



## **District Heating Steering Group (DHSG)**

### **Meeting Note from meeting #1 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022**

#### **1. Opening remarks and Introductions**

Department of Environment Climate and Communications (DECC) provided opening remarks and a tour de table followed.

#### **2. Outline of the Remit of the Group – TOR**

DECC outlined the remit of the Group and presented a draft Terms of Reference (ToR) to be agreed at the next meeting. Members were requested to submit comments on the draft ToR in advance of the next DHSG meeting. It was agreed that the DHSG meet on a monthly basis going forward and more frequently if required.

#### **3. Work Programme**

DECC outlined the district heating related actions contained in the 2021 Climate Action Plan and their implications for the work of the DHSG. It was noted that the DHSG would be required to submit an Annual Report for Government on its work, the first of these being due in Q4 2022, with inputs required in time to inform climate action planning and Budget 2023 as necessary.

The DHSG will also be required to inform the next steps following the publication of the National Comprehensive Assessment and National Heat Study, including to examine targets for district heating.

A discussion took place around proposed Working Groups. DECC proposed the following Working Groups to be set up:

- i. Regulation
- ii. Financing - Infrastructure cost and funding options
- iii. Planning and Regulations
- iv. Further Research

The DHSG was asked to submit nominations to the above Working Groups as appropriate. Papers on the working group subject areas will be shared. The structure of the Working Groups, and a plan of work for each, is to be agreed at the next meeting of the DHSG.

#### **4. National Heat Study**

Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) gave a presentation on the findings of the



National Heat Study and its implications for district heating.

## 5. Next Steps

It was agreed that the Group would meet again on Wednesday 9 March to follow up on the below action points.

The below actions were agreed to.

## 6. Any other Business (AOB)

There was no AOB.

## 7. Table of Actions

	Action	Assigned to
1	Circulate draft DHSG ToR for agreement	DECC
2	Submit comments on the draft DHSG ToR	DHSG
3	Circulate papers outlining the remit of each of the Working Groups	DECC
4	Submit comments as appropriate on Working Group related papers	DHSG
5	Submit nominations to the Working Groups as appropriate	DHSG
6	Develop outline Report to Government and inputs required from each Sub-Group.	DECC
7	Agree the DHSG ToR	DHSG
8	Agree Working Group structure	DHSG