

# Renewable Heat Incentive Update

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Issue 5

This quarterly report provides an update on the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) scheme from January to March 2013. The report presents the latest statistics, an overview of recent activity and administration of the scheme, plus **top tips** to achieve a swift RHI accreditation.



## The RHI scheme

The RHI scheme supports uptake of renewable heat technologies by non-domestic organisations and is funded from general government spending.

**Ofgem** is responsible for the administration of the scheme, which includes accrediting installations and paying participants for eligible heat generated or biomethane produced. The **Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC)** is responsible for policy and tariff setting.

## Ofgem celebrates the 1,000 RHI accreditations milestone

In January the RHI scheme achieved the milestone of 1,000 accreditations and by March 2013, **1,238 accreditations** had been granted.

We launched the RHI non-domestic scheme in November 2011. Since then we have accredited a wide range of different installations: from supermarkets, farms and schools to sports clubs, hotels and holiday cottages.

In just over a year we have worked with over 1,900 applicants.

## RHI – key figures

### Quarterly results (January to March 2013)

- 483 installations were accredited under the scheme, 74 more than in the previous quarter (409).
- £5.1 million in scheme payments were made – over three times the payments made in the previous quarter (£1.5 million).
- 95MW of capacity was added to the scheme (of which 4.5MW came from preliminary accreditations) during the quarter – a 34% increase on that added within the previous quarter (72MW).
- The RHI enquiry line is averaging 3,800 calls and emails a month, a 90% increase on the figure of 2,000 calls and emails per month from the previous quarter.
- 605 new applications were received between 1 January and 31 March – a 44% increase on the number received in the previous quarter.

# What does the quarterly data say about the RHI?

## – January to March 2013

**Chart 1** shows a snapshot of RHI applications and accreditations.

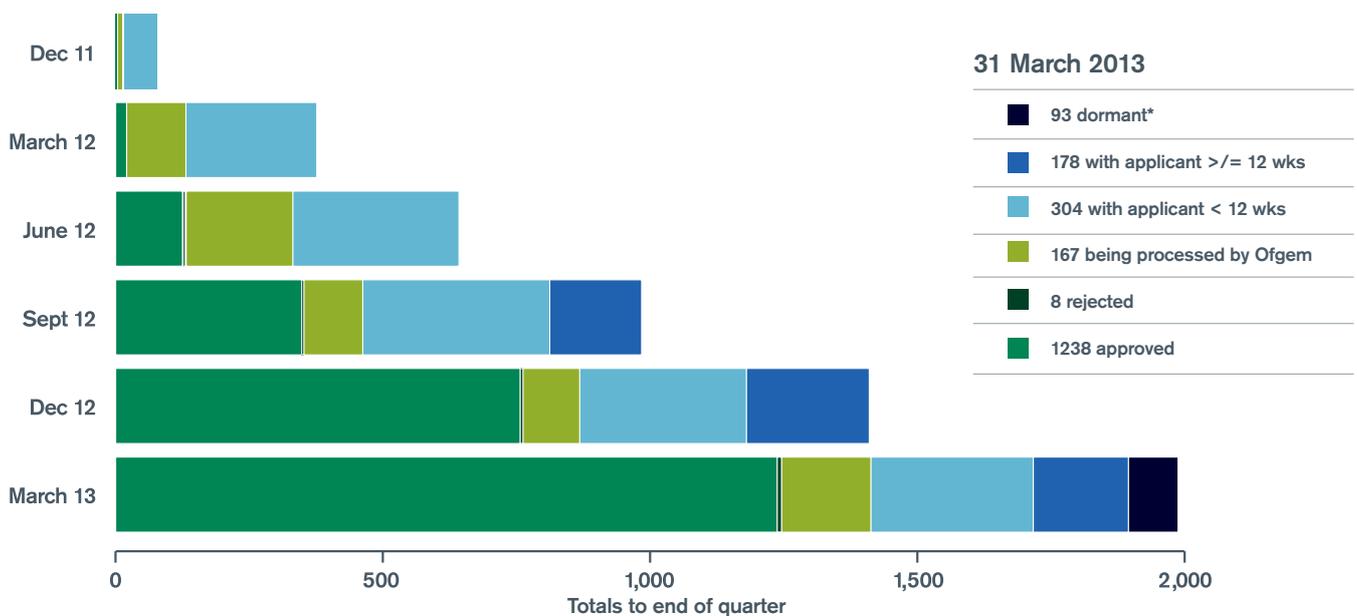
Since December 2012, the number of RHI accreditations has increased by 38%, which shows improved quality in the applications received and improved processes at Ofgem.

We would like to encourage all applicants to ensure heat meters are installed by competent companies as this will be a key factor in achieving compliance with RHI requirements. We have worked with industry to develop training courses on heat meter installation and also to improve the expertise of authors of the Independent Report on Metering Arrangements.

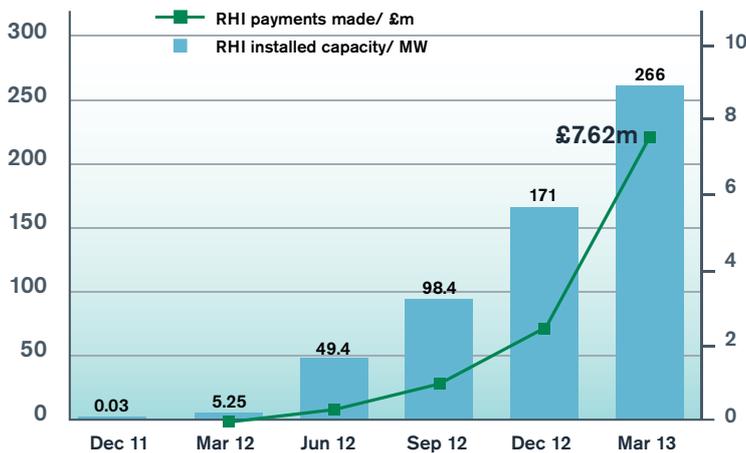
The chart illustrates that, at 31 March, 575 applications had been returned to applicants so that they could provide clarification or further supporting information. Of these, 178 applicants have taken more than 12 weeks to respond and 93 applications have been classified as 'dormant'.

We are keen to support applicants and prospective applicants to achieve a swift accreditation and make the process as easy as possible. Please, read our top tips at page 4 to ensure a smooth accreditation process.

**Chart 1: RHI application process**



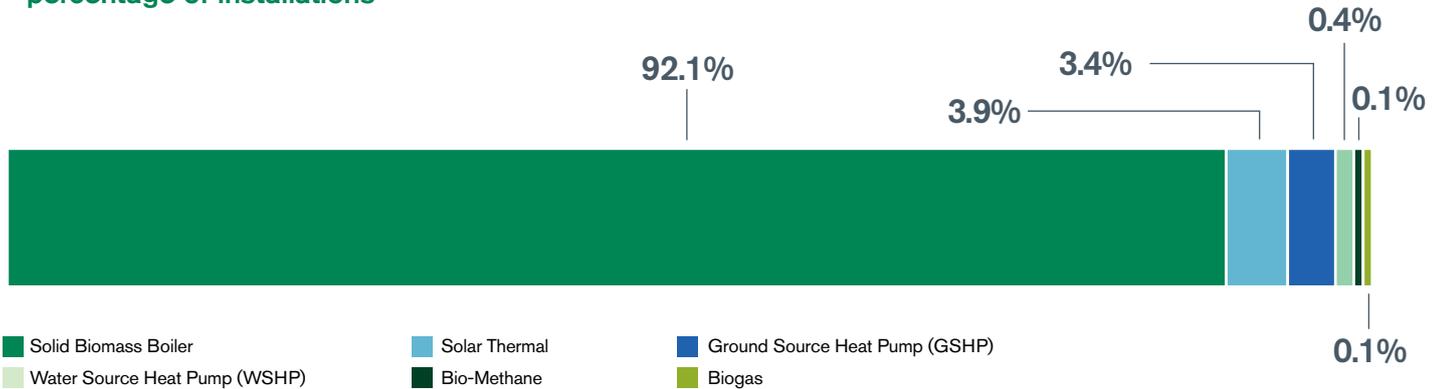
**Chart 2: RHI installed capacity and payments - cumulative**



RHI payments are made on quarterly heat data submitted by participants with the first payments made in December 2011. Quarterly payments are expected to continue to rise reflecting the increase in accredited installations.

\* Dormant means that if these applicants do provide the necessary information we will re-activate their applications and review them as appropriate

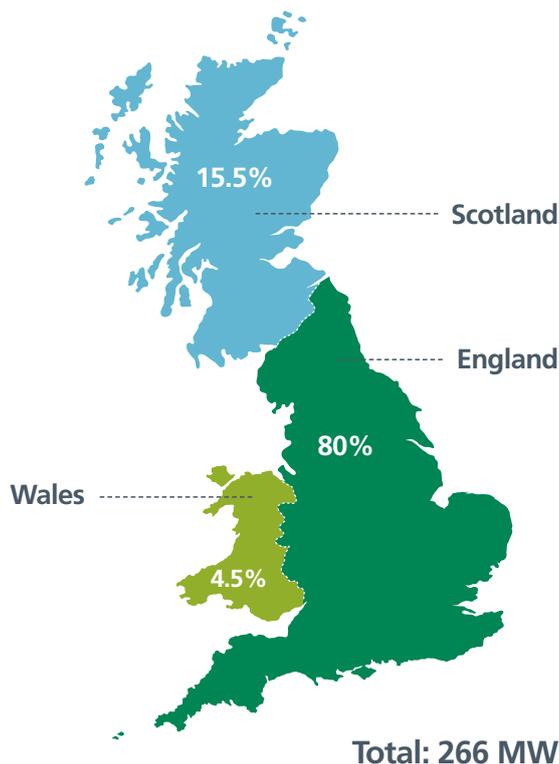
**Chart 3: Proportion of accredited RHI installations by technology type - percentage of installations**



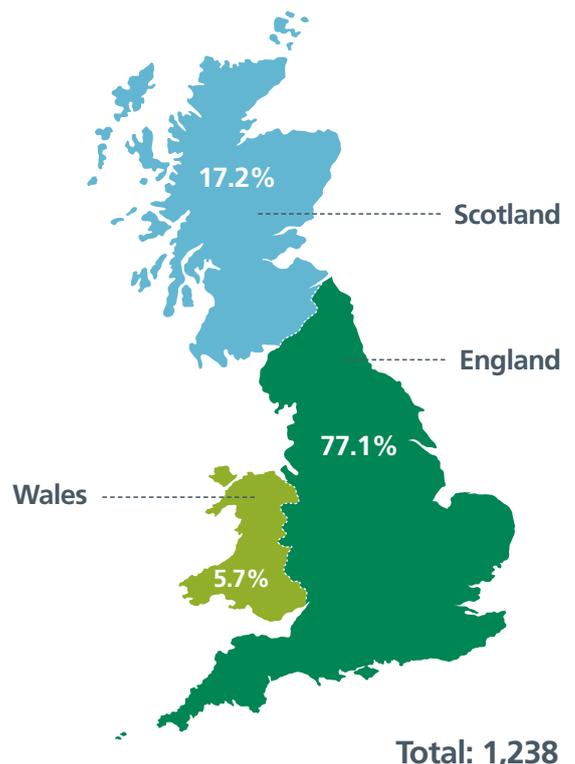
### Consultation on Independent Report on Metering Arrangements (IRMA)

On 4 March 2013 we closed the consultation on proposals for the adjustments to the criteria for IRMA authors and the IRMA Report Template. We would like to thank all the stakeholders who commented on our proposals. Our responses are currently being considered and we will notify applicants and other stakeholders to inform you of the outcome.

**Chart 4: Total capacity installed by country - cumulative**



**Chart 5: Number of accredited installations by country - cumulative**



# Top tips to speed up the RHI accreditation process

Good quality applications are accredited more quickly. Our new **'How to Apply'** web page walks you through the stages and has all the guides you will need. You can always call us if you need support, but here are the 12 golden rules to speed up the accreditation process.

## Before applying

- Ensure you meet the eligibility requirements. Checklists can be found on our new eligibility web page.
- Ensure you keep all documentation provided by your installers, including manufacturer information. This will help you supply a complete application.
- Ensure you use companies or individuals who have been trained in the requirements of the RHI to install your systems and meters.
- If you need an IRMA (Independent Report on Metering Arrangements), ensure that your contract requires the resulting report to meet our RHI requirements.

## When applying

- Complete the application fully, with the correct evidence and sufficient level of detail.
- Submit meter readings correctly in kWh and provide meter manufacturer and model.
- Don't forget to enter details of the meter serial numbers correctly and provide photographs showing the meters.
- Remember to submit a valid commissioning certificate or report to demonstrate your installation capacity and if possible include a photograph of the nameplate on your plant.
- Before submitting the application, check whether you have provided all necessary supporting documents and your information is consistent.

## After applying

- We need to verify your identity and bank details. These must be posted to us and can't be uploaded electronically.
- Remember your log in details and quote your RHI number in all correspondence.
- If we have queries on your application or information provided, the sooner you respond, the shorter the application process for RHI accreditation becomes.

# Revamped website goes live

The revamped web pages for the RHI went live at the end of March. People visiting the updated website will now find:

- new navigation tabs that make it easier to find specific information
- a new **About the RHI** page that gives people a speedy check of the scheme's relevance for them
- a new **How to Apply** page that steers a clear pathway through all the guide material
- a new **Meter Readings and Your Responsibilities** page, which walks people through the process of submitting periodic data for payments. It also prepares those accepted onto the scheme for what they have to do from the outset to remain compliant, such as keeping fuel receipts and records

The revamp is the first phase of improvements to the website for the RHI. The second phase will be launched in the second half of 2013.



# Contact details

## RHI

For more information, visit the Ofgem webpage at [www.ofgem.gov.uk/rhi](http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/rhi) or contact the RHI enquiry team on **0845 200 2122**, or via email at [RHI.Enquiry@ofgem.gov.uk](mailto:RHI.Enquiry@ofgem.gov.uk)

## Proposed RHI domestic scheme

If you would like to raise any enquiries about the proposed domestic scheme, please contact the Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC) RHI correspondence team at [rhi@decc.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:rhi@decc.gsi.gov.uk)

## Press enquiries

For press enquiries please contact the Ofgem press office on **020 7901 3858**