

HEAT NETWORK ZONING UPDATE – OCTOBER 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.

THIS SUPPORT RELATES SPECIFICALLY TO HEAT NETWORK ZONING. THERE ARE HIGH LEVELS OF DEMAND FOR THIS PROGRAMME AND WE MAY HAVE TO STRICTLY PRIORITISE REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE.

HUB & POLICY UPDATES

Ofgem Registration – deadline approaching!

Register with Ofgem as soon as possible to ensure compliance with heat network regulation rules.

Heat network operators and suppliers are encouraged to register with Ofgem as soon as possible, ahead of the mandatory deadline **of January 26th 2027**. Early registration will help Ofgem provide support where needed and give organisations time to prepare for authorisation conditions.



Making a positive difference
for energy consumers

Guidance on what information is needed for registration is available on Ofgem's [website](#), alongside videos and further support. The guidance explains the scope of heat networks regulation including key definitions, clarification on what activities the regulations apply to, and how responsibilities map to the physical boundaries of heat networks. Additionally, you can register on the digital service [here](#).

If you have any questions, including about compliance, contact:
heatnetworksregulation@ofgem.gov.uk.

Funding secured for Bradford Energy Network!

DESNZ and Triple Point Heat Networks Investment Management have announced **£9.7m** in new Green Heat Network Fund support for the southern extension of Bradford Energy Network.

The funding will help 1Energy, who are developing the network, to deliver an additional 16 GWh of heat annually, bringing low-carbon heat to a further 25 connections across the south of the city, including a hospital, homes, schools and college buildings. It builds on the progress already made in the city centre, where Thornton Road energy centre is nearing completion with 'heat on' for the network's first customers due later this year, in November 2026.

The Bradford award was announced by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero and Triple Point as part of more than £78m in GHNF support for five heat network projects across England and builds on £20m of GHNF funding previously awarded to the first phase of the Bradford Energy Network.

Find out more by here: [Bradford Energy Network secures £9.7m to expand across the city.](#)

IN PERSON EVENTS AND KNOWLEDGE SHARE

Witteveen+Bos – Sheffield Office Opening

Witteveen+Bos officially celebrated the opening of their new university campus office in Sheffield with a seminar and networking event in September. The Zoning Implementation team had the opportunity to attend, whilst also using the time together to co-ordinate and plan our activities up until the end of 2026.

The seminar focused on industrial decarbonisation, regional energy transition, and bridging academic research with engineering practice, with talks from Dr. Saleh Mohammadi (MNEXT) and Professor Rachael Rothman (University of Sheffield).

Witteveen+Bos have been working closely with Sheffield City Council for several years, primarily focusing on the city's sustainable energy infrastructure and delivery of the Advanced Zoning Programme (AZP), serving as a primary advisor helping the Council to finalise and publish major market tenders to secure a development partner for the implementation phase of the AZP.

To find out more here: [Witteveen+Bos opens campus office near the University of Sheffield](#)



Please note: My plan to steal Emma-Jane from the Greater South East Hub is progressing well...

Fairheat Workshop: Practical steps to improve efficiency, cut costs and prepare

On October 15th, the North East and Yorkshire Net Zero Hub in collaboration with colleagues from Fairheat are hosting **a free, in-person workshop** for housing associations, local authorities and building owners across the Hub geography.

The focus of the workshop is '**Preparing Buildings for Heat Networks and Decarbonisation**'.

This half-day roadshow will take place at **Durham University from 1:15pm-5:15pm** and will explore practical, cost-effective steps you can take today to improve building performance and prepare for a low-carbon future.

What to expect?

- Info on low-cost opportunities to reduce energy waste and operating costs
- How to prepare buildings for heat network connections and other low-carbon technologies
- Decarbonisation pathways, including heat networks, heat pumps and hybrid solutions
- Real-world case studies and lessons learned from projects across the UK

You can find out more about the event and sign up via the following link: [here](#)

ADE Heat Networks Conference

The Association for Decentralised Energy (ADE) will be hosting its inaugural Heat Networks Conference at the OEC in Sheffield on October 22nd and will feature a number of panel discussions, working groups and roundtables.

The event will bring together representatives from across the Heat Networks industry, government and the wider public sector to explore topics including:

- Clean Heat 2040
- Consumer protection and compliance with regulation
- HNTAS and,
- Future skills, training and accreditation.

ADE members can attend for free but there will be limited availability per organisation. Exhibiting and sponsorship opportunities are also available.

Further information about the event can be found [here](#).



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](#)