



CONSULTATION ON SUPPORT FOR LOW CARBON HEATING IN RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS



OCTOBER 2024

EMAIL RESPONSE FORM

Consultation on support for low carbon heat in the residential sector

Enquiries to:

Heat Policy

Department for the Economy
6th Floor, Adelaide House
39-49 Adelaide Street
Belfast, BT2 8FD

Email: lowcarbonheatconsultation@economy-ni.gov.uk

Web: [Department for the Economy Website](#)

How to Respond

This consultation will be hosted online at the following website: [NI Direct - Citizen Space](#). The Citizen Space website has been specially designed to be as user-friendly and welcoming as possible for those who wish to complete the consultation. It also allows DfE to rapidly collate results. For this reason, we would encourage anyone who is interested in responding to this consultation to utilise Citizen Space as the method of their response.

Your response will be most useful if it is framed in direct response to the questions asked, though further comments and evidence are also welcome.

If this is not possible, you can however respond to this consultation via email to lowcarbonheatconsultation@economy-ni.gov.uk by completing this form on the departments website or you can respond in writing to the following address:

Low Carbon Heat Consultation

DfE Heat Policy Team
6th Floor, Adelaide House
Adelaide Street
Belfast
BT2 8FD

When responding via email or in writing, please state whether you are responding as an individual, or representing the views of an organisation (please state the name of the organisation). Please also quote the following reference in your response: "Low Carbon Heat Consultation". In addition, when replying via email, it is possible to add supporting information to your response, either by way of an attachment or by posting text in the body of the email. Please ensure that you reference the question the additional information is in response to when doing so.

Responses must be received by **23:59 on 31 December 2024**.

Please contact us if you require this document in an alternative format for accessibility purposes.

General Information

Name:

Email Address:

What best describes your interest in this consultation

Member of the public/consumer

Academia

Heating manufacturer/supplier

Heating Installer

Government representative

Arms Length Body

Consumer representative organisation

Other (please specify)

Please indicate if you are replying as:

An Individual / Member of the Public

On behalf of a body or organisation
(please state who you represent below)

Theme 1: Eligible Technologies

Question 1

Do you agree with the criteria used to inform technology eligible for support?

Yes

No

If you do not agree, please explain why you do not agree and provide evidence to support your answer.

Question 2

Do you think that other criteria should be applied?

Yes

No

Please provide evidence to support your answer.

Question 3

The department does not intend to provide financial support for biomass boilers, do you think there should be exceptions to this?

Yes

No

Please give reasons for your answer

Question 4

The department does not intend to provide financial support for hybrid heat pumps, do you think there should be exceptions to this?

Yes

No

Please give reasons for your answer

Question 5

Should a minimum Seasonal Co-efficient of Performance of at least 2.8 or higher be applied to the low carbon technologies considered for support? Please tick all that apply.

Air Source Heat Pump

Ground Source Heat Pump

Water Source Heat Pump

Please give reasons for your answer

Theme 2: Building Efficiency and Eligibility

Question 6

Should all domestic buildings be eligible for low carbon heating technology support?

Yes

No

Please give reasons for your answer.

Question 7

What minimum energy efficiency criteria in relation to domestic buildings should be met (if any) to make them suitable for a low carbon heating technology support?

Option A – No minimum energy efficiency requirements.

Option B – A valid EPC with no loft or wall insulation recommendations.

Option C – An energy assessment of the home conducted by a technical adviser.

Option D – A minimum standard of EPC rating.

Option E – Other method (please specify).

Please give reasons for your answer.

Question 8

If you selected Option C – do you think support should be available towards the costs associated with an energy assessment as part of support for the installation of the low carbon technology?

Yes

No

Please give a reason for your answer.

Question 9

Do you agree that support for low carbon heating technologies is provided separately for owner-occupiers with alternative provision of support made for landlord, social housing, and non-domestic properties?

Yes

No

Please give reasons for your answer.

Question 10

Do you agree that self-build properties should be eligible for support at this time?

Yes

No

Please give reasons for your answer.

Question 11

Do you think additional financial support should be available to those homes in rural and island locations?

Both – rural and island

Rural only

Island only

Neither

Please provide reasons for your answer.

Question 12

If you answered yes to Question 11, how would homes be identified as rural by the department?

Please provide reasons for your suggestion.

Question 13

Do you agree that to be eligible for support, a new heating installation should replace fossil fuel heating, replace direct electric heating, or be installed where no central heating currently exists?

Yes

No

Please give reasons for your answer.

Question 14

Do you agree that replacing a low carbon heating system with another low carbon heating system should be ineligible for support?

Yes

No

Please give reasons for your answer

Theme 3: Consumer Eligibility

Question 15

Should households who have received energy efficiency support via schemes such as NISEP or Affordable Warmth be able to apply for additional low carbon heat support?

Yes

No

Please give reasons for your answer.

Question 16

Should support options be designed to prioritise or target certain groups of people (such as those on low incomes)?

Yes

No

Please give reasons for your answer. If you answered Yes, please detail which groups should be targeted and how could this be achieved?

Question 17

Should prioritisation or additional support be given to those with older (perhaps 15+ years) fossil fuel boilers?

Yes

No

Please give reasons for your answer.

Question 18

Should additional support be offered to the consumer where no central heating system is present in the home?

Yes

No

Please give reasons for your answer.

Question 19

Should those with multiple occupied properties e.g. holiday homes be eligible to apply for support for more than one property?

Yes

No

Please give reasons for your answer.

Question 20

Do you agree that the department has a requirement for consumer protection measures to be associated with support for low carbon heating technology?

Yes

No

Please give reasons for your answer.

Question 21

What do you feel would be the best method of consumer protection?

Option A - Need for installers to be registered to a certification scheme such as MCS.

Option B - The department to set its own consumer protection requirements.

Option C – Other

Please give reasons for your answer.

If you chose Option B or Other, what consumer protection requirements should be specified?

Question 22

If it is required for installers to be accredited to a certification scheme in order to take part in any future government support, should funding be made available towards certification fees?

Yes

No

Please give reasons and evidence to support your answer.

Question 23

Should any electrical work completed as part of the low carbon heating technology installation be required to be certified by an approved accredited body?

Yes

No

Please give reasons and evidence to support your answer.

Theme 4: Financial Assistance

Question 24

Do you agree with the criteria for the administration of support for low carbon heating technologies?

Yes

No

If no, please give reasons for your answer.

Question 25

Do you agree with the approach to offer support by providing a one-off capital grant?

Yes

No

If no, please give reasons for your answer.

Question 26

Which option do you think should be the approach to the level of financial support for eligible technologies? Please tick one box only.

Option 1 – apply the same amount of funding for all eligible technologies.

Option 2 – apply different amounts of funding per eligible technology type.

Option 3 – other (please specify).

Please give reasons for your answer.

Question 27

Are there any cost barriers beyond the cost of the technology that you feel may impact on the successful rollout of low carbon heating technology support?

Yes

No

Please give reasons for your answer.

Question 28

Do you have suggestions as to how the department can ensure financial support delivers the best possible value for money?

Yes

No

Please give reasons for your answer.

Theme 5: Supply Chain and Skills

Question 29

Is the supply chain and manufacturing base in NI well established to cope with demand for installations of low carbon heating technologies if demand increases?

Yes

No

Please give reasons for your answer.

Question 30

Is there any evidence of after-care delays with repairs and maintenance of heat pumps due to supply chain shortages and delays that may cause someone to be without heating?

Yes

No

If yes, please provide evidence.

Question 31

How can growth of the skills base within the heat pump industry be supported by the private sector and government to complement any support for low carbon heating in

- a) the short – medium term (up to 10 years) and
- b) the long term (over 10 years)?

Please provide any evidence you may have.

Question 32

Is there an adequate amount of heat pump installers within NI to cope with demand for installations as well as aftercare and repairs/maintenance should demand for heat pumps increase in the short – medium term?

Yes

No

Please give reasons for your answer.

Question 33

What actions can be taken to support the scaling and growth of the low carbon industry, particularly installers, to meet future demand projections of heat pump deployment targets?

Please give reasons for your answer.

Privacy Notice

Data Controller Name: Department for the Economy
Address: Adelaide House, 39 - 49 Adelaide Street, Belfast, BT2 8FD
Telephone: 028 9052 9410
Email: dfeheatpolicy@economy-ni.gov.uk

The Privacy Notice, which explains how and why your data is processed, can be viewed at [Consultation on Support for Low Carbon Heating in Residential Buildings](#)



Department for the

Economy

An Roinn

Geilleagair

www.economy-ni.gov.uk



economy_ni



DeptEconomyNI



economy_ni



dept-for-economy-ni