

GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION HIGHLIGHTS

November 2021

A brief summary of current government consultations of potential interest to RSN members. This is not intended as an exhaustive list of all relevant consultations.

Phasing out the installation of fossil fuel heating in homes off the gas grid – Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

This consultation sets out proposals to phase out the installation of high carbon fossil fuel heating systems in homes off the gas grid, as committed to in the [2017 Clean Growth Strategy](#). Government are seeking views on their proposals to introduce targeted regulations that will drive decarbonisation of heat in off gas grid homes, including:

- an end to new fossil fuel heating installations in homes off the gas grid from 2026
- a 'heat pump first' approach to replacement heating systems in homes off the gas grid from 2026
- requiring high performing replacement heating systems where heat pumps cannot reasonably practicably be installed

They would like views from the heating industry, consumers, and those with a wider interest in the UK's net zero ambition.

This consultation closes on 12 January 2022.

[Phasing out the installation of fossil fuel heating in homes off the gas grid - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Phasing out the installation of fossil fuel heating systems in businesses and public buildings off the gas grid – Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

This consultation sets out proposals to phase out fossil fuel heating system installations in businesses and public buildings off the gas grid during the 2020s, as committed to in the [2017 Clean Growth Strategy](#).

It seeks views on:

- using the natural replacement cycle as the trigger for phasing out fossil fuel heating systems
- introducing the policy using a phased approach with the largest buildings first, followed by smaller buildings
- taking a heat pump first approach to the replacement of those fossil fuel systems
- allowing the limited use of alternative low carbon systems where a heat pump is not suitable
- the cost trajectory for the installation of these low carbon technologies and the ability of businesses to pay.

This consultation closes on 12 January 2022.

[Phasing out the installation of fossil fuel heating systems in businesses and public buildings off the gas grid - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Wireless Infrastructure Strategy: call for evidence – Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport

The government state they are: “committed to making the UK a global leader in digital connectivity. The pandemic has thrown the importance of connectivity into sharp relief, and it will continue playing a critical role in growing our economy, delivering our levelling up agenda and ensuring we meet our Net Zero ambitions. Our Wireless Infrastructure Strategy will set out the framework for the development, deployment and adoption of 5G and future wireless networks in the UK over the next decade.

“To support this, the government is undertaking an extensive programme of evidence gathering. This call for evidence has been launched to help us better understand what wireless

connectivity the UK will need over the next decade and what more needs to be done to deliver it.”

This consultation closes on 25 November 2021.

[Wireless Infrastructure Strategy: call for evidence - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/wireless-infrastructure-strategy-call-for-evidence)

Making flexible working the default – Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

This consultation contains proposals to reform flexible working regulations (The Flexible Working Regulations 2014).

It also covers the wider work being undertaken by the government to encourage and support flexible working, and responds to relevant proposals from the July 2019 [Good Work Plan: Proposals to support families consultation](#).

This consultation closes on 1 December 2021.

[Making flexible working the default - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/making-flexible-working-the-default)

National Infrastructure Planning Reform Programme: stakeholder survey – Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government

Government are undertaking a comprehensive end-to-end review of the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Planning (NSIP) process and all its interactions.

The government is keen to hear from all those who engage with the NSIP regime on what they see as the main issues affecting each principal stage of the process, and what potential solutions might be deployed to remedy these.

This consultation closes on 17 December 2021.

[National Infrastructure Planning Reform Programme: stakeholder survey - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/national-infrastructure-planning-reform-programme-stakeholder-survey)

Future of transport regulatory review: modernising vehicle standards – Department for Transport

Government are seeking opinions and evidence from all those with an interest in what an innovative and flexible regulatory framework looks like for emerging transport technologies. Modernising vehicle standards is one of the priority areas of the Future of Transport regulatory review.

This consultation closes on 22 November 2021.

[Future of transport regulatory review: modernising vehicle standards - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/future-of-transport-regulatory-review-modernising-vehicle-standards)