

## **Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive scheme**

### **Introduction**

The domestic Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) is a government financial incentive scheme introduced to encourage a switch to renewable heating systems in the domestic sector. Launched on the 9 April 2014 in Great Britain, participants of the scheme receive tariff payments for the heat generated from an eligible renewable heating system which is heating a single dwelling.

This article provides a brief background to the scheme and introduces statistics on the number of applications and accreditations from the 9 April 2014 (launch date) to the 31 May 2014.

### **Overview to the scheme**

Changing the way the UK produces and consumes heat is key to meeting UK carbon reduction and renewables targets.

The domestic RHI scheme provides financial incentives to install renewable heating in place of fossil fuels, helping the UK reduce greenhouse gas emissions and meet targets for reducing the effects of climate change.

The scheme covers single domestic dwellings and is open to owner-occupiers, private landlords, social landlords and self-builders and is targeted at, but not limited to, homes off the gas grid. Those without mains gas have the most potential to save on fuel bills and decrease carbon emissions.

There are four eligible technologies these are:

- Air-source heat pumps
- Ground and water-source heat pumps
- Biomass-only boilers and biomass pellet stoves with integrated boilers
- Solar thermal panels (flat plate and evacuated tube for hot water only)

The tariffs for individual technologies are designed to bridge the gap between the cost of fossil fuel heat sources and renewable heat alternatives. Owners of participating installations are provided with financial support in the form of tariff payments per unit (kWh) of renewable heat produced.

Further information on the domestic RHI scheme, including eligibility criteria, can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/policies/increasing-the-use-of-low-carbon-technologies/supporting-pages/renewable-heat-incentive-rhi>

It should be noted that the domestic RHI superseded the Renewable Heat Premium Payment (RHPP) scheme which has now closed. The RHPP was introduced as an interim measure in the absence of the domestic RHI. Further information on the RHPP can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/renewable-heat-premium-payment-scheme>

## Analysis

The information presented below is based on data collected by Ofgem as part of the application process. These data are presented as a snapshot of applications statuses as at the 31 May 2014.

### Key facts

- Over the period 9 April 2014 (launch date) to 31 May 2014 there had been 2,296 applications (defined as an attempted online application, including both successful and unsuccessful submissions) to join the scheme, of which 1,154 were accredited. An accredited application is an application which has gone through full checks by Ofgem to ensure it complies with the relevant conditions and has been accepted onto the scheme.
- Of the 1,154 accreditations, 79 were from non-legacy applicants, these are applicants who systems were installed after the launch of the scheme.
- As at the 31 May 2014, 38% (442) of accreditations were from air source heat pumps, with solar thermal and biomass accounting for roughly a quarter of accreditations each. Ground source heat pumps accounted for 10 per cent of accreditations.

**Table 1 - Number of applications and total capacity by technology type**

Tariff band	Applications		Accreditations	
	Number	% of total	Number	% of total
Air source heat pump	913	40%	442	38%
Ground source heat pump	363	16%	114	10%
Biomass	467	20%	286	25%
Solar thermal	553	24%	312	27%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,296</b>		<b>1,154</b>	

## Future releases

Going forward these data will be released on a monthly basis at:

[www.gov.uk/government/collections/renewable-heat-incentive-renewable-heat-premium-payment-statistics](http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/renewable-heat-incentive-renewable-heat-premium-payment-statistics)

A timetable of forthcoming releases over the next 12 months can be found at:

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/statistical-releases-timetable-for-twelve-months-ahead](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/statistical-releases-timetable-for-twelve-months-ahead)

## User Feedback

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