



District Heating Steering Group (DHSG)

Meeting Note from meeting #6 23rd JUNE 2022

1. Agreement of 15th June 2022 meeting note

Note of the meeting of 15 June was agreed.

2. Mapping CAP target for District Heating (DH) out to 2030

Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) gave a presentation on analysis work being undertaken. The work is based on the National Heat Study and is designed to provide a knowledge base to assist the DHSG in the decision-making process when making recommendations to Government. The work can be used to identify target areas for the rollout of DH, specifically with a view to meeting the CAP target for 2.7TWh of heat demand to be met through DH. The work also looks at targets in the context of the future targets. Further work is being undertaken by SEAI to construct a roadmap for expansion out to 2030, in relation to the 2.7TWh CAP DH target and SEAI also presented on this.

3. Strategic focus for DH projects

Arising from the SEAI work, as mentioned at Point 2 above, the Research and Policy Insights WG is requesting strategic direction from the DHSG to inform the expansion of District Heating (DH). Direction will be required in terms of criteria for determining priorities for rolling out DH

4. Vision for structured development of DH

Strategic decisions will be required in relation to the way in which district heating should be developed. The input of the DHSG was requested in relation to the type of organisation that may oversee development of district heating, and the financing of projects.

The Group went on to briefly discuss potential ownership and financing models for DH. It was noted that development of DH will require zoning, standardisation, and some form of licencing, and policy guidance would be required in this regard. In order to obtain the views of the Group on key issues around the strategic vision for DH, Department of Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) will prepare a questionnaire for circulation.

5. Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) / Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening of DHSG Report to Government

The potential need for SEA and AA screening to be undertaken in relation to the proposed DHSG report to Government was discussed. DECC advised that procuring consultants to undertake the



necessary work could impact on the timeline for delivering the report and asked the Group to note the risk. The consensus to date from discussions with stakeholders including the Research and Policy Insights WG, is that undertaking SEA/AA will help ensure the robustness of the Report going forward.

6. Next Steps

The below actions were agreed to.

7. Any other Business (AOB)

There was no AOB.

8. Table of Actions

	Action	Assigned to
1	Questionnaire on key issues around the strategic vision for DH to be circulated	DECC
2	Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) / Appropriate Assessment (AA) screening process relating to DHSG report to be examined as required and progressed	SEAI/DECC