

[Detailed guide: Innovations in the built environment](#)

Updated: Smart Meter Enabled Thermal Efficiency Ratings Innovation Competition launched

Innovation in the built environment

Across government, Innovate UK, Research Councils, and BEIS expect to invest around £184 million in research and innovation in the built environment.

As part of this commitment, within the BEIS Energy Innovation Programme, BEIS expects to invest around £90 million in low carbon heating and energy efficiency options for UK homes and businesses.

Modern Energy Partners – Public Sector Energy Efficiency

Reducing energy consumption in, and greenhouse gas emissions from, the public-sector estate helps reduce costs to taxpayers and enables the UK to meet carbon budgets.

A new pilot project, Modern Energy Partners, will explore novel ways to drive more ambitious efforts to drive down consumption and emissions across the public-sector estate.



[Modern energy partners: brief project description](#)

PDF, 312KB, 2 pages

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A Prior Information Notice (PIN) has been published. Parties interested in tendering for work on this project should consult the [PIN](#).

Smart Meter Enabled Thermal Efficiency Ratings (SMETER) Innovation Programme

Government has launched a funding scheme to invest up to £5 million to develop, test and demonstrate technologies that measure the thermal performance of homes using smart meter and other data. These have been termed Smart Meter Enabled Thermal Efficiency Ratings (SMETER). Of this funding, up to £4.1 million is provided for innovation projects to develop SMETER tools, for which applicants may apply for funding up to £1 million. Government is also providing up to £900,000 for a Technical Assessment Contractor to independently test and demonstrate SMETER tools developed during the innovation projects.

Full details about the Innovation Competition and Technical Assessment Contractor and the funding available is set out in the guidance and application notes:



[Smart Meter Enabled Thermal Efficiency Ratings \(SMETER\) Innovation Competition: application guidance notes](#)

PDF, 745KB, 83 pages

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[Smart Meter Enabled Thermal Efficiency Ratings \(SMETER\): Technical Assessment Contractor – Invitation to Tender](#)

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For more information, please email BuiltEnvironmentInnovation@beis.gov.uk using the title 'SMETER Innovation Competition' or 'SMETER Technical Assessment Contractor' in the email subject.

Building for 2050

Announced as part of the [Construction Sector Deal](#), government is investing £1.4 million in a research project called '[Building for 2050](#)'. Led by AECOM, this project is gathering evidence from 3 housing developments located in Swansea, Bristol and Manchester with the aim of uncovering the barriers to developing low cost, low carbon housing. The project will test innovative methods of construction and will involve working closely with households throughout the project to track their views, and to report on progress as we seek to reduce the environmental impact of UK homes by 2050.

Investing in Low Carbon Heating Technology Innovation

Government has launched a grant scheme to invest up to £10 million to develop technologies that reduce the carbon emissions associated with providing heat and hot water to UK buildings. Innovative technologies, processes and tools are eligible for support and applicants may apply for a grant of £200,000 to £2 million.

Full details about the grant scheme are set out in the guidance notes.

This competition is now closed to applications. Details of the projects offered funding in this Competition are set out here:



[BEIS Low Carbon Heating Technology Innovation Fund: summary project details](#)

PDF, 160KB, 3 pages

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For more information, please email BuiltEnvironmentInnovation@beis.gov.uk using the title Low Carbon Heating Technology Innovation Fund in the email subject.



[Low carbon heating guidance and application notes](#)

PDF, 588KB, 40 pages

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[Low carbon heating and technology innovation fund Q&A](#)

PDF, 203KB, 8 pages

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Investing in Building Thermal Efficiency Innovation

Government has launched a grant scheme to invest up to £10 million to develop technologies and approaches to improving the energy efficiency of existing UK buildings. Innovative technologies, processes and business models are eligible for support and applicants may apply for a grant of £200,000 to £2 million.

Full details about the grant scheme are set out in the guidance notes.

This competition is now closed to applications. Details of the projects offered funding in this Competition are set out here:



[BEIS Thermal Efficiency Innovation Fund: summary project details](#)

PDF, 167KB, 4 pages

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For more information, please email BuiltEnvironmentInnovation@beis.gov.uk using the title Thermal Efficiency Innovation Fund in the email subject.



[Thermal efficiency innovation guidance notes](#)

PDF, 662KB, 39 pages

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[Thermal efficiency innovation fund Q&A](#)

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Investing in hydrogen innovation for heating

BEIS is undertaking a £25 million project to explore the potential use of hydrogen gas for heating UK homes and businesses. Following a competition, BEIS has appointed Arup+, a team of contractors led by Ove Arup to run this project.

This project will run from 2017 to 2021 and will aim to define a hydrogen quality standard, and to explore, develop and test domestic and commercial hydrogen appliances.

Investing in smart heating systems

BEIS is investing £9.8 million in phase 2 of the [Smart Systems and Heat Programme](#), run by the [Energy Systems Catapult](#). This phase will build on the work from phase 1, including developing a 'Home Energy Services Gateway' to change the relationship between consumers, heating systems, and energy suppliers. The project will also include work with local authorities on developing low energy plans, including the support the development and expansion of domestic low carbon heating projects.

Notice: TA10 9HG, Anglo Beef Processors UK: environmental permit issued

The Environment Agency publish permits that they issue under the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED).

This decision includes the permit and decision document for:

- Operator name: Anglo Beef Processors UK
- Installation name: ABP Langport
- Permit number: EPR/HP3330CQ/V002

Research and analysis: Seasonal risks of marine activities

Requirement R113

Requirement detail

The timing of marine works is generally driven by measures to mitigate risks to seasonable birds / migrating fish. This often means that works take place during summer months which could potentially lead to a larger impact on social and economic factors (for example tourism) than might occur during other seasons. This work would outline a process to balance the risks of an activity (environmental, social and economic) against the benefits and potentially propose approaches to mitigate the risk within the licensing framework.

Collection: Nuclear Safeguards Bill

Updated: 2nd quarterly Euratom report to Parliament published

The measures in the Bill will amend the [Energy Act 2013](#) to:

- replace the Office for Nuclear Regulation's existing nuclear safeguards

purposes with a new nuclear safeguards purposes definition

- create new powers for the Secretary of State to put in place in regulations the detail of the domestic safeguards regime, such as accounting, reporting, control and inspection arrangements
- create a limited power for the Secretary of State to amend the existing regulations so that references to international agreements can be updated once new international agreements have been reached

The UK has been a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency since its formation in 1957 and will continue to apply civil nuclear safeguards in the UK.

[View the progress of the Bill on the parliament website.](#)

Related legislation

- [IAEA Voluntary Offer Agreement](#)
- [IAEA Additional Protocol](#)
- [Euratom Treaty](#)
- [Euratom Regulation No 302/2005](#)
- [Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty](#)
- [Nuclear Safeguards and Electricity \(Finance\) Act 1978](#)
- [Nuclear Safeguards Act 2000](#)
- [Nuclear Safeguards \(Notification\) Regulations 2004](#)

[Open consultation: Building a market for energy efficiency: call for evidence](#)

This call for evidence outlines a range of barriers to investment in energy efficiency on both the demand and supply side. It invites views about the role of government in overcoming barriers and stimulating the market through more direct interventions. Finally, it considers a range of potential solutions, many of which have been advocated by businesses and industry representatives.

The list is not exhaustive, and inclusion or exclusion should not be taken as an indication of government policy. We are gathering evidence on the widest range of options. Additional ideas are welcome, as are views about the relative impact of the ideas listed here, and how they might be implemented to best effect.

Although we focus mainly on the owner occupied sector, many of the ideas set

out in the call for evidence could have a positive impact across all tenure types, and could also be applicable to micro or small enterprises, especially home-based businesses.