
**Hull District Heating Network
Communications Update**

1. Background

- 1.1 The Hull District Heat Network is a scheme that will supply low carbon heat and hot water to public and private sector buildings in the City Centre. Heat is supplied via an energy centre, powered by air source heat pumps and gas boilers in the short term, with the ability to use waste heat in the future.
- 1.2 Cabinet approved the Full Business Case and the contract award of Vital Energi to deliver the Design and Build of the Hull District Heat Network Phase 1 and the Operation and Maintenance of the network for up to 8 years.
- 1.3 A briefing session for Members was held on Monday 14th July at the Guildhall. The session included a presentation from Hull Council and Vital Energi on the benefits of the scheme and how it will be delivered.
- 1.4 The purpose of this report is to outline what communications have been undertaken with residents, businesses and stakeholders to date on the Hull District Heating Network programme.

2. Planning application for Energy Centre

- 2.1 The Energy Centre Planning application was presented to Planning Committee in April 2025 and was well received and approved with conditions to seek further approval to agree external materials.
- 2.2 Comments were received from two neighbouring properties. Council Officers and Vital personnel have met with these property owners as well as Hull College and continue to be in close communication with the owners to ensure any emerging issues are resolved and managed effectively.

3. Planning Phase 1A

- 3.1 A planning application for the first phase of the network was submitted in June 2025 and letters were sent to all neighbouring properties.
- 3.2 Following representations from neighbouring properties, the District Heat team met with the property owners to discuss the programme and any required mitigation

measures. The team have subsequently met with neighbouring properties to discuss the scheme and mitigation in more detail.

4. City Centre Trial holes

4.1 Prior to trial holes commencing in June 2025, letters were sent out to nearby residents, businesses and stakeholders making them aware that trial holes were taking place.

5. Main Network Construction

5.1 Works on the main network commenced in September 2025 in two locations: Alfred Gelder Street, and Charlotte Street Mews.

5.2 The works on Alfred Gelder Street have been planned to coincide with the Drypool Bridge repair works closure to minimise disruption to the network at a later stage. A combined District Heat and Drypool Bridge works resident and business engagement letter was delivered in person by Vital Energi prior to the works commencing on site. A copy of the letter is included at Appendix 1.

5.3 Council officers and Vital personnel have subsequently met with Food for Cowboys and The White Hart following the start of the works and have installed improved signage and are supporting with deliveries and waste collections during the works as well as providing wider business support.

6. Planning Phase 1B

6.1 Phase 1B of the Hull District Heat Network covers the following areas: Bond Street, Albion Street, Jarratt Street, Prospect Street, North Street, Portland Street, Guildhall Road, Wilberforce Drive, Carr Lane, Anne Street, Osborne Street, Pease Street, Cambridge Street & Great Thornton Street.

6.2 As part of the planning process, planning letters have been distributed to affected parties and the District Heat team are reviewing the list of recipients to identify any anticipated sensitivities, to enable any follow up actions prior to work commencing. Phase 1B works are currently due to commence from January 2026 and will complete in 2028.

7. Energy Centre Construction - Trippett Street

7.1 Resident and business engagement letters were sent out by the District Heat team in July 2025 for the erection of hoardings which impact on the surrounding footpath and former car park. This was to notify nearby residents, businesses and stakeholders of potential disruption, disruption of the road closure on Trippett Street, suspension of parking bays on Carroll Place and slight infringements into the carriageway.

7.2 Letters were sent to neighbouring properties prior to the commencement of piling works on the Trippett Street site. Both Vital Energi and Council officers have maintained close communication with a nearby business who expressed some

concerns about the potential impact of the piling and will continue to closely manage that relationship.

8. Future Communications

- 8.1 The District Heating team and Vital Energi, will continue to ensure that any residents, businesses and stakeholders impacted by the District Heating works are communicated with via letter drops. An email address and contact telephone number are provided in the communication material.
- 8.2 We are working with Vital Energi to provide a dedicated community/resident liaison officer who can regularly pay visits to local residents, businesses and stakeholders during the District Heating installation works who would effectively manage any issues that may arise as a result.
- 8.3 In addition to personalised letters, network impacts will continue to be communicated and managed as part of the Council's Traffic and Travel social media platform and webpage.
- 8.4 The District Heat team and Vital Energi will ensure the wider public are kept informed on progress of the network
- 8.5 A monthly update newsletter will be provided to local ward members, keeping them abreast of works being undertaken during that particular month.

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