



NET ZERO



SUSTAINABLE PLACES



INCLUSIVE GROWTH

Infrastructure-related carbon dioxide emissions are reduced



## Providing expertise to support heat network development



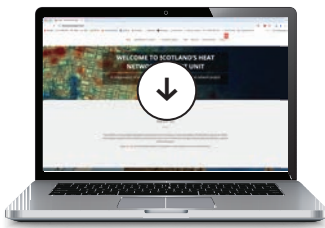
**T**O DELIVER Scotland's ambitious net zero targets change is needed – critically, a change to the way we use energy and how it is supplied.

One such way is through heat networks (underground pipes that supply heat from a shared energy source).

Heat networks are one of a number of technologies for heat decarbonisation identified in Scotland's Heat in Buildings Strategy. Recognising the strategic role they can play towards net zero, Scottish Governments **Heat Network Support Unit (HNSU)** is supporting the public sector to accelerate the pace and scale of heat network deployment in Scotland.

As a key partner in the HNSU, last year our Net Zero Buildings team helped organise a series of workshops across Scotland and online (attended by over 300 people) to increase knowledge amongst the public sector about funding, support, and the delivery models that could help increase the pace and scale of heat network deployment across Scotland.

# Providing expertise to support heat network development



**Heat Network Support Unit (HNSU)**

Our team, working with partners the Scottish Government and Zero Waste Scotland, shared information at the workshops about:

- Why organisations should act now
- The range of delivery models/commercial structures which can facilitate the development of heat networks
- How to select a heat network delivery model to suit organisational and project objectives
- The various funding and support mechanisms available to bring projects from concept to capital readiness and delivery

The 300-plus attendees across the workshops also benefited from hearing first-hand from some of the organisations which had received support previously from our Net Zero Buildings team to deliver their heat networks.

Feedback from the workshops was hugely encouraging, with a number of organisations saying:

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*“The clear explanation of heat networks and current thinking and practice. It was a good pace, not simplistic but easy to follow with*



*minimal prior knowledge. I'd heard of the HNSU but this gave me a better insight to your work.”*

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*“Very helpful to understand the support structures in place for the development of heat networks in Scotland and the various organisations involved.”*

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*“Different ways to present the factors that shape a delivery model were helpful. Good to have time to discuss with people.”*

*“The right people were in the room. As always, SFT's presentations are extremely useful.”*

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*“Both the presentations from SFT and the local authorities were equally interesting in different ways.”*

Recognising the need and aspiration from local authorities in particular to deliver heat networks at even greater scale, the Heat Network Support Unit launched its 'Strategic Support' funding. Our Net Zero Buildings team is helping local authorities build on Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategies to develop a strategic approach to deploying large scale heat networks across their areas. Seven local authorities are now benefiting from this support.