

YOUR NGN NEWS UPDATE

November 2022



Plans unveiled for hydrogen energy hub

Plans have been unveiled for a hydrogen energy hub to be built on a former gas storage site in Bradford.

Gas distributor Northern Gas Networks (NGN) has partnered with clean energy provider Hygen Energy Holdings and Ryze Hydrogen to develop the facility they say will be the first of its kind.

Local residents and businesses will be able to use the Bowling Back Lane site to refuel hydrogen vehicles and charge electric vehicles.

A spokesperson for Bradford Council said: "We hope that the hydrogen hub will encourage energy users across the region to convert to low-cost carbon hydrogen as their energy source for the future."

The project, at NGN's former gas storage facility, will use renewable energy to power an electrolyser which will produce clean hydrogen.

Bradford Council welcomed the plans as part of its commitment to a Clean Air Zone in the city, launched in September.

Gareth Mills, Regulation and Strategic Planning Director at NGN, said: "It is exciting for us to see one of our conventional gas storage sites that has been serving the people of Bradford since the early 20th Century, now being converted into a hydrogen facility for the 21st Century."

The site will include a low-carbon technology education centre for residents and businesses.

Those behind the project also announced grant funding may be available for energy users in the Bradford area wishing to convert to low-carbon hydrogen produced by the project.

NGN's winter readiness campaign launches



We've launched a major awareness initiative ahead of what we expect to be a tough winter for our customers and stakeholders.

- Through the campaign we are urging domestic and commercial users to be winter aware, and to follow the mantra of 'Prepare – Care – Share' as the cold weather approaches. **Prepare:** Check the batteries in your audible carbon monoxide alarm, get your gas appliances serviced ahead of the colder months and save the National Gas Emergency Service phone number 0800 111 999 into your mobile phone.
- **Care:** Check on neighbours, family and friends. Encourage anyone eligible to sign up to the Priority Services Register

· **Share:** Make sure neighbours, family and friends are aware of the National Gas Emergency Service phone number – **0800 111 999** – and the NGN website address northerngasnetworks.co.uk

As the cost of living crisis deepens, we are also focusing on carbon monoxide safety – sending out strong warnings around the dangers of tampering with, or failing to regularly service, gas appliances.

Eileen Brown, Customer Experience Director, said: “Being winter-ready is something we encourage every year but there is general acknowledgement that this is likely to be a particularly difficult period, especially for our most vulnerable customers.

“We’re always on hand to lend support where it’s needed and to respond quickly to emergencies, but there are a lot of things people can do now, while the weather is still quite mild, to prepare themselves for the colder months.

“It’s simple steps – saving the National Gas Emergency Service number into a phone, checking your audible carbon monoxide alarm batteries are working, and getting your gas appliances serviced – that are so important, and that we can all take to stay safe this winter.”

More cold weather advice and information

In other news:

**Launch of new North East
Community Support Fund**



We are proud to announce that we have launched a major new fund that will provide grants to local organisations who offer support to those most affected by the recent pandemic and likely to be further affected by the impending cost of living crisis.

The joint £100,000 Community Partnering Fund, which is funded by **Northern Gas Networks, Northern Powergrid** and delivered in partnership with **Leeds Community Foundation**, has been set up to award grants to grassroots groups that deliver pioneering and sustainable projects supporting those most affected by the pandemic and the impending cost of living crisis .

Jill Walker, Social Strategy Project Manager at Northern Gas Networks, said:

“The Community Partnering Fund has become a key strand of our ongoing commitment to help and support our most vulnerable customers and communities.

“The cost of living crisis is really starting to bite and we know this is going to be an extremely difficult Winter for many people. It has never been more important for us to throw our weight behind the grassroots organisations who do so much to help those who need it most”.

Grants of between £1,000 and £10,000 are available. for projects that:

- - Are run by local people, for local people
- - Show a strong understanding of community needs
- - Will have a direct impact on the community and local needs
- - Are not one-off events and could become sustainable in the longer term
- - Focus on supporting those who are vulnerable and/or face barriers to other services

- **Find out more**

Get Involved!

Recent reports

Its been a busy month for engagement with our stakeholders.

Along with our fellow GDNs, we hosted a joint workshop with our Biomethane investor stakeholders exploring the future and direction of Biomethane investment and injection of green gas into the Gas Networks.

We've also had several conversations with stakeholders looking at how we can support customers in vulnerable situations focusing around winter readiness, and the Priority Services Register.

Both reports from these workshops will be available in the "what you're telling us" section, of our [stakeholder website](#)

Get Involved!

Tell us what you think....

We've recently published our first Annual Environmental Report (available [here](#)) providing an overview of our environmental performance and document our progress against our Environmental Action Plan commitments.

We'd love to know what you think about our report to help us improve future editions. And would be grateful if you could spare five minutes to provide your feedback via a short survey using the link below.

Give your feedback

Get in touch...

If you have any feedback about this e-bulletin or any questions about our work, we'd love to hear from you.

Just email stakeholder@northerngas.co.uk

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