



Heat in Buildings Public Engagement Strategy: Call for Evidence

To: All Chief Executives, Main Contacts and APSE Contacts in Scotland. For information only to England, Northern Ireland and Wales

Key Issues:

Scottish Government are holding evidence sessions to inform a Heat in Buildings Public Engagement Strategy.

The dates of the sessions are Friday 16 December (10:00 to 13:00) which will be a virtual event via Microsoft Teams as well as in-person events on Tuesday 31 January (09:30 to 12:30) in Edinburgh and Monday 6 February (13:30 to 16:30) in Glasgow. Events are limited to 30 attendees per session.

Sign-up link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sg-heat-in-buildings-public-engagement-strategy-call-for-evidence-202223-tickets-477431910697>

1.0 Background

The [Heat in Buildings Strategy](#) was published on 7 October 2021, and sets out the Scottish Government's vision for the future of heat in buildings. The strategy document explains the actions they are taking to deliver climate change commitments in relation to buildings, how they are maximising economic opportunities and ensuring a just transition, as well as helping with addressing issues such as fuel poverty. As part of the strategy, the Scottish Government have committed to developing a new Public Engagement Strategy which will be published in 2023.

Key to the strategy will be setting out the Scottish Government's approach to increasing understanding of the changes that will need to be seen in terms of how homes and buildings are heated, raising the profile of energy efficiency and net zero carbon heating options, and raising awareness of the support and advisory services available. With the scale of transformational change required to achieve net zero by 2045, effective public engagement is needed across all levels from local to national.

2.0 Call for Evidence

The Call for Evidence sessions will be held in the form of one virtual event and two in-person events for a maximum of 30 people at each session. The virtual event takes place on Friday 16 December from 10:00 to 13:00 via Microsoft Teams. The in-person events are taking place on Tuesday 31 January from 09:30 to 12:30 at the Victoria Quay in Edinburgh, and on Monday 6 February from 13:30 to 16:30 at the Atlantic Quay in Glasgow. Those interested in attending can complete this online form at [Eventbrite](#).

The sessions aim to allow the Scottish Government to understand the role that different sectors and organisations may be able to play in supporting the public engagement delivery, to identify evidence and expertise they can work together and build out from and to explore how public engagement may vary across different sectors. There will also be discussions around how public engagement activities may be segmented and sequenced, and to discuss developing potential new types of interventions.

3.0 APSE Comment

APSE encourages our members to engage with these virtual and in-person call for evidence sessions on the Heat in Buildings Strategy.

Saskia Kearns, who heads up the Public Engagement, Behaviours & Communications Team, will be speaking at the upcoming [APSE Scotland Building & Housing seminar](#) on 16 February 2023 in Glasgow and is keen as part of the presentation to understand how they can work closely through the public engagement strategy with local authorities. The event will also provide further opportunity for local authorities to provide feedback as part of Scottish Government's Call for Evidence. Click the link above for more information on

attending. In addition, if you would like to discuss opportunities to work together with the Scottish Government, please contact Saskia Kearns directly at saskia.kearns@gov.scot.

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