**Summary of PEWG’s presentation and discussion session on 17.5.22 with input from the Scottish Government’s Heat in Buildings Regulation Unit.**

The context of all this is the emission reductions required by the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019 which demand that Scotland’s emissions be reduced relative to 1990 baseline by 75% by 2030 and to Net Zero by 2045.

**Heat in Buildings Strategy**

Our buildings account for **around a fifth** of Scotland’s total greenhouse gas emissions. There’s also widespread fuel poverty. The Heat in Buildings Strategy, launched October 2021 aims to tackle both issues, and had the following to say about fuel poverty (since then of course the situation has become much more acute):

*Today in Scotland, a quarter of households are in fuel poverty with around half of these living in extreme fuel poverty. The median fuel poverty gap in 2019 was £700 (in 2015 prices).*

The Heat In Buildings Strategy goes on to state the Government’s vision that

* In **2040** no more than 5% of households are fuel poor, no more than 1% are in extreme fuel poverty and the fuel poverty gap is no more than £250 (2015 prices)
* By **2045** our buildings will no longer be contributing to climate change.

The Heat In Buildings Regulation unit are working on the regulations that will govern this process.

**Key dates/aims:**

**Two angles to the Government’s approach:**

1. **Energy Efficiency**

**Overall aim that all single-ownership domestic homes to be at EPC C or equivalent** **by 2033;** (EPC measuring criteria are being reformed to ensure they align with Scottish Government’s climate change goals). A **step by step** approach**:**

1. an ongoing review of Building Regulations is leading to improved fabric standards for new build properties in **October 2022**
2. By **2028** (**2025** for new tenancies), all private rented homes must meet energy efficiency standard EPC C or equivalent
3. **Zero Direct Emission Heating**

The plan is that the upgrading will be helped by trigger points such as sale/purchase of a property, or change of tenant, or need to replace a boiler. These proposals will be consulted on in the coming year

1. New Build Heat Standard is being developed whereby all homes applying for building warrant from **2024** must have Zero Direct Emissions heat source
2. Interim aim: by **2030** 1 million homes and 50,000 non domestic buildings to have zero direct emissions heating.
3. The aim is to tackle most homes not on the gas grid by 2030, homes on the gas grid by 2045

**Support Available Today**

£1.8bn this parliamentary term.

Domestic Support: Home Energy Scotland (free impartial Advice; Loans and Cashback); Warmer Homes Scotland

Community Support: Community and Renewables Energy Scheme (CARES)

For regulation coming into force from 2025, programmes will be different - in development and subject to consultation.

**What can we do?**

•Spread the word!

•Respond to Scottish Government Consultations to contribute to our policy development.

**Other Notes**

* 16,000 additional skilled installers required by 2030
* There are particular challenges for tenement buildings
* There will be consultation on the legislation so we will be able to comment on, for example, any categories of building excluded from the rules and the trigger points which will require action to be taken (e.g. a change of tenant, or the sale of a property)
* The Scottish Government has no powers over energy markets or product standards. It is requesting action from the UK Government on issues such as the relative price of gas and electricity (to make gas less attractive) and on the development of hydrogen as a possible domestic fuel (decision expected in 2026)
* Heat pumps and local heat networks were discussed (Heat Networks (Scotland) Act 2021).
* The electricity industry has the responsibility to decarbonise the grid