

**Policy Forum for Wales keynote seminar:
Next steps for heat and heat networks in Wales**

Timing: Morning, Friday, 26th April 2024

*****Taking place online*****



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Draft agenda, subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Member of the Senedd
- 9.05 **Wales' plan for decarbonising heat - outlining the Heat Strategy for Wales, the path to net zero heat and emission reduction**
Ed Sheriff, Deputy Director for Energy, Welsh Government
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Making the transition to a low carbon future**
Key challenges and opportunities of decarbonising heat / Establishing supply chains / Meeting skills needs / Preparing the energy network and infrastructure
Becky Pask, Green Skills Research Officer, Coleg Sir Gar and Coleg Ceredigion
Matt Hindle, Head of Net Zero and Sustainability, Wales & West Utilities
Matthew Hodges, Associate Director, Net Zero and Sustainability, AtkinsRéalis
Ben Godfrey, Director of Distribution System Operator, National Grid Electricity Distribution
Ann Robin, Business Development Director, Industry, Gradyent
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.20 **Innovation in renewable heat technology**
Mike Pitts, Deputy Challenge Director, Net Zero Heat, Innovate UK
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.40 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Member of the Senedd
- 10.45 Break
- 10.55 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Member of the Senedd
- 11.00 **Policies for tackling fuel poverty and providing clean, secure and affordable heat for all**
Rhiannon Phillips, Head of Domestic Energy Efficiency and Fuel Poverty, Welsh Government
- 11.10 **Securing a just transition for communities across Wales**
Options for phasing out fossil fuels / Guaranteeing a fair price for customers
Maya Fitchett, Policy Analyst, National Energy Action
Joanne Wade, Chief Strategic Advisor, The Association for Decentralised Energy
Louise Singleton, Principal Consultant, Gemserv
Professor Karen Henwood, School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University
- 11.30 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.50 **Developing local area energy plans - implementing a place-based and locally-led approach to heat decarbonisation**
Senior representative, local authority
- 12.00 **Improving the energy performance of Welsh homes**
Supporting the decarbonisation of heat across private, rented and social housing sectors
Christopher Jofeh, Chair, Implementation Group on the Decarbonisation of Existing Housing; and Board Member, Tai Calon
Faye Patton, Policy and Project Manager, Care & Repair Cymru
Senior representative, local authority
Senior commentator
- 12.15 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.35 **Accelerating the delivery of net zero - pathing the way for a sustainable decarbonised Wales**
Senior commentator
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Policy Forum for Wales closing remarks**
Senior Member of the Senedd
Sean Cudmore, Policy Forum for Wales