

Elliott Family Case Study

Please note this is for information purposes following a Talk given by Jacqui and does not represent a recommendation by Holy Cross.

Decarbonising our home

The Elliott family had an LG heat pump installed in February 2020 after doing some of our own research on LG as a company and as a product. Compared to other manufacturers such as Mitsubishi, we felt that LG was better environmentally as a company and as a product.



Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive for air source heat pumps

<https://www.gov.uk/domestic-renewable-heat-incentive>

file:///C:/Users/Other%20People/Downloads/drhi_essentialguide_forapplicants_mar2021_v7.pdf

RHi is a quarterly payment from government for 7 years that pays for most of the Air Source Heat pump. The RHi was available for anyone who completed an installation before 1st April 22.

In our case it was £12k and we get £11.5k back from the government. This arrives at £365 per quarter which we pay back to the in-laws every quarter, as we borrowed the up front cost from them.

The RHi scheme has now been replaced by the **BUS Boiler Upgrade scheme or Clean Heat Grant:**

<https://heat-pumps.org.uk/what-is-the-boiler-upgrade-scheme/>

The Government gives homeowners £5k grant towards an air source heat pump or £6k towards an Ground Source Heat Pump.

Specialist Air Source Heat Pump Installer List

An Installer must be MCS Accredited to get RHI (Microgeneration Certification Scheme)

<https://mcscertified.com/find-an-installer/>

Solum GB <https://solumgb.co.uk/>

Solum GB were the Elliott family's air source heat pump installer chosen as they were a bigger company than some of other local installers and had the product we wanted even though they had to travel from Dorset and stay locally for the week.

We had a team of three installers who worked well and hard for three days to install the air source heat pump.

It was well worth the slight inconvenience for peace of mind knowing we now heat our home and hot water without gas!

Solar panels to help generate your own green energy



The Elliott family installed solar panels quite a few years ago and profit from at least £700 a year from them, together with being able to use our own generated energy to keep electricity bills down.

The Elliott family has now decarbonised their house and got rid of their gas meter!

Finances

The Elliott family moved their current account from Lloyds bank to Triodos Bank in 2019 and we now have peace of mind that we are not investing in fossil fuels or deforestation.

The Elliotts also moved their mortgage during 2022 to Nationwide Building Society from Halifax (now part of Lloyds) using the research from Ethical Consumer.

Plastic free & palm oil free local shopping

The Elliott family use Zero Waste on wheels – local refill company
<https://www.facebook.com/ZeroWasteonWheels/>

Many people already request a refill delivery once a month when zero waste on wheels is due in the Maidstone/Bearsted area - dates advertised on Facebook then message to request a visit.

We go to the Bearsted Farmers Market for zero waste on wheels and fresh plastic free fruit and veg from the local farmer

After trying all the main supermarkets the Elliott family have found Morrisons is the 'least worst' supermarket for single use plastic.

We take a large bag for all your fruit and veg and buy loose as well as boxes or large bags.

We find tinned, boxed or glass products instead of those with plastic – it is more possible than you think. The Elliott family check ingredients & avoid palm oil.

Ethical superstore for a wide range of eco products <https://www.ethicalsuperstore.com/>

The Elliott family do a monthly order to bulk buy palm oil free soap, recycled toilet rolls with no plastic, recycled kitchen roll no plastic plus more.