Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network

Danish Embassy conference 17 November 2022





2.Introductions

- Sustainability Co. helps local authorities & businesses respond to the climate emergency.
- We've been appointed to help Cambridge City Council develop the 'Cambridge City Centre Heat Network.'
- Jeff Laidler is the Founder and Managing Director of Sustainability Co.





3.What is a heat network?

Heat networks use water pipes and local energy source(s) to supply heat to buildings across cities.



Heat networks are not new: they have been around for over 100 years:

- 98% of Copenhagen is connected to a heat network Ο
- I in 3 people in Berlin are connected to a heat network \bigcirc
- I in 8 people in Amsterdam are connected to a heat network

Heat networks are perfectly suited to densely populated urban areas: residents, businesses and public buildings can benefit from 100% renewable heat and/or industrial waste heat.



4. UK Government's Heat Network Pipeline







5.Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network

What's the story so far?

- Sustainability Co: employed as heat network consultants, Dec 2021.
- Developed funding bid to UK government: for Feasibility Study
- Letters of support:
 - CEO & Leader Cambridge City Council
 - Vice-Chancellor University of Cambridge
 - 18 University Colleges
- Successful HNDU funding bid, September 2022: £97k grant, with £16.5k match funding from both the Council & University.
- Scope of works developed: October & November 2022
- Procurement of Feasibility Study consultants: to start in January 2022 & report by summer 2023
- If feasibility study is successful: proceed to Business Case development, procurement and Final Investment Decision
- Construction starts: potentially 2027
- First 'Heat On:' around 2028





6. Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network

What is the opportunity?

1. City-Centre AQMA

Cambridge City Council Air Quality Management Area 2004 1:10,000 2. City-Centre 'Strategic District Heating Area'



3. City-Centre Conservation Area





7.Cambridge City-Centre Heat Network

What is the opportunity?

- 1. Zero-carbon heating and hot water for Cambridge's historic citycentre: it's the only way to help create a carbon neutral city.
- 2. Scale: large city-centre core scheme balances ambition & practical delivery.
- 3. Heat pump-led heat networks: the new normal.
- 4. City Council & University of Cambridge: enablers of change.
- 5. Significant heat demand & expansion opportunity.
- 6. Listed buildings in historic Conservation Area: no visual impact.
- 7. Clean air: helps reduce NO_x in 'Clean Air Zone.'
- 8. Planning Policy requires connection: 'Strategic District Heating Area.'
- 9. Gap funding is available from UK government: Heat Network Delivery Unit (HNDU) & Green Heat Network Fund.
- 10. City's track record in heat network development: King's College, Jesus College, Homerton College and Emmanuel College and Eddington.





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9. Feasibility Study Area





10.City Map: the bigger picture



- c. Marshalls
- d. North East Cambridge

Connection	Planning
Opportunity	Status
East Cambridge	Pre-planning
North East	AAP developed
Cambridge	Phase 1 delivery underway
Eddington	Live heat network



11. Timeline





12.Lessons learned

	Lesson learned	Explanation
1	Step 1:	Start at the top and seek the buy-in of the CEO and senior politicians
2	Excite people about the opportunity	Generate momentum
3	Recognise the important role of Local Authorities as 'heat network enablers'	 Decarbonisation: it's the only way to decarbonise corporate stock and meet Council's zero-carbon ambition. Customers: the Council and University both benefit as a heat network customers Planning policy is an important lever: requires heat network connections Addresses multiple corporate priorities: clean air, zero-carbon, economic development, regeneration and fuel poverty
4	Take lessons learned from elsewhere:	Bring in client-side heat network skills and experience
5	Develop a 'Win Strategy' for funding bids	Focus on Unique Selling Points and funding criteria
6	Put customers first from the start	Design 'monopoly' heat network for customers, who can't choose heat supplier
7	Think big	Heat networks work best at scale: investigate at least one > £100m option
8	Allow plenty of time for Council approval processes	It always takes longer than you think!
9	Ensure financial model is based on operational reality	Don't use theoretical assumptions
10	Create a strong business case	Follow HM Treasury's Green Book Business Case









Questions and thoughts?

