

Delivering Net Zero for Scotland's Buildings Changing the way we heat our homes and buildings

A Consultation on proposals for a Heat in Buildings Bill

Island Communities Impact Assessment

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This is an Islands Communities Impact Assessment for a Consultation on Proposals for a Heat in Buildings Bill ('The Consultation').
- 1.2 Under the Islands (Scotland) Act 2018¹, Scottish Ministers and other relevant authorities, including a number of public authorities, must complete an Island Communities Impact Assessment (ICIA) and take account of island issues when developing any new policy, strategy or service.
- 1.3 Section 13 of the 2018 Act states that an ICIA must:
- describe the likely significantly different effect of the legislation;
 - assess the extent to which the Scottish Ministers consider that the legislation can be developed in such a manner as to improve or mitigate, for island communities, the outcomes resulting from the legislation; and
 - set out the financial implications of steps taken under this subsection to mitigate, for island communities, the outcomes resulting from the legislation.
- 1.4 The Islands (Scotland) Act 2018 defines an island community as a community that consists of two or more individuals, all of whom permanently inhabit an island (whether or not the same island), and is based on common interest, identity or geography (including in relation to any uninhabited islands whose natural environment and terrestrial, marine and associated ecosystems contribute to the natural or cultural heritage or economy of an inhabited island).
- 1.5 Island rurality can exacerbate inequality already experienced on account of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. These characteristics are known as "protected characteristics" as defined in the Equality Act 2010. Issues which impact on all islanders to some extent, such as those relating to access to transport or adequate housing for example, may be acutely felt by some groups more than others and require targeted measures in order to redress the inequality experienced. We are publishing a separate Equalities Impact Assessment.
- 1.6 The Island Communities Impact Assessments: Guidance And Toolkit² sets out an approach for undertaking an ICIA (see diagram below). There is an initial screening stage ('Section 7 assessment'), followed by an additional impact assessment stage ('Section 8 assessment') if required following screening. The third stage is the publication of relevant documents. This document

¹ [Islands \(Scotland\) Act 2018](#), the Scottish Parliament, 30 May 2018.

² [Island Communities Impact Assessments: guidance and toolkit](#), the Scottish Government, 23 December 2020.

constitutes the ICIA and incorporates screening (A) and impact assessment (B), and it completes the process by being published.

2. Screening (Section 7 Assessment)

Step One – Develop a clear understanding of your objectives

- 2.1 Section 7 of the 2018 Act states that a relevant authority must have regard to island communities in carrying out its functions. Guidance states that first step should be to develop a clear understanding of the objectives and intended outcomes of a strategy and then, more specifically, identify if there are explicit island needs or any potential direct or indirect impacts for island communities.

Proposals for a Heat in Buildings Bill Consultation - Policy Aim

- 2.2 The coming together of the climate emergency and the cost-of-living crisis makes the need for urgent action to reduce emissions and energy demand from buildings across Scotland more important than ever.
- 2.3 Our 2022 Programme for Government (A Stronger and More Resilient Scotland) reinforced this message. Measures to reduce our energy demand and end our dependence on fossil fuels will limit our exposure to the spiralling gas prices which have caused the recent surge in costs.
- 2.4 Scotland has legally binding targets to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045, with interim targets requiring a 75% reduction by 2030, and 90% by 2040. The Climate Change Plan Update clarified that emissions from heating our homes and non-domestic buildings combined will have to achieve a fall of 70% by 2030 compared to 2020. We will also need to significantly reduce emissions from “non-domestic” buildings like schools, hospitals, offices and shops. Our proposals aim to make a contribution towards this.
- 2.5 Making our homes and buildings more energy efficient will help to reduce our individual demand for energy and result in homes that are warmer and easier to heat. However, we know that better insulation and other energy efficiency measures – where those improvements are possible – will not be enough on their own. Meeting our net zero target by 2045 will need all homes and buildings in Scotland to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions to zero where possible.
- 2.6 This can only be done by replacing heating systems which burn fossil fuels like gas boilers, oil boilers and liquid petroleum gas (LPG) boilers. We refer to these as polluting heating systems, and are found in around 88% of our homes . We need to change these to clean heating systems, like electric heat pumps, or – in some areas – hydrogen which has been made using renewable electricity.

Summary of desired outcomes of the Consultation and its subsequent Heat in Buildings Bill

- 2.7 Our plans for decarbonising Scotland’s buildings were set out in our 2021 Heat in Buildings Strategy. This made clear the ways in which regulations requiring us all to reduce our energy demand and change our heating systems will be essential to reducing emissions from Scotland’s buildings and delivering our public Net Zero goal by 2045.
- 2.8 The Strategy also made clear that no one should be left behind in the heat transition. This means ensuring that poor energy efficiency is removed as a driver of fuel poverty and that our proposals and actions as a whole help reduce fuel poverty. We believe that the changes and improvements delivered by the proposed way forward laid out in this consultation will make our homes and buildings cleaner, greener, and easier to heat.
- 2.9 We are introducing standards for new buildings (domestic and non-domestic) which will prohibit the use of polluting heating systems from 2024; we now need to focus upon Scotland’s existing homes and buildings. At the moment, 21% of our emissions come from our domestic and non-domestic buildings, with around 5,000 clean heating systems installed per year in Scottish homes. However, to reach our net zero target, this number must increase.
- 2.10 For non-domestic properties with 230,000 non-domestic buildings and 17 TWh energy consumed, this indicates significantly higher energy use of non-domestic buildings when compared to domestic buildings.
- 2.11 As well as changes to the heating systems in individual properties, we are also progressing work to deploy “heat networks” across Scotland, which could play an important part in reducing or removing emissions associated with heating buildings on that network. We believe that they will play an important part in the heat story across Scotland.
- 2.12 The Bute House Agreement included a commitment to “phasing out the need to install new or replacement fossil fuel boilers, in off gas [areas] from 2025 and in on gas areas from 2030, subject to technological developments and decisions by the UK Government in reserved areas”. It said that the Scottish Government would consult on the introduction of primary legislation – a Bill – which would provide the means to deliver this.
- 2.13 The consultation sets out proposals on the ways in which regulations made using the powers in a “Heat in Buildings” Bill might look and operate. It also sets out the other elements that we propose to include as part of the Bill, including our plans for the growth of heat networks, and a strong and reliable supply chain.

Proposed Measures included in the Proposals for a Heat in Buildings Bill Consultation

Proposal 1 - Setting a Heat in Buildings Standard for all buildings

2.14 We are proposing to include powers into the Heat in Buildings Bill to establish a 'Heat in Buildings (HiB) Standard'. This will affect all buildings in Scotland and will comprise three separate, but linked, parts:

- a prohibition on the use of polluting heating systems after the end of 2045 for all buildings
- In owner occupied homes – require such homes to meet a minimum energy efficiency standard by the end of 2033; and
- In private rented homes – require landlords to meet a minimum energy efficiency standard by the end of 2028

Proposal 2 – Scope of the Heat in Buildings Standard (extra time to take action)

2.15 The HiB Standard set out in Proposal 1 will mean that all homes meet the energy efficiency and clean heating requirements by 2045. However, we know that, in some cases, extra time might be needed to help people undertake the necessary works, or to take into account individual circumstances.

2.16 This is why we are proposing to introduce the HiB Standard affecting only main heating systems in a property. We are also proposing to give extra time in the period to 2045 to those already using bioenergy to meet the clean heat requirement of the Standard. Where there is no clean heating solution available to some homes and businesses, we are also proposing to give extra time until cleaner alternative fuel options become available.

Proposal 3 – Phasing of the Heat in Buildings Standard (Property purchase)

2.17 To help us contribute to our interim targets to reduce emissions by 2030 we are proposing to require those purchasing a property to comply with the prohibition on polluting heating within a specified amount of time following completion of the sale (likely two years).

2.18 This 'trigger' will apply only after we have developed and consulted on further regulations which will help implement the proposals. This proposal places no new obligation on the seller.

Proposal 4 – Phasing of the Heat in Buildings Standard at other points in time

2.19 In the future it may make sense, or be possible, to require people to end their use of polluting heating, for example, when their current boiler comes towards the end of its life.

- 2.20 We are proposing to include in the Bill powers to allow Scottish Ministers to require property owners to end their use of such polluting heating in other circumstances – but these powers would be the subject of further consultation as well as needing the future consent of the Scottish Parliament. .

Proposal 5 – Connecting to and developing Heat Networks

- 2.21 We know that heat networks are one of the clean heating systems that will comply with the HiB Standard. We want to see growth in this sector and we know that there is significant interest from local authorities and private investors in owning and operating these networks.
- 2.22 To attract more investment in this sector we are proposing that we provide local authorities and Scottish Ministers with powers to require buildings within a Heat Network Zone to end their use of polluting heating systems (by a certain date and with a minimum notice period).
- 2.23 Where a building is within a Heat Network Zone we are also proposing that building would not be affected by the property purchase trigger. This is to help preserve the business case for the network. Buildings within these zones will be required to meet the Standard when a heat network becomes available, either by connecting to that network or by installing another clean heating solution.
- 2.24 For new buildings within a Heat Network Zone, we are considering the creation of powers to allow local authorities and Scottish Ministers to require developers to connect to that network.
- 2.25 In the development of Heat Networks, the use of ‘excess’, ‘surplus’ and ‘waste’ heat are currently underused resources. If this can be fed into a heat network it may increase the number of viable heat networks across Scotland. That is why we are also proposing that occupiers of non-domestic properties to provide information about unused heat on their premises, and potentially require buildings with unused heat to provide this to a local heat network (where cost effective).

Proposal 6 - Dealing with individual circumstances

- 2.26 We know that property owners are all different, with different means and facing different circumstances. This means that their ability to change their home in order to meet the HiB Standard will vary greatly. We plan to take proper account of these individual circumstances through the use of exemptions and agreement of extra to give individual homeowners or landlords some extra time to meet the HiB Standard depending on their individual circumstances.
- 2.27 This is why we are proposing to establish formal powers to exempt those who cannot, or perhaps should not have to meet the HiB Standards. We are also considering the use of modifications to the Standard to account for individual building circumstances or unique characteristics.

- 2.28 We also need to make sure there is a proper route for people to appeal where they feel the requirements are incorrect or unfair.

Proposal 7 – Public sector buildings

- 2.29 There are around 23,000 non-domestic buildings are owned by public bodies. We believe that the public sector should show leadership by moving to use clean heating systems by the end of 2038 and have set out proposals to achieve this.

Proposal 8 – Amendments to existing legislation

- 2.30 Finally, our Heat in Buildings Strategy set out a provisional target for renewable heat of at least 22% by 2030. However, this target doesn't capture the ways in which Scotland is performing on heat decarbonisation and emissions as a whole. We think the proposed Bill gives us an opportunity to change this.
- 2.31 The final proposal in the consultation therefore proposes the inclusion of powers to require a new or amended target which could be more understandable and provide a better illustration of our progress, as well as a better signal and greater confidence to clean heating and building retrofit installers and business.

3. Island needs or potential impacts for island communities

- 3.1 The proposals included in this consultation cover homes and buildings across Scotland. They are not only aimed at island communities, and will affect every property owner in Scotland. However, we know that our island communities can face unique challenges, and opportunities, around distance, geography, connectivity and demography.
- 3.2 Our island communities are not connected to the mains gas network. Islands can be connected at the periphery of electricity networks, whilst a small number of our island communities are also not connected to electricity grids and face unique challenges in their efforts to reduce emissions.
- 3.3 The potential for reduced supply chain availability, added transport requirements, limited accommodation for contractors and potential weather disruptions means that clean heating measures can cost more to install in our rural and island communities.
- 3.4 The National Islands Plan³ acknowledges that extreme fuel poverty rates are higher for most of the island authorities. We also know that extreme fuel poverty can be particularly difficult to eliminate in island communities where building types are harder to improve to the required energy efficiency standard and opportunities to reduce fuel costs are more limited. In addition, traditionally constructed buildings and energy efficiency challenges can vary between the islands. Such issues combined with the colder climate in the islands means that some of these homes might have the heating on throughout the whole year. Higher living costs on islands, combined with higher fuel costs, for households on low incomes, can create the conditions for extreme fuel poverty. The substantial increase in energy costs since August 2021 will likely have exacerbated these issues further.

Beneficial impacts

- 3.5 There are, importantly, key benefits that properly installed decarbonised heating systems can bring to island communities. Specifically, these span improved thermal comfort and health benefits and protection of the unique natural environment of Scotland's islands and rural communities through climate change mitigation

Moving Forward

- 3.6 As we take forward the development of the Heat in Buildings Bill we will ensure that the issues highlighted here are considered in the design of delivery programmes and development of further policy and regulation. A further ICIA will be undertaken for the Bill and findings from this consultation process will be fed in.

³ [National Islands Plan](#), the Scottish Government, 27 December 2019.

Step Two – Gather your data and identify your stakeholders

- 3.7 This impact assessment drew on recent statistics publications where relevant and a body of evidence gathered 2021 for the ICIA for an earlier policy, the Heat in Buildings Strategy.
- 3.8 The proposals being consulted on for the Heat in Buildings Bill stem directly from this Strategy and as a result, the evidence gathered at that time remains relevant. Furthermore, as this evidence base was informed by a sustained process of engagement with energy consumers, including island residents and stakeholder organisations, the data gathering for the Heat in Buildings Strategy remains an invaluable resource in shedding light on the challenges and opportunities for island communities in regards to these policies.

Step 3 - Data Collection.

- 3.9 The evidence gathering process was undertaken over a number of steps for the Heat in Buildings Strategy and updated where appropriate to ensure applicability to the consultation on proposals for a Heat in Buildings Bill.
- Analysis of pre-existing data sources
 - Early engagement with Highlands and Islands Enterprise
 - A Public consultation on the Heat in Buildings Strategy consisting of:
 - Written responses to the consultation
 - Findings from stakeholder-facing workshops
- 3.10 To support this data, a further analysis of additional pre-existing resources was undertaken and engagement was undertaken with key stakeholders to ensure that this material remained relevant.

Summary of main impacts across data gathering and consultation

- 3.11 In summary, the key areas, identified through our data gathering and consultation, in which possible impacts on island communities may arise include:
- Installation and operational costs for heating systems
 - Higher living costs, heating costs and high levels of fuel poverty:
 - Rural and island households spend statistically significantly more on heating than their urban equivalents.
 - Fuel poverty levels are higher in rural small towns than in urban areas. One reason for this is that the majority of urban dwellings are within the coverage of the gas grid, whereas almost two-thirds of those in rural areas are not. Connection to the gas grid allows households to use mains gas for heating and hot water. As mains gas is currently the cheapest of the major commercial fuels, gas grid access can be a significant determinant in the required cost of heating a home to a satisfactory temperature. The majority of households using electricity in Scotland, whether in urban or rural

settings, currently rely on traditional emitters such as storage heaters.

- Availability of appropriate finance and funding which takes account of these challenges.
- Ability of traditionally constructed buildings to accommodate standard energy efficiency measures
 - Islands and rural communities generally have a relatively larger share of stone walled, detached dwellings of a traditional build form. Maintaining an adequate indoor temperature in these type of properties can be challenging and costly due to the rate of heat loss through large, uninsulated external walls.
 - Island and rural local authorities generally had the highest proportion of the least energy efficient dwellings (those rated EPC F or G) on average over 2017-19 (SAP 2012, RdSAP v9.92). Island and rural local authorities tended to have lower than average proportions of B or C rated dwellings with Shetland Islands (8%), Na h-Eileanan Siar (9%) and Orkney Islands (15%) having the lowest.
- Availability of the supply chain for installation, concerns over applicability of PAS 2035, availability of maintenance with reports of long times for maintenance where no local contractors are available.
 - Island and rural communities can face supply and access issues. The flow of goods and services may be restricted or impacted, sometimes at short notice. Further, the smaller population of these locations may mean a reduced local skills based, placing greater demand on qualified work such as the installation of clean heating systems. We also recognise the opportunities that employment in clean heating could present on islands, providing essential job opportunities.
- Longer project realisation times recognising constraints on accommodation for incoming workers as well as weather and travel disruption to rural areas.
- Infrastructure and resilience:
 - Our islands face particular challenges around distance, topography, weather and connectivity. These can lead to infrastructural and logistical challenges and costs (such as in regards to electric grid connectivity and access to harder-to-reach locations) not encountered by other communities, and require additional support to ensure ongoing resilience.
 - Resilience of electrified heat systems in areas with no national electricity grid connection was raised
 - Potential for more less connected areas to have higher incidences of single phase electricity distribution network which may impact technology selection.
 - Concern over resilience level of areas that are reliant on one fuel for heating – where there has been traditionally a mix of fuels available.

- Ongoing community representation and engagement was considered a key requirement to develop trust and buy in.
 - Our island communities are unique and face challenges specific to their location. To address specific contextual island issues continuing engagement and reflection is required. Ongoing appropriate representation and engagement is central to ensuring our transition to net zero supports and benefits islands communities by providing a dialogue to shape and direct delivery.

Step Four – Assessment

- 3.12 The above evidence gathering and consultation constituted a screening exercise to identify if an Island Communities Impact Assessment would be required. As it remains the case that there are a number of unique impacts, potential barriers, and wider impacts which would have a direct effect on Island Communities, it was therefore decided **that a full Island Communities Impact Assessment should be undertaken**. This is in draft as we gather views, and will be finalised prior to the drafting of the Bill, and introducing it to Parliament.
- 3.13 The following section assesses the extent to which the proposals for the Heat in Buildings Bill can be delivered in such a manner as to improve or mitigate, for island communities, the outcomes resulting from them.

4. The ICIA (Section 8 Assessment)

4.1 The Islands (Scotland) Act 2018 requires an ICIA to:

- describe the likely significantly different effect of the legislation;
- assess the extent to which the Scottish Ministers consider that the legislation can be developed in such a manner as to improve or mitigate, for island communities, the outcomes resulting from the legislation; and
- set out the financial implications of steps taken under this subsection to mitigate, for island communities, the outcomes resulting from the legislation.

4.2 The following sets out the key issues in this impact assessment and the mitigations in place.

4.2.1 **Issue** - Potential for higher installation and operational costs for low and heating systems, recognising impact of accommodation constraints, weather and travel disruption) and availability of appropriate funding and finance which takes account of these challenges

4.2.2 **Key mitigation** - Many of our existing Scottish Government Heat in Buildings Delivery Programmes such as Warmer Homes Scotland, Area Based Schemes, Home Energy Scotland Loans, and CARES provide advice and support to island households and communities.

4.2.3 We also recognise that the costs of delivering energy efficiency measures are higher in rural and island areas. A rural uplift included in the HES grant of £1,500 applies to both the heat pump and energy efficiency grants. This is on top of funding for heat pumps up to £7,500 and for energy efficiency improvements – up to 75% of the combined cost of the improvements and up to the maximum grant amount of £7,500. This uplift increases the heat pump grant flat rate and the maximum limit of the energy efficiency grant to £9,000. An additional £7,500 of funding is available as an optional interest free loan for both heat pumps and energy efficiency measures.

4.2.4 We will recognise the additional time taken to develop projects in islands settings and ensure that this is given consideration in project and financial planning

4.2.5 **Issue** - Higher heating costs and high levels of fuel poverty

4.2.6 **Key mitigation** - The Scottish Government continues to believe that better energy efficiency standards in homes can save energy and reduce bills while making homes warmer and more comfortable. Improving the energy efficiency of our housing stock remains a huge priority for Scottish ministers, which is why our national fuel poverty programmes will continue to support better insulation and other improvements to homes in, or at risk of, fuel poverty.

4.2.7 As part of this consultation, we will engage with organisations representing consumers in or at risk of fuel poverty and feed these findings into the design

process for the bill. This will be guided by the 8 principles outlined within the Heat in Buildings Strategy.

- 4.2.8 We have established a statutory Scottish Fuel Poverty Advisory Panel to undertake the statutory duties to monitor, advise on and challenge our progress on ending fuel poverty, and to advise on the impacts of actions by others on fuel poverty and extreme fuel poverty across Scotland.
- 4.2.9 We will ensure ongoing regard for The National Islands Plan (Objective 5 - to reduce levels of fuel poverty; and Objective 9 - work towards creating net zero emission islands and providing global climate change leadership).
- 4.2.10 As set out in the Strategy we will work with Consumer Scotland and a range of Scottish consumer representative organisations to ensure that issues of consumer detriment are identified and addressed, focussing on consumer understanding, accessibility, costs, redress, and support for vulnerable consumers.
- 4.2.11 **Issue** - Whole house retrofit and the suitability of standard energy efficiency measures and requirements for traditionally constructed buildings
- 4.2.12 **Key mitigation** - We know that these properties will face specific challenges in meeting the new Standard, such as the need for specialist building assessment, more specialised installation skills and the use of specific materials. We are proposing to use variations to provide flexibility to reflect individual circumstances, and this will include traditional and protected buildings. These may include one or a mix of options:
- Varying the minimum energy efficiency requirement, which would mean that such buildings are not required to install measures that would have a negative effect on the building (or its occupants);
 - Giving the property owner more time to allow the building to be assessed and necessary works agreed, or to secure suitable installers or products;
 - Giving the property owner more time where property owners cannot secure the necessary permissions or consents to carry out the necessary works.
- 4.2.13 **Issue** - Availability of the required level of skilled supply chain for installation, and maintenance for clean heat.
- 4.2.14 **Key mitigation** - We published a 'Heat in Buildings Supply Chain Delivery Plan' which provides an overview of Scotland's heating and building improvement sector, and provides background to the challenges and opportunities of developing the supply chain for Green Heat.
- 4.2.15 **Issue** - Consideration of local infrastructure in the roll out of clean heating including availability of national electricity grid and resilience.
- 4.2.16 **Key mitigation** - Local Energy Scotland manages the Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES), which helps communities to engage with and benefit from the energy transition to net zero emissions. It provides advice and support – including funding – to communities across Scotland,

looking to develop renewable energy, heat decarbonisation and energy efficiency projects.

4.2.17 **Issue** - Ongoing community engagement

4.2.18 **Key mitigation** - As part of the consultation process we will work with stakeholders in island communities to ensure that feed in is as widespread as possible. The findings from this will then be fed into the design process for the final Bill.

Supporting positive impacts

4.3 The mitigating actions outlined above will not only help address identified issues and challenges, but enhance the positive impacts heat decarbonisation will bring to islands communities including the following:

4.3.1 **Abundant renewable energy resources (ability to generate heat locally)** - Through CARES we will continue to support and champion the opportunities for communities to engage with heat decarbonisation project models

4.3.2 **Opportunities for engaged and motivated communities to be part of the heat transition** - The Energy Strategy & Just Transition Plan (a draft version of which was consulted on from January to May 2023) considers how, for example, the islands' abundant renewable energy resources can further contribute to meeting Scotland's climate commitments whilst supporting strong local economies, and addressing existing social and economic inequality

4.3.3 **Enhanced island community engagement and sense of community** - We will continue to support Carbon Neutral Islands.

4.3.4 **Opportunities for more niche technologies** (such as water source heat pumps and heat networks for small communities) - Overall we recognise some properties may be more constrained in terms of technology options available, limited by location and property type, proximity to the gas network, impact on the fabric of historic buildings, space constraints, and capacity of the electricity grid. Such considerations are factored into the proposed variances and abeyances within the consultation.

4.3.5 **Opportunities for the local supply chain & Harness the opportunity for development of skills and jobs within island communities to deliver change** - In 2022 we published a Heat in Buildings Supply Chain Delivery Plan which provides an overview of Scotland's heating and building improvement sector, and provides background to the challenges and opportunities of developing the supply chain for Green Heat.

4.3.6 **Opportunities to promote renewable tourism and local business** - We will work with the Scottish Government Islands Team to ensure that heat decarbonisation projects are linked in with opportunities to promote local business and projects as part wider tourism strategies and plans.

- 4.3.7 **Promoting resilience in islands building stock (by improving the fabric) for future generations, and Opportunities for increased thermal comfort and health.** - The proposals set out in this consultation to improve the energy efficiency of privately owned homes mean that households will use less energy, potentially reduce their bills, and help to cut greenhouse gas emissions. A good standard of energy efficiency also helps the performance of many clean heating systems, such as heat pumps.
- 4.3.8 Our proposed approach to non-domestic building stock provides a transparent approach, giving non-domestic consumers more flexibility to choose the best way to reduce emissions depending on their particular circumstances, reflecting the diversity within the non-domestic building stock
- 4.3.9 **Protection of the unique natural environment of Scotland’s islands and rural communities through climate change mitigation** - We will feed in the outlook of island communities into the proposals set out in this consultation in order to achieve our ambition to remove emissions from the way we heat our homes and buildings.

Conclusion

- 4.4 Prior to publication of this consultation, previous work to assess the impacts of the Heat in Buildings Strategy was reassessed to ensure its continued relevance to these proposals. The material gathered for the Heat in Buildings Strategy includes public consultation and continuous engagement with key stakeholders including in the Heat Decarbonisation External Advisory Group.
- 4.5 Desktop evidence gathering, consultation with island communities, local authorities and other relevant stakeholders has provided an understanding of the unique island issues in relation to the proposals
- 4.6 This ICIA has been undertaken to assess the impacts of proposals for inclusion into the Heat in Buildings Bill. The context of the bill itself will be shaped by the findings of this consultation and a further ICIA will be undertaken to assess the impacts of the specific policies for inclusion in the final bill following the input of findings from this consultation.



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