

Title: Heat networks

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What is a heat network?

A heat network is a shared system for providing multiple properties with hot water and/or space heating (and sometimes, but much more rarely, cooling). It uses a heat source, or sources, to power an energy centre. That energy centre then transfers heat to connected properties in the form of hot water, through a network of insulated pipes.

How many heat networks are there in the UK?

At least half a million households are connected to one of 14,000 heat networks across the UK. From April 2025, all heat network consumers will have access to an official complaints and advice service, and from 2026, new regulations will be in place to better protect those connected to a heat network.

How does a heat network work?

Another set of pipes returns cooler water from the properties to the energy centre. Sometimes a heat network just provides hot water for space heating (e.g. by heating radiators), with the hot water from taps provided separately by an in-property electric immersion heater and water tank.

Why do we need a heat network?

Heat networks are vital to making net zero a reality in the UK. In high density urban areas, they are often the lowest cost, low carbon heating option. This is because they offer a communal solution that can provide heat to a range of homes and businesses by capturing or generating heat locally.

Feasibility and Detailed Project Development Commercialisation and Construction Finance and Investment Heat Network Operation The Green Heat Network Fund (GHNF) is a capital grant fund that supports the development of low carbon heat networks for organisations in the public, private, and third sectors in England. See more on [gov.uk](https://gov.uk) DLA Piper Heat Networks: Understanding the Basics - DLA Piper Heat networks supply heat from a central source to consumers, via a network of underground pipes carrying hot water. Heat networks typically cover a large area like a development scheme but can be ...

Heat network regulation is now in force. Learn what Ofgem's new consumer protection rules mean for operators and suppliers, and how to prepare for registration in 2026.

Heat networks are central to decarbonising heat at scale. At [heatnetwork](#), you'll find the knowledge, technologies, and partners you need right from early stage planning to long-term management. New ...

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Learn what a heat network is, how it works, and why it is important for Net Zero. Find out the number and types of heat networks and consumers in the UK, and the role of Heat Trust in protecting their ...

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Heat networks dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions by harnessing renewable energy sources and enhancing overall energy efficiency. Centralised heat production and distribution create ...

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