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Planning

## **The Provision of Cambridge City Centre District Heat Network**

Cambridge City Council

UK3: Planned procurement notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-014531

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-06568b ([view related notices](#))

Published 17 February 2026, 5:26pm

### **Scope**

### **Description**

Since June 2023 Cambridge City Council has been working with consultants and academic partners to develop an Outline Business Case for a City Centre District Heating Network. Detailed Project Development has now completed, proposing a low carbon network using air source and river source heat pumps, and supported by a transition to electric boilers from gas boilers to supplement peak heat demand.

This work has been brought forward through a partnership between the City Council, the County Council, and 19 Academic institutions with significant heating demand in the city centre. Connections to many of these partner heat loads now forms the basis of the Minimum Viable Product identified for delivery through a Partner-invested Joint Venture Partnership, and with strategic ambition to expand such a network across the City in the long term, informed by an informal Heat Zoning review which has also been completed.

Cambridge City Council will be looking for potential partners who wish to be appointed to the established partnership to provide Design, Build, Operation and maintenance Services, inclusive of metering and billing. We feel that establishment of a new district heating network in a city of Global significance is a momentous opportunity, and we wish

to procure a DBOM partner who shares our vision and understanding of the opportunities which this may bring.

### **Contract dates (estimated)**

- 31 January 2027 to 30 January 2042
- 15 years

### **Main procurement category**

Works

### **CPV classifications**

- 45211360 - Urban development construction work
- 45232140 - District-heating mains construction work
- 45232141 - Heating works
- 71314000 - Energy and related services

### **Contract locations**

- UKH12 - Cambridgeshire CC

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## **Submission**

### **Publication date of tender notice (estimated)**

31 October 2026

## **Tender submission deadline**

15 December 2026, 11:59pm

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## **Procedure**

### **Procedure type**

Below threshold - open competition

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## **Contracting authority**

### **Cambridge City Council**

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PCBT-6819-NDPJ

The Guildhall

Cambridge

CB2 1BY

United Kingdom

Email: [procurement@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:procurement@cambridge.gov.uk)

Region: UKH12 - Cambridgeshire CC

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government