HOME-GROWN ENERGY IN THE HOME NATIONS

Northern Ireland



have installed small-scale renewables Northern Ireland saw the lowest overall numbers of installations and the lowest adoption rate of any of the UK nations; the country also had the lowest installation numbers for any of the individual technologies.

Between March 2020 and December 2021, there were fewer than 1,000 installations in Northern Ireland, representing less than 1% of the UK total. At 0.12%, Northern Ireland also had the lowest proportion of homes that installed small-scale renewables.



Of the top 10 areas with the highest proportion of domestic renewable technologies installed, none were in Northern Ireland.

A total of four of the bottom 10 local authorities for uptake of residential renewables were in Northern Ireland, making the nation second only to London in representation at the bottom of the table.

The Northern Irish policy landscape: March 2020 - December 2021

Energy policy in Northern Ireland is devolved and has not been as effective in supporting widescale installations of renewable energy and heat technologies as in other home nations.

The existing programmes to improve the energy efficiency of housing in Northern Ireland currently do not include renewables. This was set to change in 2022 with the launch of a new domestic retrofit scheme that will include heat pumps, however at the time of writing it is not in place.

It is clear from the data that Northern Ireland has a long way to go, however, the signs from the other home nations show that policy intervention can have a substantial impact on the uptake of small-scale renewables.



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