

Hull District Heating Network FAQs

What is district heating?

It provides low-carbon, resilient and sustainable heat and hot water to buildings, transported through a series of underground pipes.

How will it be implemented and will installation cause disruption?

Underground pipes will take energy created from an Energy Centre on Trippett Street direct to city centre buildings. Exploratory works have been ongoing for several weeks and traffic management will be in place as the pipes are installed. This will be done in conjunction with other planned maintenance in the city to minimise disruption, such as the Drypool Bridge closure September to November 2025 facilitating works on Alfred Gelder Street.

Who will benefit from it?

Phase 1 will include supplying council buildings, as well as educational establishments, development sites, private sector organisations and residential properties. Phase 1 is being constructed in a way that expansion of the network is possible through further phases. It will also drive economic growth, create job opportunities and building climate resilient neighbourhoods.

How long will Hull District Heat Network take to complete?

The project is expected to last up to three years and will be done by lead contractor Vital Energi.

How does the energy centre work?

80 per cent of all energy created at the centre will be generated by air source heat pumps. The remainder will be provided through gas boilers which eventually will be phased out as waste heat takes its place, therefore creating additional renewable energy sources. Educational visits will be available at the Energy Centre once operational.

Who is paying for Hull District Heat Network?

The project is being funded through a £14m Green Heat Network Fund and a £27m loan from National Wealth Fund. This loan will be repaid through the operation of the network. Additional grant funded is also being sourced. There will be no cost to the taxpayer.

How can people discover more about the project?

Public engagement will be ongoing throughout the project, with consultation sessions to be held in the near future. Contractor Vital Energi has committed to investing £3 million into the local community through utilising local supply chain, delivering educational workshops and providing work experience and apprenticeship opportunities for Hull residents.

How does HDHN align with the council's ethos?

This project will accelerate the city's 2030 carbon neutral ambitions, as well as its journey to net zero in 2045 in line with national climate action. It will create a healthier environment for the

residents of Hull and a healthier planet for all. It also reaffirms the city as a leader in low carbon energy and ties in with two of the council's Community Plan ambitions of responding to the climate emergency and economic growth that works for all.