

Briefing on BEIS heat releases

This month, the Department for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) released a number of sponsored reports and surveys on the decarbonisation of heat. Many of which were already used as justifications for the proposed Clean Heat Grant scheme, despite being forthcoming. Below you can find links to the full documents, as well as a short summary of some pertinent information.

- [The Cost of Installing Heating Measures in Domestic Properties](#) – a DELTA-ee report commissioned by BEIS – July 2018
- [Transforming Heat – Public Attitudes Research](#) – January 2020
- [Heat, Energy Efficiency, Smart Technology and Health](#) – March 2020

The Cost of Installing Heating Measures in Domestic Properties

The purpose of the report was to update BEIS' user assumptions on the installation cost per kW capacity for a range of heating measures. It was also designed to challenge its existing views, particularly on oversizing factors.

Installation description (cheapest option for each category displayed below)	Cost in pounds (excluding VAT)
Gas Boiler: 24kW combi for combi direct swap by local installer/plumber (including labour and fittings but excluding controls and heat distribution system)	£ 2,250
Oil Boiler: 24kW non-combi for non-combi direct swap by regional installer (including labour and fittings but excluding controls and heat distribution system)	£2,770
Biomass Boiler: 25kW lower - quality / cheaper boiler fully installed - excluding pellet store, no additional control and excluding heat distribution system	£10,000
Air-water heat pumps: 8kW air source heat pump (ASHP) fully installed including fittings, buffer tank, cylinder and controls, excluding the heat distribution system	£8,750
Ground-water heat pumps: 8kW ground source heat pump (GSHP) fully installed including small buffer tank and cylinder but excluding ground works and excluding controls, excluding the heat distribution system	£13,200

Transforming Heat – Public Attitudes Research

This research, produced by NatCen Social Research, with support from Eunomia, is a longer version of the regular public attitudes' surveys that BEIS produces. Specifically, this one looks at public perception on the transition to a low-carbon heating future.

On a broad level, they found that there was strong public support for carbon reduction policies, but that there was limited awareness of the role decarbonising heat should play in that. It also found that support for policies which decarbonised heat was most concentrated in those people who were engaged in significant 'green' behaviours.

When looking at heating transition scenarios, the following were found:

- Transition scenarios that involved low disruption were more acceptable than those that involved high disruption.
- National planning was more acceptable than local planning.
- Household control over timing more acceptable than no control.
- The level of awareness on the Government's ambitions for decarbonising buildings was not statistically different when you compared off gas grid vs on gas grid residents.
 - However, despite being positive about low-carbon heating systems delivering positive solutions for those off the gas grid, there was no consensus on whether up-front costs were affordable, which led the study to establish this as a barrier.

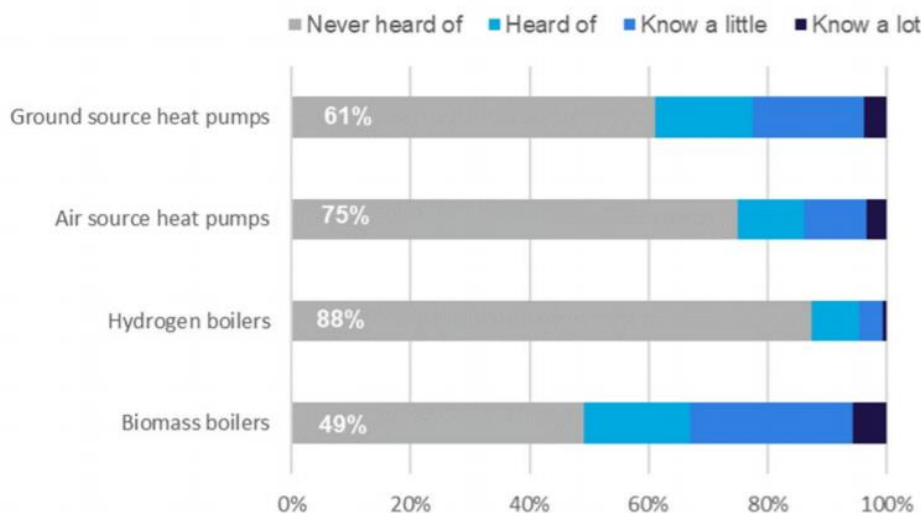


Figure 1: Levels of awareness and knowledge of low-carbon heating technologies