

## SFT Outcomes Demonstrating progress with impact



2020 CASE STUDY

### Outcome 10



Infrastructure-related carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions are reduced, supporting Scotland's transition to a low carbon economy

### Heat Networks

*Supplying a secure, resilient supply of low-cost, low-carbon heat to Glenrothes*

The delivery and use of energy and heat is an area of rapid change that can bring economic growth and improved environmental performance to the whole of Scotland.

SFT is at the heart of that work and our focus is on supporting Scotland move to a low carbon economy and reach its climate change targets. Our work not only generates cost and carbon savings, but also supports local economic development and improves the quality of public buildings.

One area that we are heavily involved is heat networks - a way of delivering heat and hot water from a central source to many buildings at the same time. Heat is generated at an energy centre, distributed through a network of highly insulated underground pipes and supplied to homes, businesses and public buildings.

Heating buildings in this way provides a range of benefits, including the ability to use large-scale renewable or low carbon heat sources, for example capturing waste heat from power generation or industrial processes. This improves the efficiency and resilience of energy supplied, reduces reliance on fossil fuels (such as natural gas) for heating, and reduces carbon emissions. Heat networks can also cut heating bills, which helps alleviate fuel poverty.

As the heat network sector is still relatively undeveloped compared with gas and electricity markets, SFT has been working with a number of local authorities to help them identify and manage potential opportunities and risks and advise on the best business model and procurement route for each project.

SFT has been working with Fife Council and its project partner RWE, to develop the Glenrothes Energy Network. This is one of a number of heat network projects supported by Scottish Government's Low Carbon Infrastructure Transition Programme (LCITP), of which SFT is a delivery partner.

Following successful commissioning, the £24m scheme was officially opened by the Energy Minister, Paul Wheelhouse, in April 2019, and is now fully operational and supplying heat to a number of Fife Council buildings and a sheltered housing complex. Fife Council is actively developing opportunities to expand the network.

Importantly, the heat network will contribute to climate change targets, including Fife Council's goal to reduce carbon emissions by over 40% by 2020 and 80% by 2050.



GLENROTHES ENERGY NETWORK  
[www.glenrothesenergynetwork.co.uk](http://www.glenrothesenergynetwork.co.uk)

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