

National Retrofit Plan

Quarterly Progress Report
Quarter 1, 2023



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Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland

SEAI is Ireland's national energy authority investing in, and delivering, appropriate, effective, and sustainable solutions to help Ireland's transition to a clean energy future. We work with the public, businesses, communities, and the Government to achieve this, through expertise, funding, educational programmes, policy advice, research, and the development of new technologies.

SEAI is funded by the Government of Ireland through the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications.

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1. Introduction

SEAI is designated as the National Retrofit Delivery Body. In this role, the SEAI will act as the lead agency in driving the delivery of our retrofit targets. The responsibilities of the SEAI in this capacity include:

- Driving delivery of our retrofit targets.
- Promoting retrofit uptake through marketing campaigns.
- Enhancing the appeal of the retrofit supports and improving the customer journey.
- Setting standards for and developing and registering One Stop Shops.
- Increasing the number of BER assessors.
- Monitoring and managing the quantum and quality of retrofit service provision.
- Supporting the supply chain in the area of retrofit.

Report Overview

This quarterly report details progress by SEAI on delivery against targets in the Government's National residential Retrofit Plan as well as the Government's Climate Action Plan (CAP). The format of the report is to provide an overview of delivery against key metrics of numbers of property upgrades, B2 BER ratings achieved, and heat pumps installed.

Schemes covered in this report include:

- **Individual Energy Upgrade Grants** comprising Better Energy Homes and Solar PV
- **One Stop Shop Service**, including homes completed under earlier proof of concept pilot schemes
- **Fully Funded Energy Upgrade** comprising Better Energy Warmer Homes Scheme and the Warmth and Wellbeing Scheme
- **Community Energy Grants**

[More detailed descriptions of these schemes are included in the Appendices to this report.]

The report should be read in conjunction with the final quarterly report for the preceding year which includes details of prior year achievements against annual targets. See [2022 Full Year Report](#) here

Full datasets and analysis for all schemes from 2015 onwards are available to view [here](#).

2. Review of Quarter 1, 2023

Headline Outcomes for Quarter 1, 2023

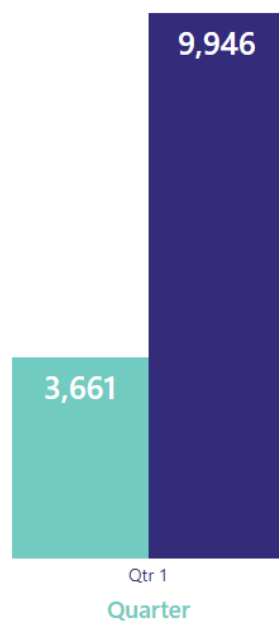
- SEAI processed more than 15,600 grant applications across all schemes in Q1, up 76% on the same period in 2022
- 9,946 property upgrades were completed in Q1, up 172% on the same period in 2022
- 3,304 homes were upgraded to a BER B2 or higher, up 232% on the same period in 2022
- 946 property upgrades were completed through programmes focussed on vulnerable energy poor homes, up 27% on the same period in 2022.
- 3,440 attic and 2,605 cavity wall measures supported

Major market or economic factors in this quarter

- The supply chain constraints observed in the last report, which are impacting programme delivery to different degrees continued in the first quarter of 2023. This is likely to be the case through this year.
- Demand led schemes, such as the individual upgrades and one stop shop, tend to have a seasonal trend, which is noticeably lower in the first quarter of the year. It is encouraging to note therefore that project completions are up considerably this quarter, particularly in the individual energy upgrade grants. This may be somewhat as a result of a lower first quarter in 2022, when the market slowed a little pending the new scheme introductions at end of February.

2023 Property Upgrades (Q1)

● 2022 Property Upgrades ● 2023 Property Upgrades



9,946

2023 Property Upgrades (Q1)

3,661

2022 Property Upgrades (Q1)

+172%

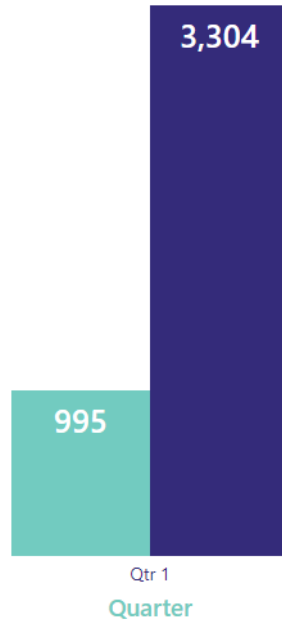
Year on Year Change

37,181

2023 Property Upgrade Target

2023 B2s Achieved (Q1)

● 2022 B2s achieved ● 2023 B2s achieved



3,304

2023 B2s achieved (Q1)

995

2022 B2s achieved (Q1)

+232%

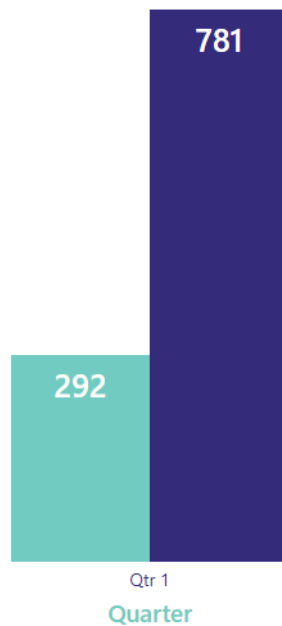
Year on Year Change

13,846

2023 B2s or Better Target

2023 Heat Pumps Installed (Q1)

● 2022 Heat Pumps ● 2023 Heat Pumps



781

2023 Heat Pumps (Q1)

292

2022 Heat Pumps (Q1)

+167%

Year on Year Change

8,434

2023 Heat Pumps Target

Total Capital Expenditure (Q1)

● 2022 Capital Expenditure ● 2023 Capital Expenditure



€ 56.4M

2023 Capital Expenditure (Q1)

€ 21.2M

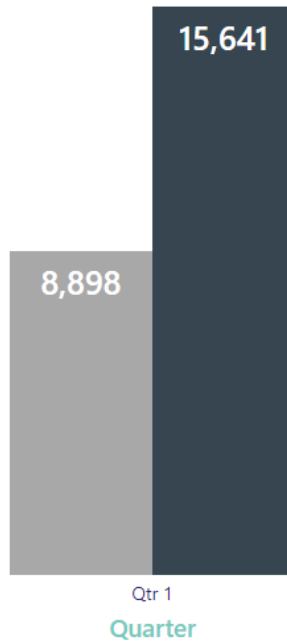
2022 Capital Expenditure (Q1)

+166%

Year on Year Change

2023 Applications Received (Q1)

● 2022 Applications ● 2023 Applications



15,641

2023 Applications (Q1)

8,898

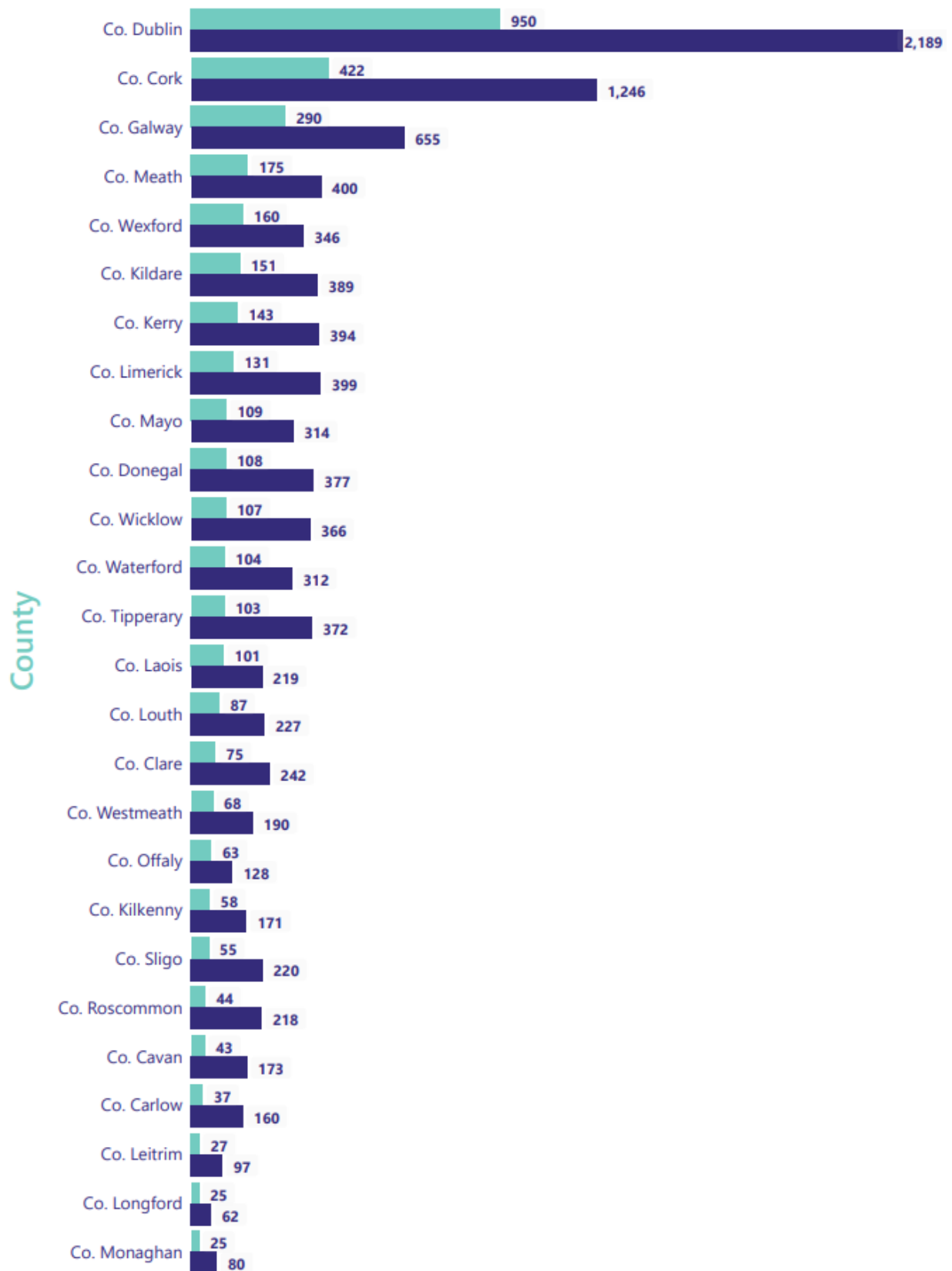
2022 Applications (Q1)

+76%

Year on Year Change

Number of Property upgrades by county (Q1)

● 2022 Property Upgrades ● 2023 Property Upgrades



3. Programme Reviews

3.1 One Stop Shop Service (National Home Energy Upgrade Scheme)

Key insights

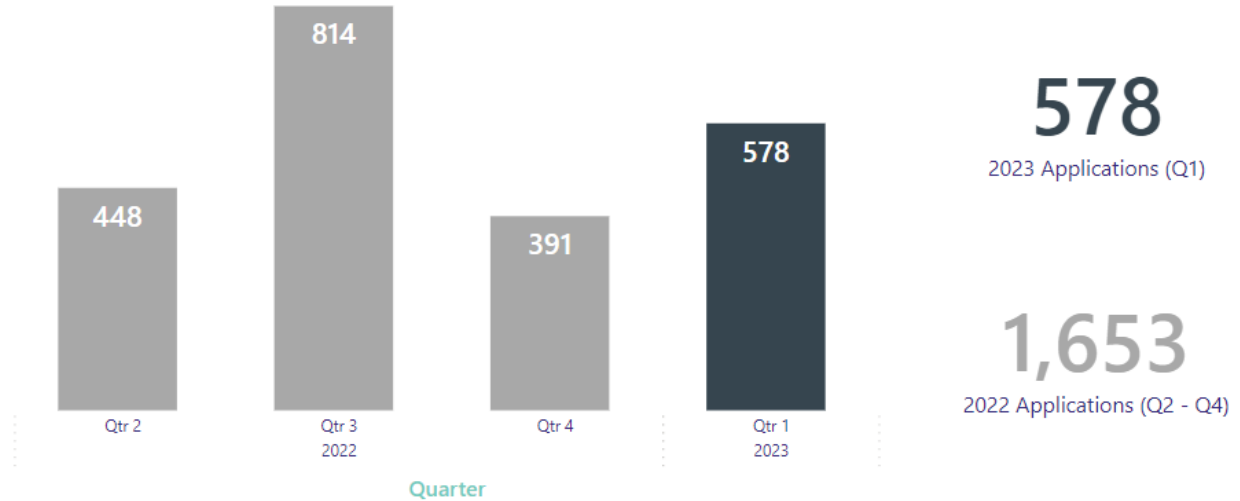
- Following launch in Spring 2022, SEAI registered 12 One Stop Shop service providers. During quarter 1 2023, SEAI continued to engage with a number of potential One Stop Shops and this is expected to result in the registration of four more in the coming months
- The 12 existing One Stop Shops are continuing to report strong pipelines of work and growing demand. The One Stop Shop scheme is currently building momentum at a good pace to meet this growing demand, whilst maintaining high customer quality standards and strong governance.
- The homes completed below include 151 Approved Housing Body homes.

Demand pipeline

- Since launch, there have been over 2,200 Home Energy Assessment (HEA) applications which indicates a healthy pipeline of homeowners completing the initial energy survey to determine what energy upgrade works they wish to complete.
- The HEA applications are filtering into works applications which is building over last year, and we expect this to continue to grow through this year and into next.

HEA Applications Received

● 2022 Applications ● 2023 Applications



2023 Property Upgrades (Q1) OSS Service (incl. Pilots)

● 2022 Property Upgrades ● 2023 Property Upgrades



255
2023 Property Upgrades (Q1)

62
2022 Property Upgrades (Q1)

It is important to note that completions in Q1 of 2022 relate only to remaining homes completed under the two pilot schemes, whereas those in 2023 relate to homes completed under the full One Stop Shop scheme as launched in February 2022.

2023 Applications Received (Q1) OSS Service (incl. Pilots)

● 2022 Applications ● 2023 Applications



505
2023 Applications (Q1)

38
2022 Applications (Q1)

It is important to note that applications in Q1 of 2022 relate only to applications under one of the two pilot schemes, whereas those in 2023 relate solely to applications under the full One Stop Shop scheme as launched in February 2022.

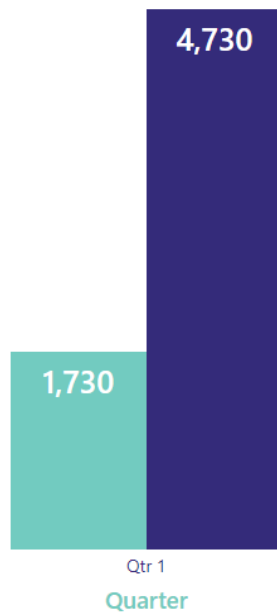
3.2 Individual Energy Upgrade Grants (Better Energy Homes and Solar PV)

Key insights

- The first quarter of 2023 continues to be strong for Individual Energy Upgrades in the drive to scale up, increased focus remains on operational excellence while maintaining appropriate governance structures and improving customer experience

2023 Property Upgrades (Q1) Better Energy Homes

● 2022 Property Upgrades ● 2023 Property Upgrades



4,730

2023 Property Upgrades (Q1)

1,730

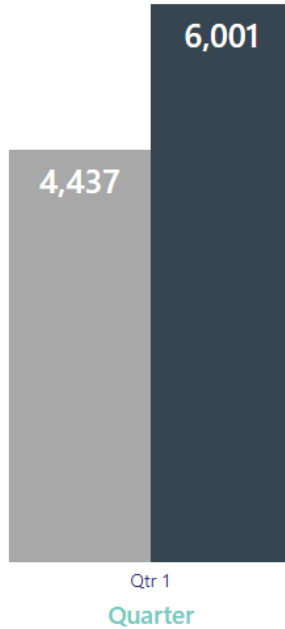
2022 Property Upgrades (Q1)

+173%

Year on Year Change

2023 Applications Received (Q1) Better Energy Homes

● 2022 Applications ● 2023 Applications



6,001

2023 Applications (Q1)

4,437

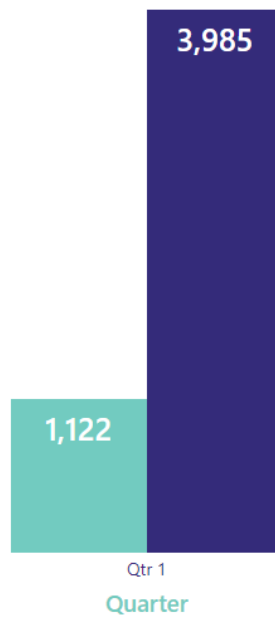
2022 Applications (Q1)

+35%

Year on Year Change

2023 Property Upgrades (Q1) Solar PV

● 2022 Property Upgrades ● 2023 Property Upgrades



3,985

2023 Property Upgrades (Q1)

1,122

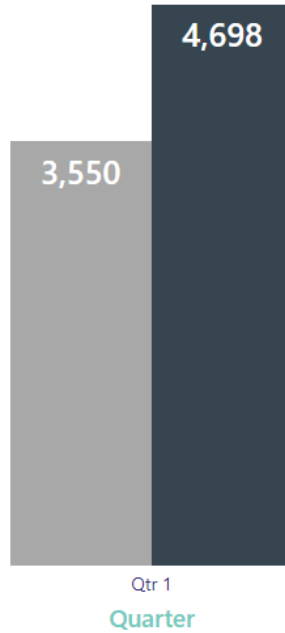
2022 Property Upgrades (Q1)

+255%

Year on Year Change

2023 Applications Received (Q1) Solar PV

● 2022 Applications ● 2023 Applications



4,698
2023 Applications (Q1)

3,550
2022 Applications (Q1)

+32%
Year on Year Change

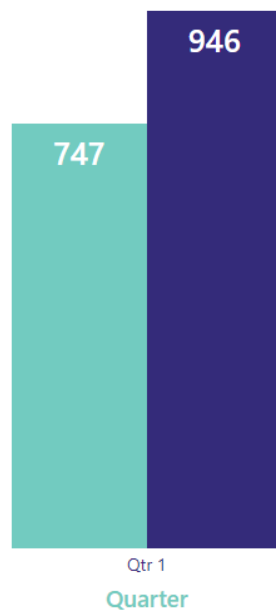
3.3 Fully Funded Energy Upgrades (Warmer Homes and Warmth and Wellbeing Schemes)

Key insights

- Up to 80,000 more citizens became eligible for winter fuel allowance in January 2023 and, with that, applications to the scheme in the first quarter are up four-fold.
- The average cost of works for homes completed and fully paid in quarter 1 was €24,082 per home (incl. VAT).
- SEAI and the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications are prioritising delivery of the Fully Funded Energy Upgrades, and every effort has been made to reduce waiting times and increase monthly output. This work has contributed to average waiting times for homes completed in this quarter reducing to 21 months. However, given the very significant increase in applications it will be very challenging to maintain reduction in wait times. Waiting times rely on a number of variables including access to properties; and the depth of upgrade required. All efforts are being made to keep wait times at a minimum possible level and output at a maximum level.

2023 Property Upgrades (Q1) Fully Funded Energy Upgrades

● 2022 Property Upgrades ● 2023 Property Upgrades



946

2023 Property Upgrades (Q1)

747

2022 Property Upgrades (Q1)

+27%

Year on Year Change

2023 Applications Received (Q1) Fully Funded Energy Upgrades

● 2022 Applications ● 2023 Applications



4,407

2023 Applications (Q1)

873

2022 Applications (Q1)

+405%

Year on Year Change

3.4 Community Energy Grants

Key insights

- The guidelines for Community Energy Grant scheme were updated and we are working with communities who are preparing new applications for projects in 2023 through into 2024.

Key Statistics	Q1 2023
Property upgrades completed (homes)	30

4. Glossary

Term	Definition
Property upgrade	Refers to a retrofit at a property related to a single application on any of the SEAI residential retrofit programmes. The upgrade is counted as completed when a SEAI grant is fully paid, or on first payment of the 75% stage payment for fully funded energy upgrades (in these instances the works are complete). A property can have multiple property upgrades if they avail of SEAI grant programmes multiple times.
B2 or better home	A home counts as having achieved a B2 or better BER rating when a property upgrade achieves a post works BER rating of B2 or better. The 'B2' is allocated to the retrofit programme that first achieves the rating. Thus, a home will only be counted once as a B2 or better in all reporting context.
Heat Pump home	A home counts as a heat pump home when a property upgrade includes the installation of a heat pump. The home is allocated to the retrofit programme that installed a heat pump for the first time, regardless of subsequent energy upgrades on the same or other retrofit programmes where a replacement heat pump is installed. Thus, a home will only be counted once as a heat pump home in all reporting context.
Applications received	An application received for an energy upgrade for an individual home on any of the retrofit programmes. Multiple applications can be made for a home within or across programmes, depending on the specific rules on the programme. This is an indicator of demand for SEAI programmes. Not all applications will result in a property upgrade.
Capital Expenditure	Includes the grant expenditure plus overheads such as outsourced grant administration service costs, survey costs, inspection costs, and IT costs for supporting systems. All of the above expenditure is on a cash basis in line with Government accounting. SEAI's published annual report incorporating year-end financial statements is on an accruals basis in line with financial reporting standards.

5. Home Energy Upgrade Scheme Overviews

SEAI offers a comprehensive range of Government funded financial supports, suiting a variety of circumstances, to help homeowners achieve their home energy upgrade ambitions.

- **Individual Energy Upgrade Grants** (comprising Better Energy Homes and Solar PV): Homeowners or private landlords apply for the grants, select energy upgrade measures, select their preferred SEAI registered contractor, manage the project, and pay for the full costs of works and claim the grant afterwards. The measures supported include attic and wall insulation, heating system upgrades and renewable energy technologies.
- **One Stop Shop Service:** A fully project managed service that provides grant support to private homeowners, private landlords and Approved Housing Bodies that want to upgrade their homes to a BER B2 or better. The service is delivered by registered One Stop Shops that assess the home, provide advice to the homeowner on suitable options, apply for the grant, carry out the works and then claim the grant from SEAI. The value of the grant is discounted upfront from the cost to the homeowner. [Note: The report includes homes completed under earlier proof of concept pilot schemes which informed the national roll-out of the One Stop Shop Scheme)
- **Fully Funded Energy Upgrade** (comprising Better Energy Warmer Homes Scheme and the Warmth and Wellbeing Scheme): A fully managed solution for qualifying homeowners in receipt of certain Department of Social Protection payments to upgrade their home with measures identified from a home energy survey. SEAI manage the whole upgrade process from home survey, through contractor works, and follow up BER.
- **Community Energy Grants:** The Communities Energy Grant supports the upgrading of a wide variety building stock and facilities to high standards of energy efficiency and renewable energy usage, thereby reducing fossil fuel usage, energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions. By supporting project structures that can be replicated, the Communities Energy Grant showcases retrofit project models that can be implemented without SEAI support in the future.



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