

Residential Retrofit Plan Policy for South East Ireland - Implementation of Renewable Energy Access

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Ireland National Residential Retrofit Plan

“Looking longer term and tackling the root causes of energy poverty, we know that improving the energy efficiency of homes through retrofitting is the best long-term measure we can take to permanently reduce the amount of energy, and fossil fuels in particular, needed to comfortably run our homes”

*Minister Eamon Ryan TD. Minister for the Environment,
Climate and Communications Energy Poverty Action Plan 2022*

National Residential Retrofit Plan targets:

Retrofitting ≈
500,000 homes
to a BER of
B2/cost-optimal

Installing
400,000 heat
pumps

GHG emission
reduction in
residential =
3.5-4.5 Mt
CO₂eq by 2030






Energy poverty in Ireland

A household that spends more than 10% of its income on energy is considered to be in energy poverty (DCENR, 2016).

In 2022, almost 1/3 of households were at risk of energy poverty

Main Factors that influence for fuel poverty:

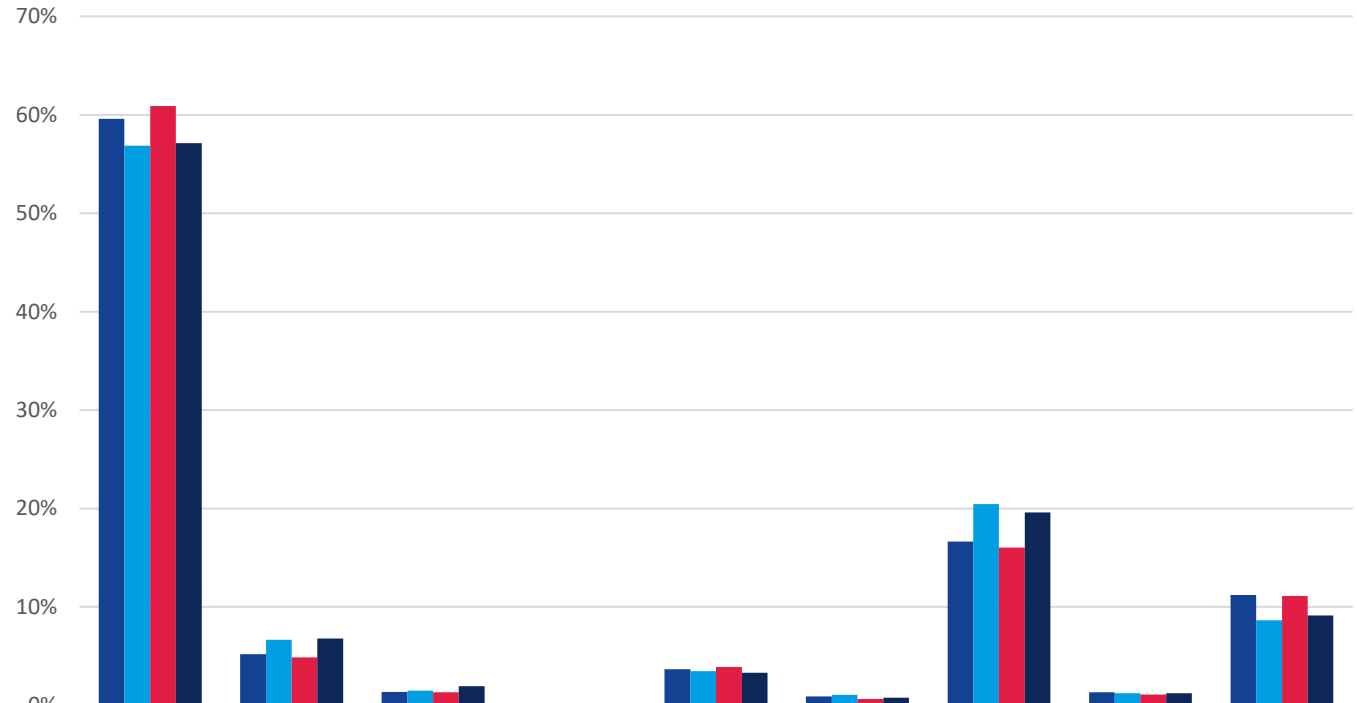
-  **Poor Quality houses**
-  **Low income**
-  **High Fuel cost**



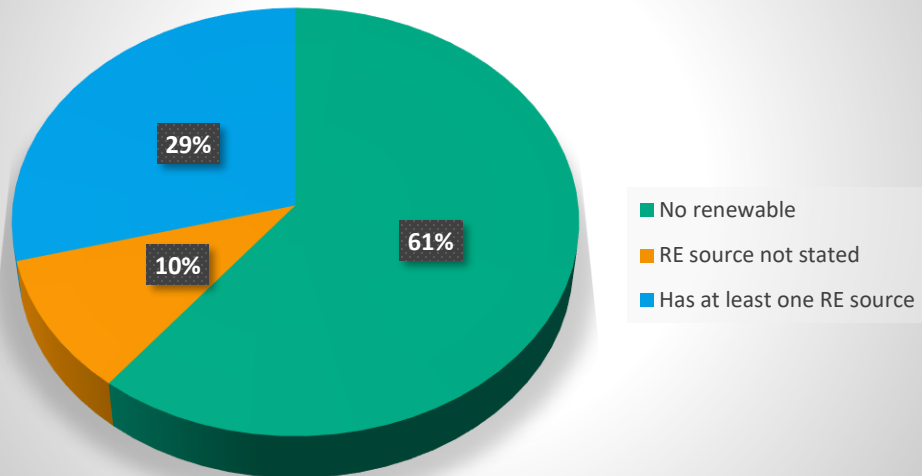
NUTS 3 Region Renewable Energy Data

- 165,622 households in SE Ireland
 - 100,427 – no renewable energy sources
 - 16,950 renewable energy source not stated
 - 48,245 has at least one renewable energy source of any type

Type & share of renewables utilised by households in SE region



Households with Renewable Energy Source in South East



Government Schemes for National Residential Retrofit Plan



One Stop Shop Service (National Home Energy Upgrade Scheme)

Individual Energy Upgrade Grants (Better Energy Homes and Solar PV)

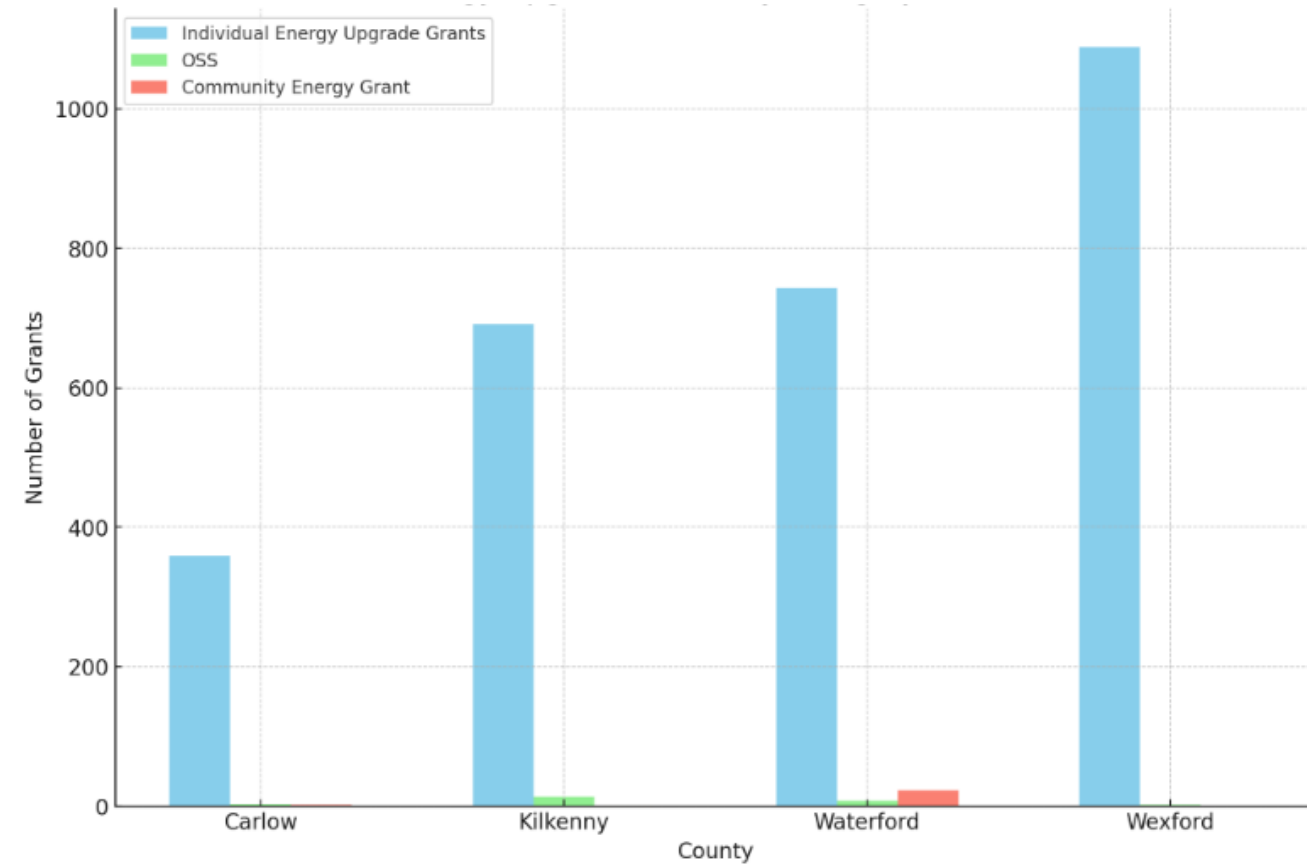
Fully Funded Energy Upgrades (Warmer Homes Scheme)

Community Energy Grants

Implementation Solar PV with different grant schemes in South East Region

County	Individual Energy Upgrade Grants	OSS	Community Energy Grant
Carlow	358	3	2
Kilkenny	691	13	1
Waterford	744	8	22
Wexford	1089	2	0

(source : Data for 2023, SEAI statistic, 2024)

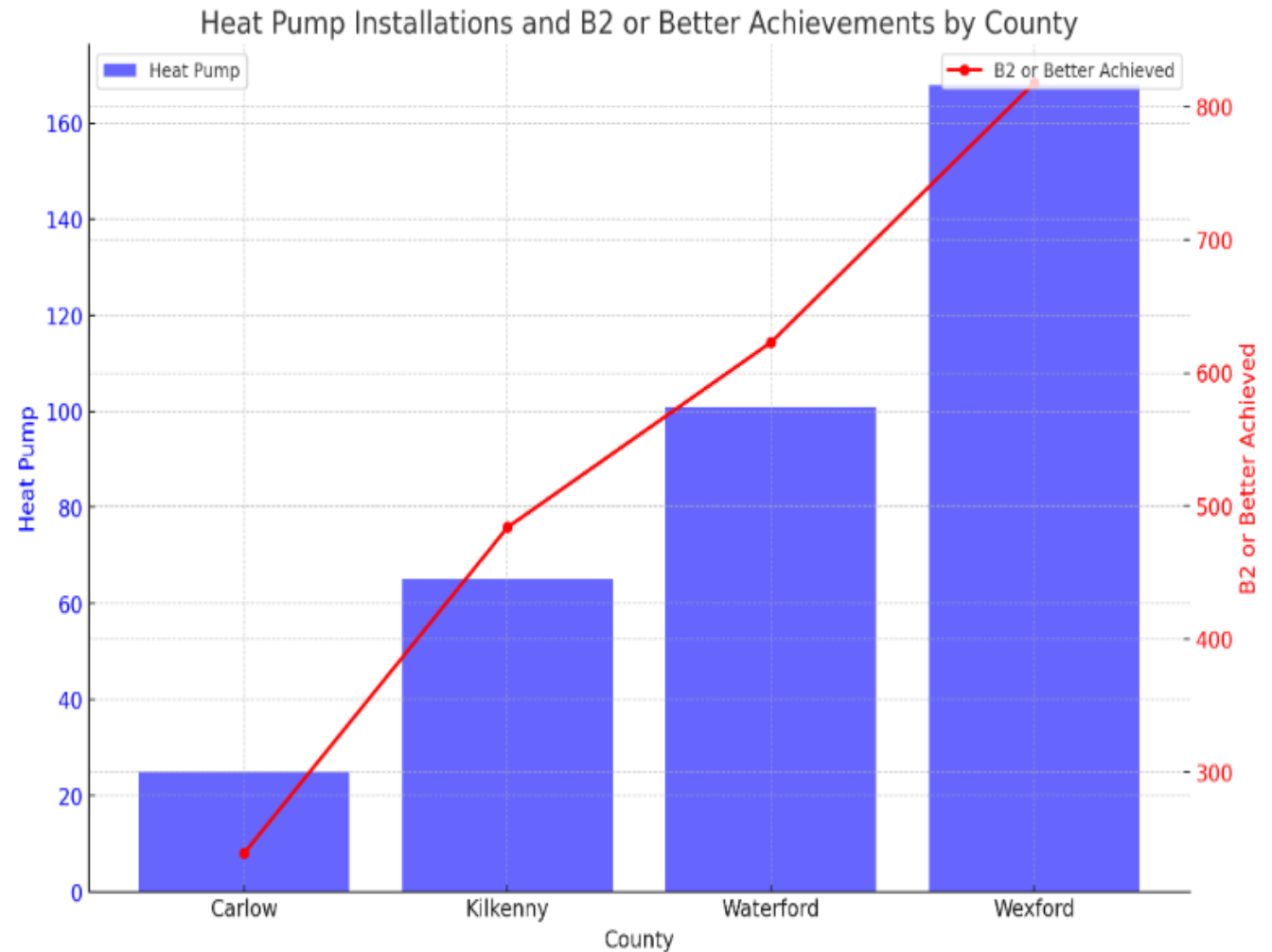




Heat pump installed and B2/Better achieved in South East Region

County	Heat Pump	B2 or Better Achieved
Carlow	25	239
Kilkenny	65	484
Waterford	101	623
Wexford	168	818

(source : Data for 2023, SEAI statistic, 2024)



Best Practices example

Interreg North-West Europe project Housing 4.0 Energy – Project St. Mary's Court, Carlow

Aim of the pilot

- Construct NZEB housing
- Reduce cost of construction
- Reduce life cycle CO2
- improve welfare benefits to the construction industry

Results

Houses constructed to **nZeb (nearly Zero BER Rating)**

- Cost of construction didn't reduce mainly due to inflation
- Reduce life cycle CO2
- Reduced cost of Energy



Housing construction

Housing construction program

Carlow County Councils Target program 2022-2026 – 462 units

All dwellings are constructed to BER Rating A2 (25Kw/m²/yr)

Carlow County Council Complete 90 units in 2023

- New Builds – variety of traditional build units & modular methods of construction
- Acquisition or CPO – upgrading the fabric of the building and heating system

Provision of Housing aid to Older persons Grants

- Persons over 66yrs living in poor housing conditions
- Essential housing repairs
- Max grant available €8,000

Carlow County Council Complete 234 in 2023 Total cost €1.2M



Driving sustainability today and tomorrow.



Thank you



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