



Market review continued

Helping the nation

save energy

Heating and lighting our homes remains a significant burden on people's finances and the continued high cost of energy has motivated consumers to seek out ways to improve the energy efficiency of their homes and save money.

The average household energy efficiency rating for England and Wales is band D¹ and Great Britain's 29.8m² homes are among the least energy efficient in Europe, losing heat up to three times faster than in continental Europe³. To achieve the Government's target of net zero emissions by 2050, there will be increasing pressure to decarbonise our homes through retrofitting energy saving solutions.

How we are responding

At Wickes we recognise how important climate change is and, as well as looking to reduce the energy we use as a business, through our Built to Last 'Homes' pillar, we are committed to helping our customers improve the energy efficiency of their homes and save money on their energy bills.

Customers can visit our interactive online 'Energy Efficient Home' where they can find information and 'how to' videos to make their homes more energy efficient, with direct links to the products to purchase. We continue to expand our range of energy saving products such as new air source heat pumps and electric vehicle charging products.

In 2024, we took the strategic move to enter meaningfully into the home energy solutions market, with the acquisition of a majority stake in solar installation company Solar Fast. As a trusted national brand with significant experience in design and installation services at scale, we believe we are well placed to become a market leader in solar installations and home energy solutions more broadly. For more information on Wickes Solar see page 21.



£1.5bn

estimated annual value of UK domestic solar installation market by 2028⁴



- 1 ONS Energy efficiency of housing in England and Wales 8 October 2024
- 2 Department for Energy Security & Net Zero, Household Energy Efficiency, 28 March 2024
- 3 Decarbonising Buildings: Insights from across Europe, published by the Grantham Institute - Climate Change and the Environment at Imperial College London, December 2022
- 4 Wood MacKenzie UK PV Capacity Forecast

Wickes 'Energy Efficient Home' with energy saving hints and tips verified by the Energy Saving Trust is available at www.wickes.co.uk