

HEAT NETWORK ZONING UPDATE – JULY 2026

THE NORTH EAST AND YORKSHIRE NET ZERO HUB HOSTS SUPPORT FROM THE DEPARTMENT FOR ENERGY SECURITY AND NET ZERO HELPING LOCAL AREAS PREPARE FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF HEAT NETWORK ZONING. THIS REGULAR UPDATE SETS OUT THE LATEST POLICY, FUNDING AND BEST PRACTICE RELATING TO HEAT NETWORKS.

HUB, POLICY & FUNDING UPDATES

GHNH Round 12 open now...

The 12th Round of the Green Heat Network Fund (GHNH) opened on June 10th and for the very first time the scheme is now open to projects in both England AND Wales.

The fund provides commercialisation and construction support to help new and existing heat networks decarbonise, with £195 million in capital grants available each year to 2029/30.

Submit an expression of interest via DESNZ's delivery partner, Triple Point. Applications close before midnight on **September 25th**. If you would like any support in submitting an application, or have any queries, please feel free to get in touch and we can set some time aside to work through the guidance together.



You can also contact the team via enquiries@tp-heatnetworks.org.

For more information, including the overview brochure and Round 12 guidance please click the following link: [Green Heat Network Fund \(GHNH\): guidance on how to apply - GOV.UK](#)

Heat Network Exchange

The Heat Network Exchange is a joint ADE: Heat Networks and Government forum that exists to grow the low-carbon heat network sector and help deliver long-term transformation of the UK energy system.

The exchange exists to help make national Heat Network ambitions a reality by providing a forum that offers practical support, guidance and information to all involved in the sector. It is a great source of information on current opportunities within the UK heat network sector, with a noticeboard, supplier directory and repository covering key policy updates.

To learn more, please click the following link: [About Us - Heat Network Exchange](#)

Intro to the Heritage Revival Fund

The Heritage Revival Fund is provided with funding from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and Historic England and forms part of the Government's wider £1.5 billion investment in arts and culture.

Although the fund is not Heat Network/Decarbonisation focused, it is intended to help communities across England rescue and repurpose neglected historic buildings leading to the sustainable reuse and management of those buildings and provides a potential route to ensuring that heritage buildings are heat network ready. The fund will support projects from the earliest stages through to capital works, including feasibility studies, development of business plans, design, surveys, and the costs of acquiring and renovating buildings.

Charities social enterprises and Town/Parish Councils are all eligible to apply.

For more information about the fund, please click the following link: [Fund | The Architectural Heritage Fund](#)

Hull DHN – Pre-market Engagement

As part of the ongoing development of the Hull District Heat Network, Hull City Council is now seeking responses from potential suppliers of waste or surplus heat to the network.

By utilizing local heat sources that would otherwise be wasted, the network will play a key role in the council's journey towards net zero while helping to reduce costs and improving energy resilience. Through this engagement, the council is looking to gather initial market interest from any potential contributors with access to surplus or recoverable heat, as well as understand the range of heat sources available they could supply.

The information gathered will directly inform the development and delivery of the Hull Heat Network and help shape potential opportunities moving forward. With support from the Green Heat Network Fund, the network will be delivered under a multi-year design, build, operate, and maintain contract, which will see Vital Energi construct a new energy centre at Trippett Street car park and install over 5km of district heating pipework during phase 1, across Hull city centre.

Organisations interested in participating are encouraged to complete the questionnaire before the closing date on **Friday July 3rd**. **You can find out more by clicking the following link:** [Hull City Council launches pre-market engagement to unlock low-carbon heat opportunities – Hull CC News](#)

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

FairHeat Heat Network Technical Assurance Scheme Seminar

Our colleagues at FairHeat, in partnership with the Hub, are hosting an online session exploring the Heat Network Technical Assurance Scheme (HNTAS), for those working across the sector throughout the NEY Hub geography.

Join us to hear from FairHeat engineers about how the draft Heat Network Technical Assurance Standards could impact your networks, how you can prepare and actionable steps you can take now, to lessen the impact of the new regulations.

The session will take place **11:00 – 12:30** (online) on **July 9th** and will cover the following:

- A high-level introduction to HNTAS
- What it means for different stakeholders
- Practical steps organisations can start taking now

You'll also have the chance to ask questions, hear about case studies of those that are beginning to prepare for incoming regulation and how this interacts with consumer protection

The session is free and open to anyone and everyone with an interest in the new regulations, so please feel free to forward the session on.

You can sign up for the session via the following link: [FairHeat Heat Network Technical Assurance Scheme Seminar Tickets, Thursday, July 9 • 11 AM - 12:30 PM GMT+1 | Eventbrite](#)

Bridging the Retrofit Skills Gap – Workshop Opportunity

Climate Insights in partnership with Nottingham Trent University are offering a one-day workshop which will bring together policymakers, practitioners, training providers, and industry leaders to explore how England can strengthen retrofit skills, improve domestic retrofit quality and competence through on-the-job training, and expand access to employment—particularly for those currently underrepresented in the construction sector.

The full day workshop will be held in **Manchester** on **July 16th** and will focus on building on emerging research funded by the MCS Foundation, which is being completed by a research team representing Nottingham Trent University's Centre for Sustainable Construction and Retrofit.

The research project 'INclusive Skills Pathways for secure quality Retrofit Employment' (INSPIRE) is exploring how on-the-job vocational education and training (VET) pathways can support the development of a skilled and inclusive retrofit workforce.

For more information, please contact me directly. Alternatively, you can sign up for the workshop via the following link: [Inspire workshop form](#)

IN PERSON EVENTS

UKDEA 2026 Heat Networks Expo

Just a quick reminder that UKDEA (a major Knowledge Hub and Voice for the UK's District Energy Sector) will be hosting the 2026 Heat Networks Expo in collaboration with DESNZ on **July 14th** in **London**.

The event is aimed at a wide range of stakeholders, including people that are entirely new to heat networks, impacted by customer protection regulation, seeking to understand the latest on HNTAS & Heat Network Zoning or working in the sector.

You can find out more by clicking the following link: [UKDEA Heat Networks Expo 2026 Tickets, Tuesday, July 14 • 9:30 AM - 5:30 PM | Eventbrite](#)

Fairheat Annual Conference: Day 2 - New Build Heat Networks

This year, the FairHeat Annual Conference took place over 2 separate days in June, with each day focusing on two different kinds of Heat Networks, existing and new build.

I had the opportunity to attend Day 2 on the **June 17th** and was lucky enough to see some familiar faces from throughout our Hub geography.

The conference involved a practical deep dive into designing, delivering, and assuring compliant new heat networks, including:

- What new regulations mean for new build developments
- Legal considerations for developers under the new regime
- Standardising documentation and compliance pathways
- Metering, billing, and customer experience
- Lessons from live new build projects

Our very own Matthew Jordison from Gateshead Council took part in a panel discussion that provided insight into *Developing Low Carbon Heat Networks*. The Gateshead District Energy Network is truly one of a kind and it was so nice to see a North East scheme being represented on a national level. Here's Matthew commanding the stage:



Honourable mention to the one and only John Sharp from Bradford Council, who always flies the flag for the city's Heat Network with such passion and honesty. He gave a rousing mid-afternoon/post-lunch presentation, which is not always the easiest time slot to fill 😊

Slides from the conference can be shared upon request.

KEEP IN TOUCH

For more information about Hub support for Heat Network Zoning please contact: lauren.kemp@westyorks-ca.gov.uk or enquiries@neynetzerohub.com.

Don't forget, the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero have their very own Heat Networks newsletter. You can sign up here: [DESNZ – HN Bulletins](#)