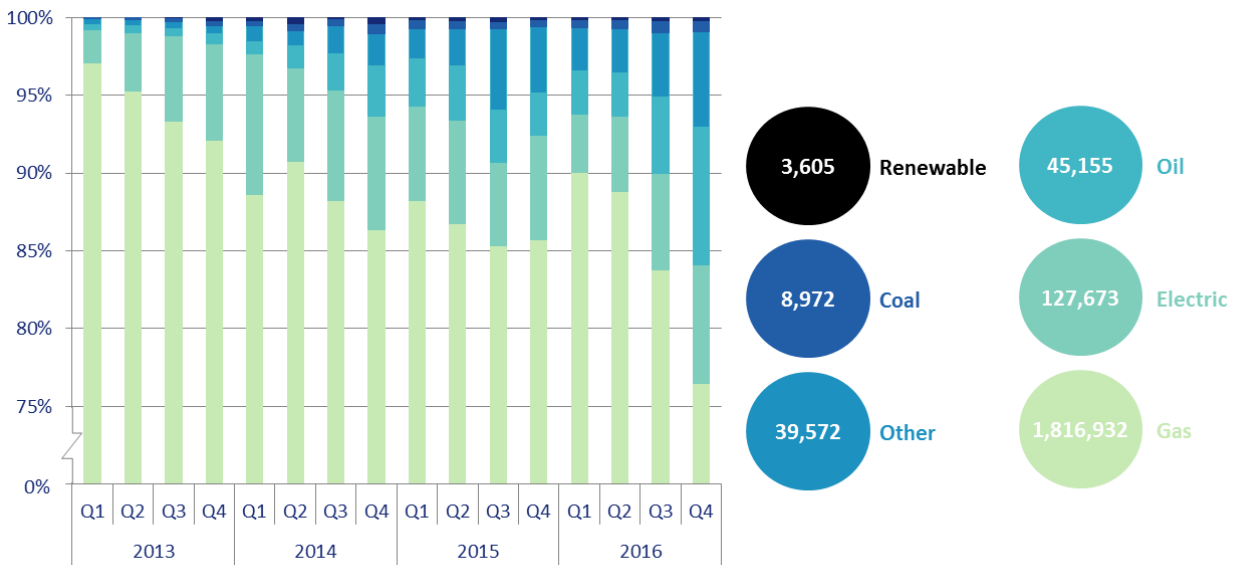
- Around six per cent of all households in Great Britain had a measure installed under ECO funding (i.e. 61 per 1,000 households) up to the end of December 2016. The North West and North East had the highest amount with 96 and 85 households with ECO measures per 1,000 households respectively. In Scotland there were 84 per 1,000 households and 61 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 2016**



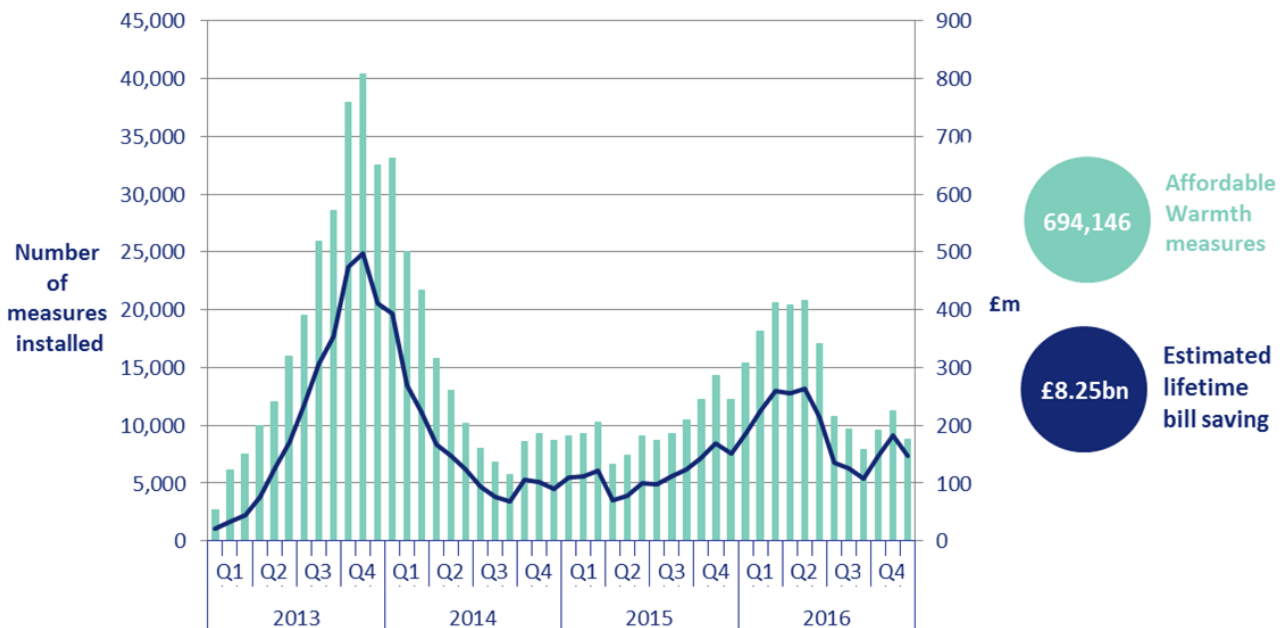
- Around 89 per cent of ECO measures were installed in properties that used gas as their main fuel type (1,816,932 measures), however this has decreased from 97 per cent in the first quarter of ECO to 76 per cent in Q4 2016, mainly due to an increase in oil as main fuel type (Chart 3, Table 2.3).

**Chart 3: ECO measures by main fuel type of property, by quarter, up to end December 2016**



- The 694,146 Affordable Warmth ECO measures installed up to the end of 2016 are estimated to deliver £8.25bn 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 2016**

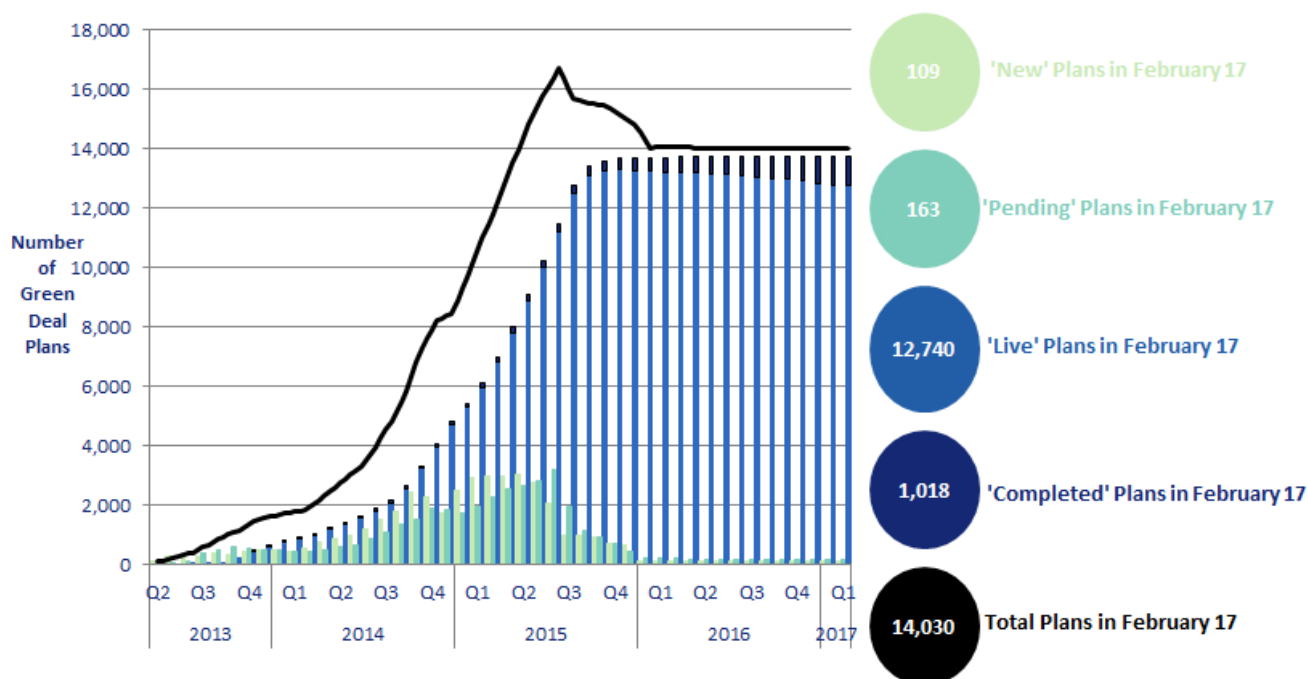




## The Green Deal

- GD Assessments – 690,380 were lodged up to the end of February 2017. The 3,197 GD Assessments in February was 13 per cent higher than the number in January 2017 (2,840), but the fifth lowest month since the beginning of the scheme in 2013 (Table 3.1).
- GD Plans – 14,030 households had GD Plans at the end of February 2017; the same number as at the end of January 2017. Of these, 109 were ‘new’ (quote accepted), another 163 were ‘pending’ (Plan signed), 12,740 were ‘live’ (all measures installed) and 1,018 were ‘completed’ (all measures installed and paid off). 91 per cent of all Plans were ‘live’ (Chart 5, Table 3.2).

**Chart 5: Total Green Deal Plans, by status, by month, up to end February 2017**



## Green Deal Communities

- Green Deal Communities – by the end of Programme, GD Communities had contributed funding towards the installation of 17,901 measures in 15,564 properties. 64 per cent of all measures installed were Solid Wall Insulation (Tables 3.5 and 3.5.1).
- Around 76 per cent of properties that had installed measures using Green Deal Communities funding were owner-occupied. 20 per cent were in the private rented sector and four per cent were in the social rented sector (Table 3.5.2).

### Home insulation levels in Great Britain<sup>1</sup>

It is estimated that at the end of December 2016:

- There were 27.7 million homes in GB. Of these 19.2 million had cavity walls with the remaining 8.5 million having solid walls. 23.9 million properties had a loft (Table 4.2).
- There were 254,000 more properties with cavity wall insulation, 201,000 more had loft insulation of at least 125mm, and 31,000 more had solid wall insulation (Table 4.1).
- 13.3 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 0.5 million properties which may or may not have cavity wall insulation (Chart 6, Table 4.4).
- 15.8 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).
- 718,000 homes had solid wall insulation (eight per cent of homes with solid walls) (Chart 6, Table 4.6).

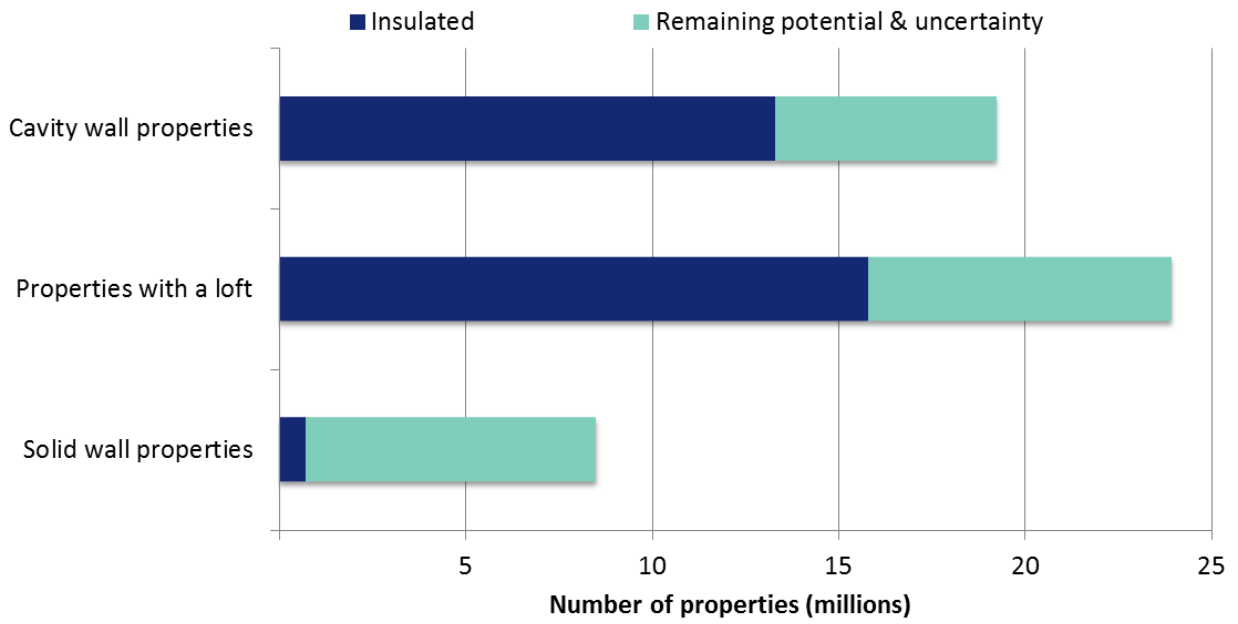
At the end December 2016 there were:



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<sup>1</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 2016**





## 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 Official 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 **20 April 2017** and will contain the latest available information on headline ECO measures only.

