













# Welcome and Agenda

Samantha Shea













### Welcome



Please mute microphones to limit disruption



If you are not speaking, please turn off webcams to improve video quality



Please ask questions using the Q&A functionality













# Agenda

Session	Speaker				
Introduction to HNES	Louise Singleton				
<b>Application Process</b>	Sam Hales				
Assessment Process	Louise Singleton				
Support available for applicants	Samantha Shea				
Q&A	Samantha Shea				













### Introduction to HNES







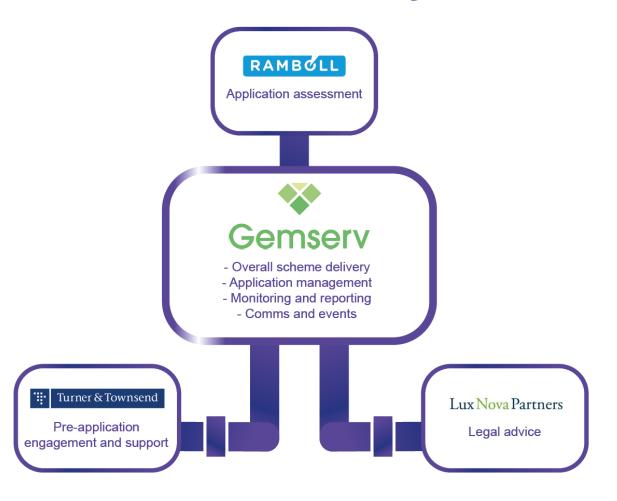








## **HNES Delivery Partner**



- Gemserv and Ramboll have already successfully delivered the HNES Demonstrator together, supporting 110 projects to claim £5M+ in grant funding
- Turner & Townsend and Lux Nova have joined the Delivery Partner team for the Main scheme



## **Aims and Objectives of HNES**

Reduce carbon emissions by making heat networks more efficient

2. Reduce customer detriment to improve consumer confidence

Help prepare the heat network market for sector regulation and technical standards



## How much funding is available?

#### **Capital Grants**

(up to but not including 50%)
available for the delivery (installation) of eligible intervention / improvement measures.

Up to £30m across FY23/24 and FY24/25

#### **Revenue Grants**

Full funding available for procurement or mobilisation of external third-party support to carry out Optimisation Studies.

These studies will assess heat network projects to identify causes of sub-optimal performance and recommend costed intervention or improvement measures.

Up to £2m across FY23/24 and FY24/25



## Who can apply?

Operators of existing district heating networks or communal heating systems

Public sector, private sector or third sector organisations

Heat networks situated in England or Wales

Legal entities,
with authority to
sign-off
investment
decisions for the
heat network
they are
responsible for



## Funding round closing dates

Round	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24
Round 2			★ Fr	riday 19 <sup>th</sup> M	lay 2023										
Round 3					<b>★</b> Frid	ay 7 <sup>th</sup> July	2023								
Round 4						*	Friday 25	th August 2	023						
Round 5								<b>★</b> Fri	day 13 <sup>th</sup> O	ctober 202	3				
Round 6											7	Friday 2	2 <sup>nd</sup> Februar	y 2024	
Round 7											Friday 22	2nd March 2	024 ★		
Round 8													Friday 10 <sup>t</sup>	<sup>n</sup> May 2024	*



# **HNES Eligibility Criteria**













# **Capital grants**

#### **Eligible costs**



- Category 1: Energy centre / plant room
- Category 2: Primary / secondary distribution network
- Category 3: Tertiary network
- Category 4: Metering

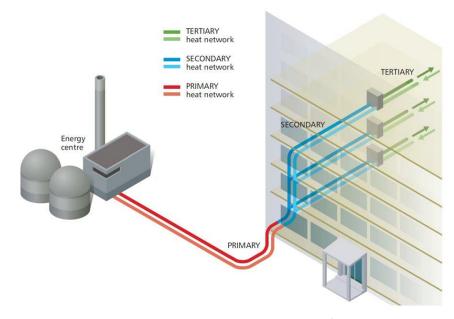


Image: Heat networks CP1: 2020

#### Ineligible costs

- Any capital costs already **incurred prior** to an HNES award having been made
- Any capital costs **unrelated** to heat network infrastructure, e.g., improvements to building fabric
- Any costs relating to engagement activities (e.g., stakeholder management)
- Energy centre / plant room costs for **replacement** of the primary heat generation source
- Tertiary systems costs for **buying or replacing heat emitters** (e.g., radiators) within buildings or dwellings
- Metering costs for metering that is required under the **HNMBR**





## Revenue grants

### Eligible costs – Optimisation Studies delivered according to the outline specification provided by HNES, including:



- Baselining of network performance and KPIs
- Data capture/analysis and site visit(s)
- Investigation of, and reporting on, network performance
- Development of a range of intervention measure packages for addressing areas of sub-optimal operation, including calculated impacts on KPIs
- Cost and cost-effectiveness assessment of intervention measure packages
- Recommendations reporting
- Completion of an Optimisation Study Outputs Annex

#### Ineligible costs



- Work already commissioned or incurred before the application
- Internal applicant staffing or secondment staff or charged agencies within applicant organisations, including for project management of the third party support / Optimisation Studies
- Construction, operation and maintenance of a heat network

## Monitoring and Reporting requirements

- A condition of grant funding is regularly submitting Monitoring and Reporting (M&R) returns
- M&R returns are essential to track whether grant funding will be spent and also to ensure the Aims of HNES are being met

#### Revenue M&R Returns

- Required from grant award until sign off of Optimisation Study
- Monthly returns covering:
  - Project progress updates
  - Risks and issues
  - Budget drawdown
- Final return to include:
  - Optimisation Study Outputs Annex

#### Capital M&R Returns

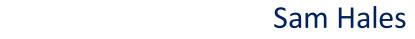
- Required from grant award until 24 months after commissioning date
- Monthly returns covering:
  - Project progress updates
  - Risks and issues
  - Budget drawdown
- Quarterly returns covering:
  - Progress against benefits and KPIs for each of the previous 3 months







# **Application Process**



Applicant Support and Relationship Management Lead













## **HNES** application form

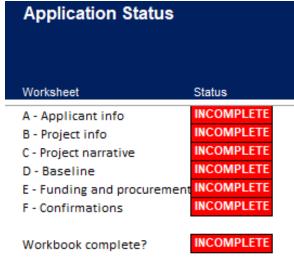
- Excel format
- Different forms have been developed for capital and revenue projects

### Six tabs to be completed:

A – Applicant info D – Baseline / Targets

**B** – Project info **E** – Funding and procurement

**C** – Project narrative **F** – Confirmations









## Application form tabs overview

### A – Applicant Info

- Applicant organisation information and parent company if relevant
- Contacts relating to application

### B – Project Info

- Description of the network including address
- Network characteristics including proportion of dwellings that fall under the HNES definition of 'customers in need'
- Regulatory i.e. HeatTrust registration, HNMBR etc

### C – Project Narrative

- Overview of project and funding request
- Overview of network data availability, quality and metering
- Overview of the rationale for the funding application to HNES in relation to Objectives 1 (reducing carbon emissions by making networks more efficient) & 2 (reducing customer detriment)
- Approach to dissemination information i.e. communication methods and means
- Sub-optimal outcomes experienced



## Application form tabs overview

# D – Baseline and Target

- Network Imported Fuel
- Network Energy Generation
- Heat Demands and Losses
- Economic Indicators
- Network Outages / Service Interruptions

# E – Funding and Procurement

- Total application budget and funding request
- For capital application forms this is broken down into the different network areas works being applied for
- Procurement i.e. description, procurement milestones

### F – Confirmations

- Supporting Evidence
- Applicant's Declaration



## Supporting evidence

### **Capital Grants**

- Evidence of application costs
- Evidence of targeted benefits
- A signed letter (or letters) confirming:
  - Applicant support for the application and works to be supported;
  - Match funding;
  - Acceptance of monitoring and reporting requirements;
  - Confirmation (where relevant) of any other subsidies relevant to the project
- A summary programme of works
- Where applicable, confirmation / evidence of eligibility of metering costs relative to HNMBR requirements

#### **Revenue Grants**

- Evidence of application costs
- A signed letter (or letters) confirming:
  - Applicant support for the application and works to be supported;
  - Match funding (if relevant);
  - Acceptance of monitoring and reporting requirements;
  - Confirmation (where relevant) of any other subsidies relevant to the project
- An outline project programme



## **HNES with Multiple Projects**

We **do not** intend to fund multiple applications by a single applicant where projects are considered similar in terms of engineering design/operation, indicators of sub-optimal performance and/or indicators of customer detriment.

Applicants should consider the extent to which learning from a smaller number of Optimisation Studies may support, validate or enable similar work in other projects in the applicant's portfolio outside of the HNES budget envelope.



## Lessons learned from Round 1 applications

- Capital grant requests MUST be less than 50% of the total project cost
- Ensure the name of the applicant matches the legal entity name exactly, e.g. as listed on Companies House
- If you request irrecoverable VAT, make sure to include justification as to why this is being claimed
- If you are including contingency, it is best to put this into the Other sections of Tab E – Funding and procurement, to ensure it can be clearly identified



## Round 2 updates to the application form

- Minor changes are being made e.g.
  - number of residential and commercial connections can be set to zero
  - revenue grant description box can be populated
  - greater guidance provided for some questions

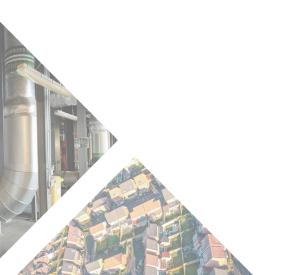
- The new application form is being developed and will be issued ahead of Round 2
- If applicants wish to start populating an application form now, you can use the existing one as a stopgap but please ensure you use the updated template once issued when submitting







## **Submission Process**











## Prior to Submitting an Application

Applicants who would like to submit an application will need to request an application form from us. Please email <a href="mailto:hnes@gemserv.com">hnes@gemserv.com</a> to request a form

If you would like support from a Relationship Manager, please let us know when you request an application form

If you would like a Relationship Manager and already have an application form, email <a href="mailto:hnes.support@gemserv.com">hnes.support@gemserv.com</a> with some details of your project and we will allocate a Relationship Manager to you

Please submit an expression of interest for future rounds if you haven't already done so by emailing <a href="mailto:hnes@gemserv.com">hnes@gemserv.com</a>

## **Submitting an Application**

Please email <a href="mailto:hnes@gemserv.com">hnes@gemserv.com</a> to request a SharePoint Space as early as possible and at latest a week before the funding round closes to ensure you can submit.

Project Name

Organisation Name

Primary Contact Name and Email

Application Type (Local Authority, Private or Other)

Funding Round that you are applying in

Grant funding type (capital or revenue)

**Expected Grant Value Request** 

If you would like to add additional users to the SharePoint Space, please provide the below details for each additional user:

Additional user's contact name

Additional user's email address

## **SharePoint Space**



You will be given access to a dedicated space per project. If you are submitting multiple applications, you will need multiple spaces.



If your organisation doesn't use Microsoft Office, you will be asked to create a password, please remember this.



Use the upload button or drag and drop files to upload your application form and supporting evidence.



Please DO NOT copy files directly from your organisation's SharePoint to the Gemserv SharePoint.

· Please download the files on to your device and then upload them to prevent corruption issues.



Email <a href="mailto:hnes@gemserv.com">hnes@gemserv.com</a> once your files are uploaded, assessment will only occur if you do this. Applicants who do not notify us will not be assessed



If you have issues with uploading, please restart your browser and try logging in again only opening the Gemserv SharePoint.

• Please email <a href="mailto:hnes@gemserv.com">hnes@gemserv.com</a> as early as possible if you have any issues uploading.



The space will be locked to read only once submission is complete



### **Lessons learned from Round 1**

- Please ensure that files are uploaded in an accessible format.
   Please do not upload the files in zipped folders
- Please ensure that you keep the application form file name in exactly the same format as it was sent to you. You can put your project name at the start or end of the file name if you wish
- Please ensure that you upload files correctly into the file structure (e.g. application form in application folder)
- When informing us of completed applications, please include the application reference number in your email. This is in the folder name and starts with HNES\_MAIN\_







### **Assessment Process**















# Scoring criteria (capital applications)

**Deliverability** 

**Cost Certainty** 

Delivery Certainty

Network performance improvement

Reduced cost to operator of delivering heat to the end customer

Improved network efficiency/ Heat losses reduction Reduction in unplanned outages/interruptions

Gas and electricity savings

Quality of supporting information



## Scoring criteria (capital applications)

Project Narrative Rationale for funding with regards to HNES Objective 1

Rationale for funding with regards to HNES Objective 2

Approach to disseminating information

Value for money

Cost of carbon abated

Cost of gas savings

Cost of electricity savings

Data availability / baselining

Energy meter data availability

Operational data availability

Baselining analysis



## Scoring criteria (revenue applications)

Project Narrative Rationale for funding with regards to HNES Objective 1

Rationale for funding with regards to HNES Objective 2

Approach to disseminating information

**Deliverability** 

**Cost certainty** 

**Delivery** certainty

Data availability / baselining

Energy meter data availability

Operational data availability

Baselining analysis



## Timescales from Applicant's perspective

Weeks	Description
1-6	Application assessment period, including clarification period. Submission of assessment outcomes to HNES Investment Committee
7-8	Review of assessments by HNES Investment Committee (including clarifications) leading to decision on funding award recommendations
9	Internal approvals of funding recommendations by the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero
10	Confirmation to non-Local Authority applicants of successful / unsuccessful applications, and issue of Grant Funding Agreements to successful applicants
10-14	Further approval process for Local Authority applicants. Confirmation to Local Authority applicants of successful / unsuccessful applications, and issue of Memorandum of Understanding to successful applicants



### **Clarifications**

- From an Applicant's perspective, the application is completed when the application form and accompanying supporting evidence are submitted to HNES
- During the assessment period (Weeks 1-6), clarifications may be raised to which the Applicant must respond
- It is essential that the Applicant is available over this period to ensure full and timely responses to any clarifications can be provided







# **Pre-application Support**















## Where to find help and support

If you have a general enquiry about HNES, want to be added to our mailing list, or would like an application form, please email <a href="mailto:hnes@gemserv.com">hnes@gemserv.com</a>

To discuss your project in more detail with one of our Relationship Managers, please email <a href="mailto:hnes.support@gemserv.com">hnes.support@gemserv.com</a>

















Louise Singleton Samantha Shea

Sam Hales

Rosie Knight

Neil Smillie Angela Rose Billy Cliffen Chris Forster

Chris Forster Elin Hultgren

DESNZ has recently published eight heat network optimisation guidance videos, which can be accessed on the <u>gov.uk website</u> Further detail on the scheme can be found in our <u>HNES Guidance for Applicants</u> document



## **Pre-application Support**

Prospective applicants can access front end support from our Pre-Application Support team to discuss the application process, or to begin their application for submission.

### The Pre-Application support team can provide:

- Initial contact and issue of application form
- 1-2-1s with dedicated Relationship Managers to discuss application
- First pass review of application with feedback
- Responding to applicant enquiries prior to submission
- Signposting to applicants that they are ready to submit







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