HOME-GROWN ENERGY IN THE HOME NATIONS:

# England

71%

of the total 141,639 installations in the UK were in England

## To understand the full extent of installation uptake, we should consider how many households are in each of the home nations. A total of 71% of the 141,639 installations in the UK were in England – the most of all the home nations.

Between March 2020 and December 2021 however, that only equates to 0.44% of the homes in England. Therefore, simply looking at the number of installations does not paint a truly accurate picture of what is happening in the UK's low carbon landscapes. We must also consider the total number of installations as a proportion of households.

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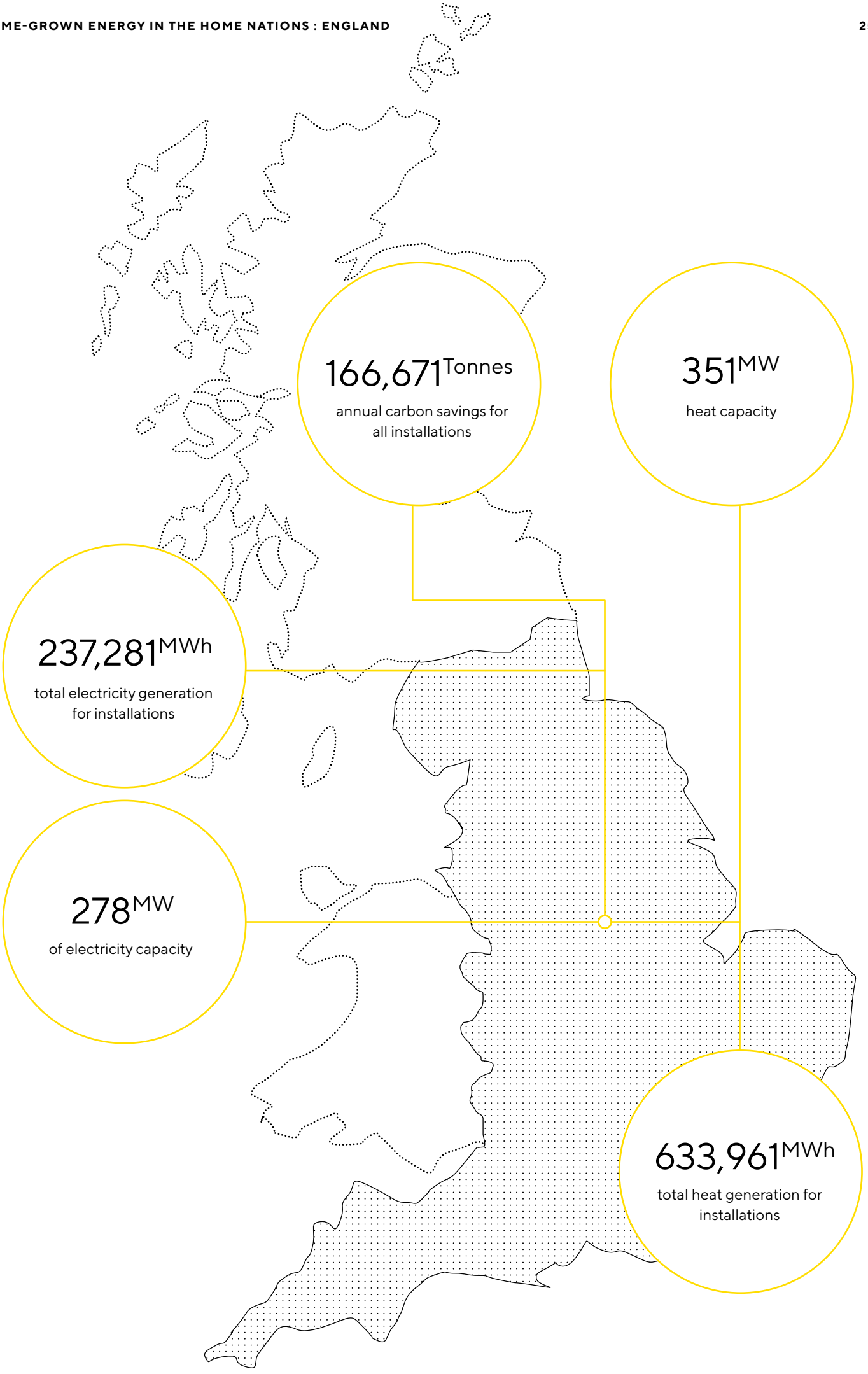
166,671Tonnes
annual carbon savings for all installations
351MW
heat capacity
237,281MWh
total electricity generation for installations
278MW
of electricity capacity
633,961MWh
total heat generation for installations

The uptake in each region of England also varies: the South East accounted for most of the installations (20,226), equating to 14% of total UK installations. This was followed by the South West, with a total of 18,477 installations.

Winchester and West Devon were the only two local authorities in England to rank among the 10 areas with the highest proportion of households that installed small-scale renewables.

At the other end of the scale, half of the bottom 10 areas were London boroughs, which registered 5,317 installations, representing 0.16% of households.

Nearly 96% of solar thermal installations were installed in England, as well as 66% of air source heat pumps.

## The English policy landscape: March 2020 – December 2021

England's low carbon policies are driven by Westminster's net-zero aims, as well as regional and local commitments.

The GHGVS spearheaded adoption of heat pumps and solar thermal during this study period. At a regional or local level, additional funding was awarded to several councils across the country through dedicated schemes.

For example, the Local Authority Delivery Scheme delivered low carbon heating and solar PV to some of the least energy efficient properties in the country, significantly reducing both their carbon footprint and energy bills.

- London has some way to go when it comes to decarbonising its homes: half of the bottom 10 areas with small-scale renewable energy installations were boroughs in the city

20,226

installations within the South East of England between March 2020 – December 2021

18,477

installations in the South West of England

96% of all Solar Thermal installations across the UK were in England


# A start-up success story: Cotswold Energy Group

**WEBSITE**

cotswold.energy

## When three school friends from Gloucestershire met one evening in a pub in 2018, they did more than have a drink – they established Cotswold Energy Group.

Robin Hodge, Aaron Stuart-Kelso and Jon Bonnar grew up in Gloucestershire. Over the years, each developed their own interest in making a difference via renewable energy and heating installation.

Managing director, Jon, achieved a Business Studies degree in 2002 and always had a flair for new technologies, strategy and people management.

Co-founder, Robin, began his journey to renewables after completing an Environmental Geoscience degree at Bristol University, before moving onto technical sales of heat pumps in 2013.

Aaron qualified as a heating engineer in 2007, having learnt the trade with several established businesses. He quickly went on to set up his own business, employing several heating engineers, before switching his focus to renewable installations by teaming up with Robin and Jon at Cotswold Energy Group a few months after it was founded.

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> Installing an air source heat pump tends to be quick, with little disruption and is easy to manage for homeowners, as no planning permission is required.

## Founding Cotswold Energy Group

By the end of that evening in the pub, the trio agreed that providing specialist heat pump consultation and installation was the way forward.

They spent £4,000 to set up an MCS certified business and focused on making heat pumps financially viable for the average homeowner.

In their first year they achieved a turnover of £1.3million, and forecast £6.5m in 2022.

Cotswold Energy Group reports that air source heat pumps have experienced an exponential growth in popularity with year-on-year increases in enquiries and installations.

Since the publication of the government's Heat and Buildings Strategy (HABS) in October 2021, the business saw three times the number of enquiries versus the same period in the previous year.

Between March 2020 and December 2021 Cotswold Energy Group completed 100 air source heat pump installations.

With more people now considering small-scale renewables as a feasible option for their home, Cotswold Energy Group has seen the average customer change. Having started out installing heat pumps at much larger homes, projects now range from two-bedroom terraces all the way up to commercial buildings.

Jon explained: "Installing an air source heat pump tends to be quick, with little disruption and is easy to manage for homeowners, as no planning permission is required. We are often in and out within a week."

Cotswold Energy Group is hopeful that interest in heat pumps continues to soar, as customers gain confidence and are incentivised by the introduction of the Boiler Upgrade Scheme.

**100**

installations completed between March 2020 and December 2021

**£1.3 million**

turnover achieved within their first year

Founders Robin Hodge, Aaron Stuart-Kelso and Jon Bonnar of Cotsworld Energy Group