

# A LOW CARBON DISTRICT HEAT NETWORK IS COMING TO WESTMINSTER

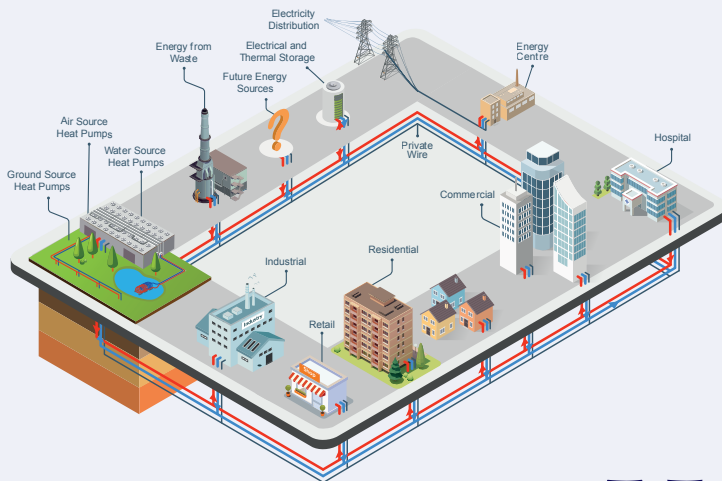
## A low carbon district heat network is coming to Westminster

We know decarbonisation and Net Zero targets are important to many building owners in Westminster but decarbonising heat and hot water can be a tough task. Heat networks are the most cost-effective way to decarbonise.

Hemiko and Vital Energi have formed the SWAN Partnership and have been chosen by DESNZ to implement this ambitious scheme in Westminster, aligning with the London Heritage Quarter's vision of a more sustainable borough.

## What is a heat network?

Heat networks, also known as district heating, connect buildings with waste heat suppliers or other forms of low carbon heat via a network of underground pipes. Heat networks are an alternative to polluting gas boilers. They provide low carbon space heating and hot water. By 2050, a fifth of UK heat will need to be supplied through heat networks. For densely populated boroughs like Westminster, district heating will be the cheapest way to decarbonise.



South  
Westminster  
Area  
Network



LONDON HERITAGE QUARTER

## What is the offer for businesses?

The SWAN Heat Network will supply businesses and homes with low carbon heating and hot water. In summer 2024, following 5 years of government planning and significant engagement work by London Heritage Quarter, the SWAN Partnership began work on the heat network.

The heat network will offer the lowest cost and least hassle route to decarbonise your heat and hot water.

Businesses that are interested in connecting to the district heat network should get in touch with the SWAN Partnership. The heat network is expected to be supplying low carbon heat in early 2028.

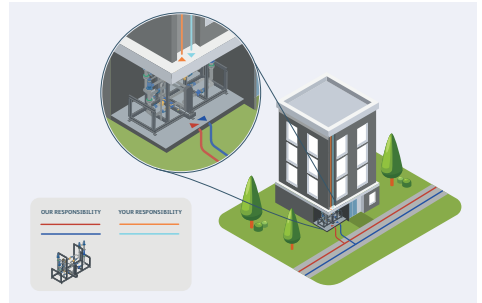
## What are the heat sources?

The heat network will supply low carbon heating from a variety of sources which the SWAN Partnership are currently investigating, these include:

- **Taking heat from the River Thames**
- **Waste heat from sewers**
- **Heat from the London Underground**
- **Air source heat pumps**

## Why connect your building?

- 1. Heat networks are the easiest pathway to decarbonise – less space, less fans, less hassle, outsourced problem.**
- 2. Access to locally wasted heat.**
- 3. Lowest cost decarbonisation pathway for building owners in Westminster.**
- 4. Lower risk – High levels of resilience and an ‘all included’ service, inc 24/7 Operations centre.**
- 5. Heat networks will provide a regulated heat supply that is on a pathway to net zero.**



## What are the costs?

A connection to district heating is usually the cheapest way to decarbonise heating and hot water in dense urban environments like Westminster. The more businesses that connect, the cheaper it will be for everyone. On average, connection to and supply from district heating will cost 40% less than choosing an individual air source heat pump. Costs are benchmarked against how much it would cost to install air source heat pumps in individual buildings.

Before you take your decision to join, you'll have had a full costing – upfront and ongoing – tailored for your specific buildings.

## Next steps

For more information or to register your interest:

Email [ProjectSWAN@london-hq.co.uk](mailto:ProjectSWAN@london-hq.co.uk)  
or visit [london-hq.co.uk/projects/project-swan](https://london-hq.co.uk/projects/project-swan)

