

Outer Hebrides

Household Energy Efficiency Survey: Findings



Outer Hebrides Survey Data

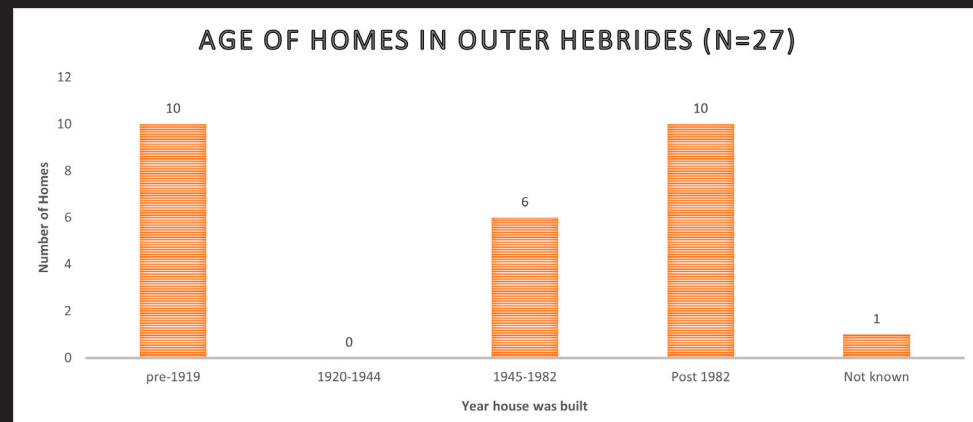
– Home Energy Efficiency

Two online surveys were designed alongside interviews to gather the data required for this study. One survey focussed on housing associations, local authorities and builders and received 17 responses. The second of the surveys focussed on residents and homeowners and received 87 responses, of these 27 could be clearly identified as being in the Hebrides. Both surveys were open for a 4 week period.

25 interviews were also carried out with government funded organisations, housing associations, local authorities, house builders, and consultants. These interviews were to understand the energy efficiency schemes and products used as well as the challenges and opportunities for energy efficiency options in new and existing homes in the Highlands and Islands.

Residents Survey (n=27)

1. How old is your home?

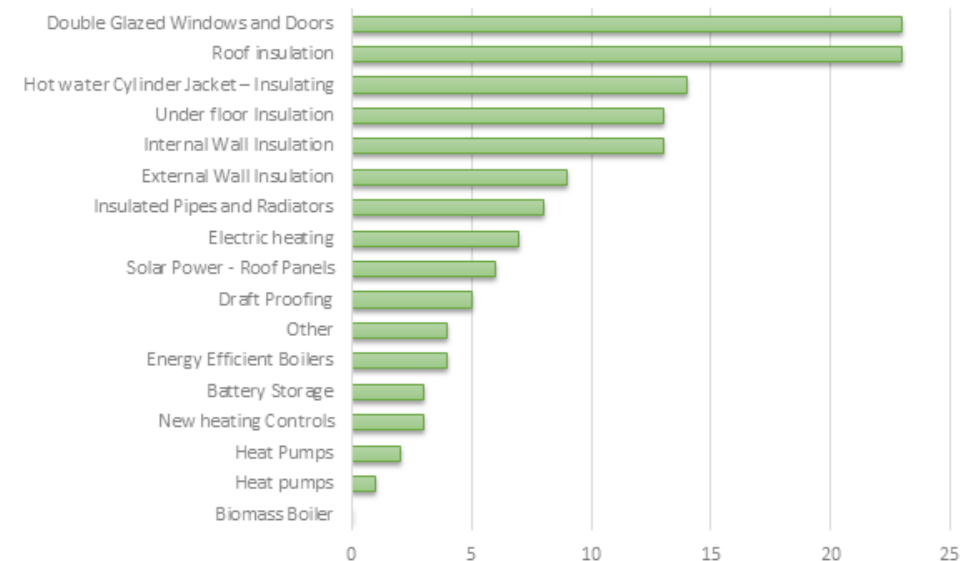


Comments :

- + The majority of respondents in the Outer Hebrides lived in homes built either Post 1982 or pre 1919, which was the same as all the other respondents across the Highland and Islands.

Q2. Which of the following energy efficiency measures do you have fitted at your home - tick all applicable:

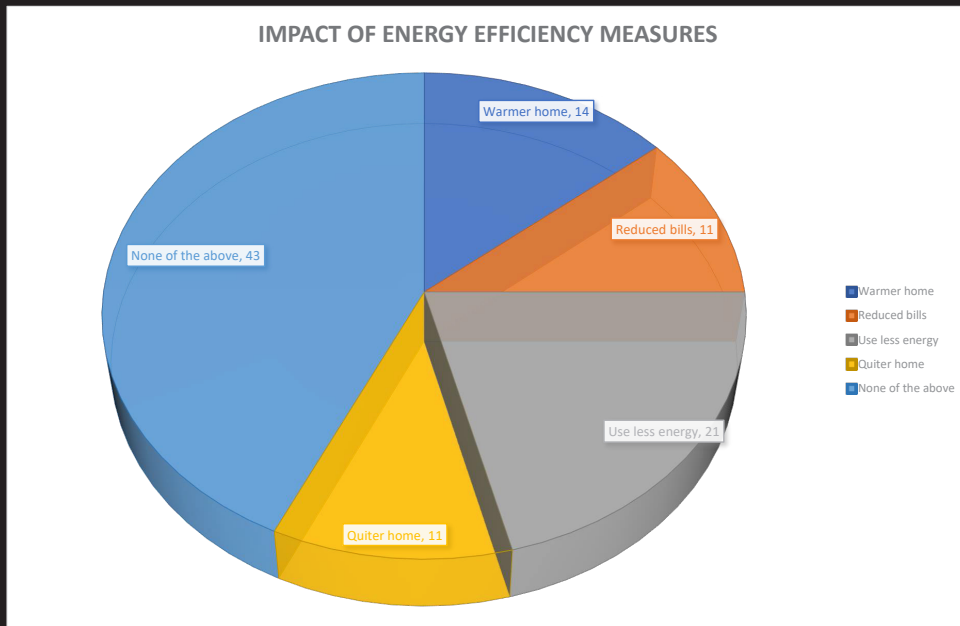
Energy Efficiency Measures (n=27)



Comments:

- + 50 % of respondents had 6-8 energy efficiency measures
- + 40% of respondents had 3-5 energy efficiency measures.
- + 4% of respondents had over 10 energy efficiency measures
- + 6% of respondents stated they had no home energy efficiency measures.
- + These results were the same across all the highland and islands
- + Those respondents with properties build before 1919 had the least number of home energy efficiencies measures fitted.

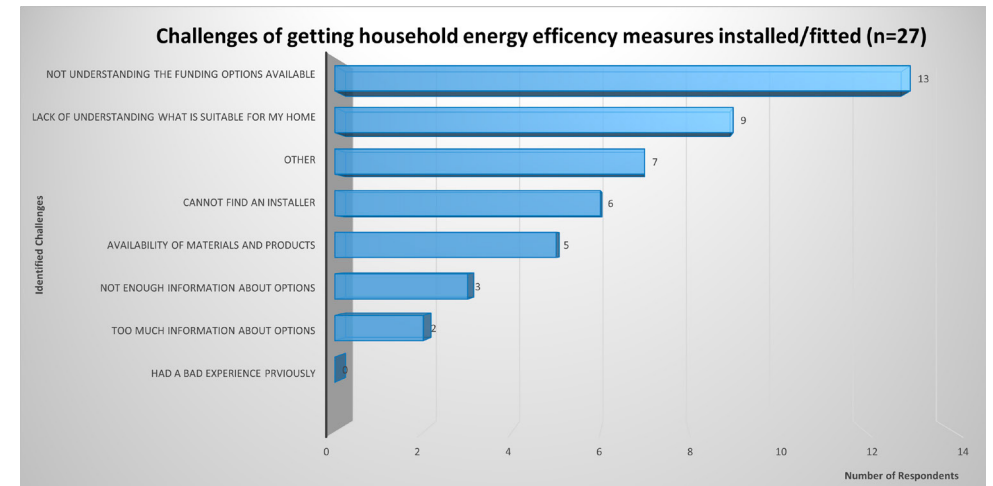
Q3. If you have had energy efficiency measures fitted to your home has any of the following occurred:



Comments :

- + 57% of respondents in the Hebrides indicated they experienced a positive impact, after installing energy efficiency measures. This is a lower rate in comparison the wider Highland and Islands research results, where 75% of respondents perceived a positive impact from energy efficiency measures.
- + 33% respondents in the Hebrides found that they used less energy or had reduced energy bills.

Q4. What have been the challenges in getting energy efficiency measures installed in your home?



Comments:

- + 50% of respondents believed that not understanding the funding options was the biggest challenge in getting energy efficiency measures installed in their homes.
- + 33% of respondents did not understand what methods were suitable for their homes
- + These figures were very similar to all respondents across the Highlands and Islands.

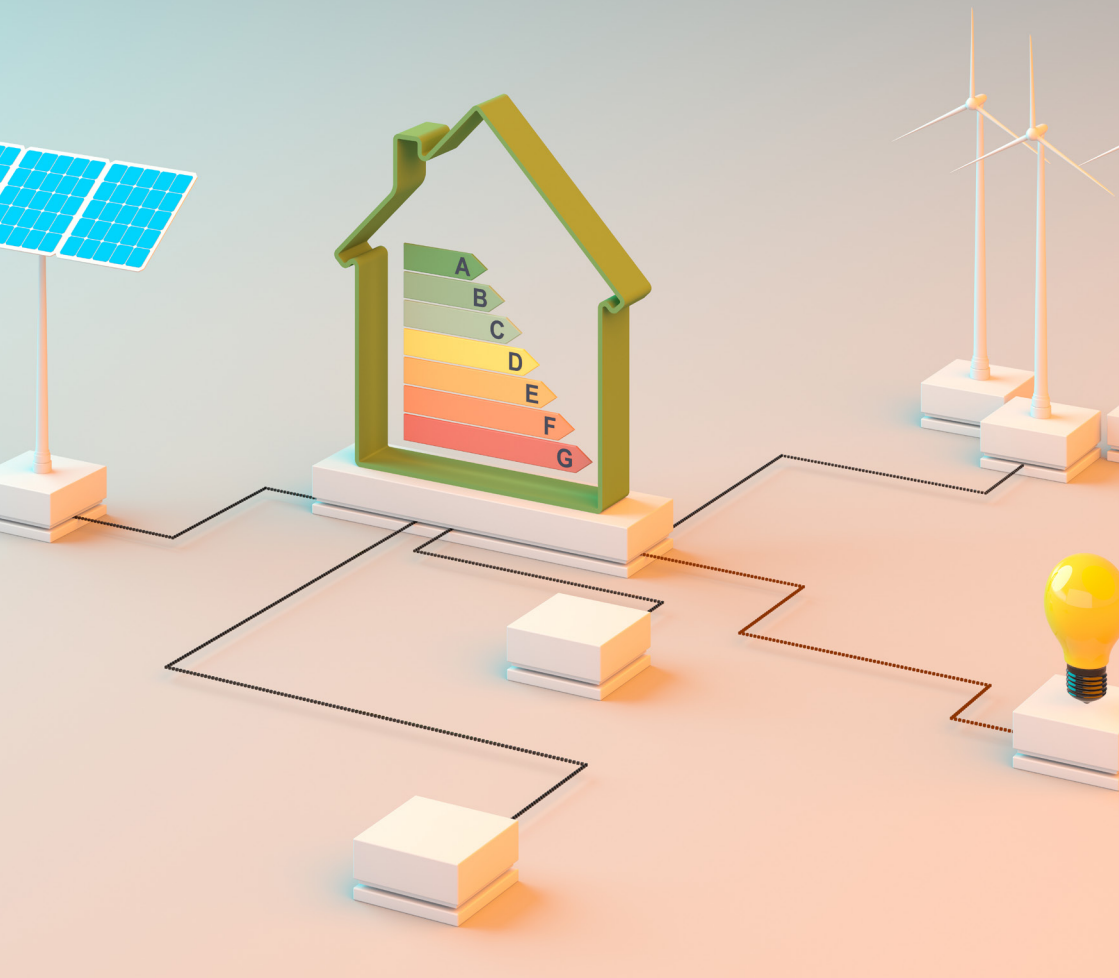
Q5. What would help you in getting energy efficiency measures fitted to your home ?

Comments :

This was a free text section so the answers are verbatim quotes from the respondents :

- + "Someone to visit, state what can be done and the costs/grants available."
- + "Centrally organised funding and instalment planning."
- + "Cheaper."
- + "Survey not asking the right questions. "
- + "Information for tenants."
- + "Grants."
- + "Be able to work out the costs."
- + "Better understanding of how suitable the measures are for homes in the Outer Hebrides, e.g. some ASHP should not be installed within 2 miles of the sea, due to corrosion. There can't be many homes in the OH that are not within 2 miles of the sea."
- + "Anything would be too expensive. "
- + "Installers are hard to find, I was looking for an expert to talk to about a combined wind and solar setup, with ground mounted solar rather than roof solar. Basically there is nobody that is prepared to do ground mounted solar, and impossible to find a hybrid wind/solar installer to even reply to an email."
- + "It is an old stone cottage, with some basic measures fitted when I got it renovated (from derelict) in 1982. Need to understand what is technically feasible to upgrade it now. Advice please."

- + "The internal wall insulation was done by local council before we moved in. It is poor standard & we worry if it is flammable. We had solar panels put in ourselves. There were a lot of competing firms & their salesmen all had a different idea that they were aggressively marketing. We had to buy books & study, so we knew whom to trust."
- + "Its rented, so no idea."
- + "More information adapted for rural and older properties."
- + "Grant funding."
- + "Someone willing to take install underfloor insulation on the island."
- + "Funding."
- + "Lower costs and a better building."
- + "In social housing, more projects for older houses to be brought up to standard."
- + "Information and funding."
- + "More efficient and easier funding application process - I've recently had PV solar panels fitted and grant application process through Home Energy Scotland was a nightmare!"
- + "Government funding at least for part of the cost."
- + "I cannot afford to get energy efficiencies done to my home, the double glazed window are old and no longer efficient, they need replacing & I just cannot afford to replace them."



RIPEET – Responsible Energy Transition

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