



**Communal
Energy
Partners.**

The Heat Network (Metering and Billing) Regulations 2014 (as amended) - HNMBR.

The first part of the regulations, launched in 2014, requires the body ultimately responsible for supplying and charging the end users, known as the heat supplier, to complete a notification of data from all qualifying heat networks to the Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS a department of BEIS). The deadline for part one of the regulations was 31 December 2015, and the process must be repeated every four years from the date of the original submission.

Under the HNMBR, the heat supplier has three key tasks to undertake to comply with the regulations.

The regulations state each heat supplier must inform OPSS about the location of any communal heating scheme along with details of capacity and supply. Each building forming part of the network must be identified, along with the number of customers using it and details about how those clients receive information from the billing company.

The duty to install meters covers point of entry meters for buildings with one or more customers connected to a heat network and covers final customer meters in buildings with more than one customer connected to a heat network.

Customers must be billed using actual meter readings (rather than estimates) at least once a year. Anyone requesting electronic billing should be invoiced quarterly. Bills must contain current energy prices, details of total consumption (compared to the previous year if applicable) and general information on how to improve energy efficiency.

The second part of HNMBR came into effect on the 27 November 2020 and requires heat network operators to determine if they must install heat meters or heat cost allocators into their buildings. To define which networks will be required to install, BEIS has introduced three building classes:

1. Viable - Those who must install heat meters.
2. Open - Those who must complete a viability exercise to determine if they are required to install meters or heat cost allocators.
3. Exempt - No action required If buildings fall into the open class.

Heat suppliers have until 27th November 2021 to complete a tool to assess whether it is cost effective to install heat metering devices with a deadline of 1st September 2022 for installation of heat devices.

For more information, please download the governments Heat Networks Guidance document at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/941673/heat-networks-guidance-on-metering-and-billing-regulations-2014.pdf

