

POLICY NOTE

THE HEAT NETWORKS (SCOTLAND) ACT 2021 (COMMENCEMENT) (NO. 2) REGULATIONS 2023

SSI 2023/77 (C. 8)

The above instrument was made by the Scottish Ministers in exercise of the powers conferred by section 102(2) and (3) of the Heat Networks (Scotland) Act 2021 (the Act). The instrument is not subject to any parliamentary procedure.

Summary Box

These Regulations commence certain provisions of the Heat Networks (Scotland) Act 2021. Specifically section 92 of part 8 (Heat networks targets and delivery plans)

Policy Objectives

1. The Heat Networks (Scotland) Act 2021 provides a legal framework for the establishment of a regulatory system for heat networks in Scotland. The Act is also intended to encourage greater deployment of heat networks in Scotland, in order to help reduce emissions from heating homes and buildings.
2. Part 8 of the Act makes provision for regulations to be laid to specify an additional target relating to the output from the combined supply of thermal energy by heat networks in Scotland to be reached by 2035.

Timetable

Procedure:	Laid – No Procedure
Proposed laying date:	16 March 2023
Proposed made date:	14 March 2023
Proposed date coming into force:	31 March 2023

Consultation

3. The policy objectives of the Act were subject to parliamentary scrutiny as a part of the legislative process. The Policy Memorandum for the Bill that preceded the Act outlined the consultation undertaken on the proposals. As these Regulations only bring into force provisions of the Act, no further consultation has been carried out in relation to this instrument.

Impact Assessments

4. These Regulations are only commencing provisions of the Act, so no impact assessments have been carried out in relation to this instrument.

Financial Effects

5. The financial effects of the Act are detailed in the Financial Memorandum prepared in respect of the Bill that preceded the Act and the supplementary Financial Memorandum prepared during the passage of the Bill.