

Case Study

Worthing Heat Network

Supporting the decarbonisation of the public sector across Worthing



Client: Worthing Borough Council (WBC)
Project status: Financial Close achieved April 2024.
Timescales: Construction phase 1, July 2024 - 2025
Services provided by gbp: Project Management services for the procurement, feasibility study, detailed project development and commercialisation stages of the Heat Network project.

A 10-year programme of decarbonisation in Worthing has become a reality, thanks to project management support from gbp partnerships (gbp). The Council contracted with gbp to oversee the development of the Heat Network project through to financial close, which was achieved at the end of April 2024.

Worthing's 5,500m of Heat Network will provide heating to council properties including the Town Hall, Theatres and Museum, Worthing's NHS Hospital and privately owned buildings across the town centre utilising Air Source Heat Pump technology. Buildings connected to the heat network will no longer need to use their old, carbon-producing gas fired boilers, and instead benefit from a sustainable heat source.

Initially WBC was successful in securing BEIS, HNDU funding to undertake the feasibility and DPD stages of installing a Heat Network across Worthing. Subsequently, WBC has been successful in securing HNIP funding to develop the commercialisation stage of the heat network.



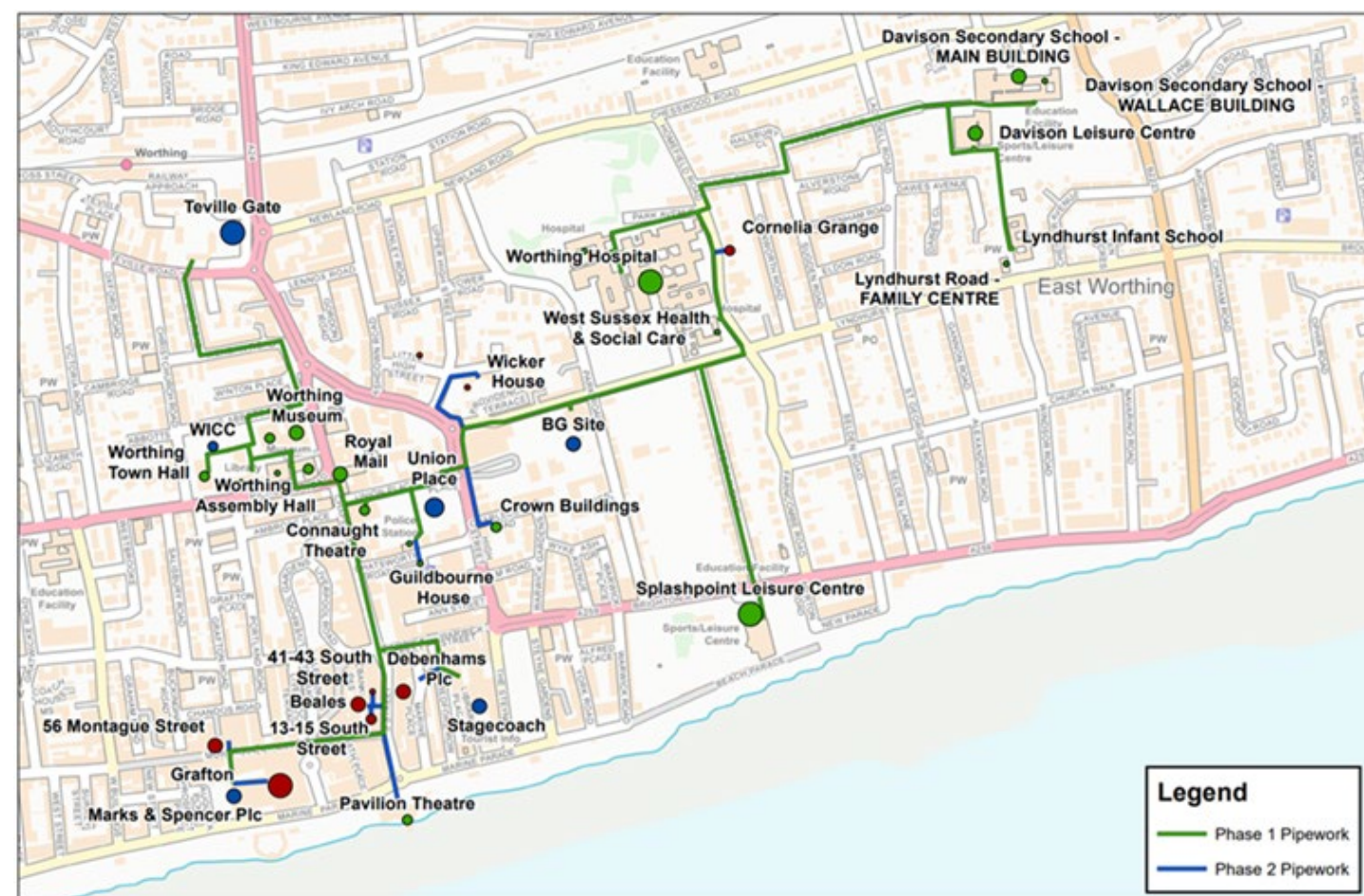
Our Role:

- Worthing Borough Council contracted with gbp to oversee the development of the Heat Network project through to financial close, which was achieved at the end of April 2024.
- gbp has worked with the Council to project manage and procure a heat mapping and feasibility study, and to see the project through the subsequent detailed Project Development and Commercialisation stages.
- Work is set to commence on the Worthing Heat Network in July 2024, with the first buildings to be connected by Summer 2025.



Impact:

- The Worthing Heat Network is expected to offer a connection to every building in town by 2050, with the first buildings to be connected by Summer 2025.
- The Heat Network Project will assist in the decarbonisation of the public sector across Worthing by 2030, reducing emissions by an estimated 3,000 tonnes CO2 a year once fully constructed. Another key benefit will be improvements to air quality, as the Worthing Heat Network will remove polluting gas boilers from the town.



“gbpartnerships have provided invaluable, high quality project management to the Worthing Heat Network Project, enabling a fast paced and expert approach to delivering this key strategic project for Worthing. The team have been excellent at negotiating through legal, procurement, interface with government, strategic partners and investors, and keeping the Project Team on track to hit our project milestones and KPIs.”

Francesca Iliffe, Strategic Sustainability Manager, Adur & Worthing Councils

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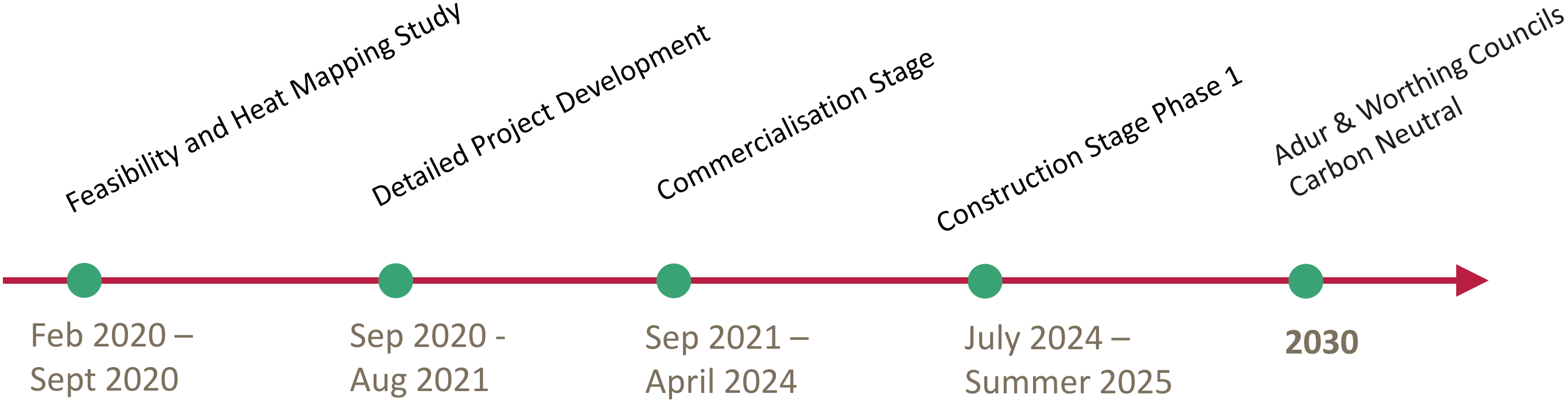
There are currently over 14,000 heat networks in the UK, providing heating and hot water to approximately 480,000 consumers.

Heat networks, also known as district heating, work by collecting local unused heat, turning it into hot water and distributing that hot water to local users via a network of underground pipes. They are a low carbon replacement for gas boilers, providing both heating and hot water.

Overall, in the right location, heat networks are 40% cheaper than using individual air source heat pumps for each building. They are commonplace in towns and cities in Scandinavia.

The Heat Networks Investment Project (HNIP) is a major Government project which will invest up to £320m of capital funding in heat network projects, leveraging around £1bn of private investment.

Buildings on the Worthing Heat Network will no longer need to use their old, carbon-producing gas fired boilers, and instead benefit from a sustainable heat source.





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If you'd like to find out more or arrange an informal chat about our work contact:

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