

A QUICK GUIDE TO THE FOSSIL FUEL HEATING SYSTEM BAN

From 1 January 2025 it will be illegal to install a fossil fuel heating system in a new building. Heating our homes is one of the greatest contributors to the Island's greenhouse gas emissions. It is imperative to decarbonise our buildings if we are to reach net zero by 2050 and new homes and buildings will lead the way in this transition.

WHAT BUILDINGS ARE AFFECTED?

The ban will apply to:

- new domestic and non-domestic buildings
- a new extension.

The ban will not apply to:

- fossil fuel heating systems in existing buildings.
- the use of an existing fossil fuel heating system in a new extension by the installation of pipework and/or radiators connecting a new extension to the existing fossil fuel heating system.

KEY DATES

1 January 2024

Building Control refused on new buildings containing a fossil fuel heating system

Applications for Building Regulations Approval that contain a fossil fuel heating system will not be approved from this date.

1 January 2025

Installing a fossil fuel heating system in a new building will be BANNED

This means you will need to make an amendment to your building control application and reapply for planning approval for your development.

FOSSIL FUEL HEATING SYSTEMS BAN - VISUAL GUIDE



FOR FAQs & TO FIND OUT MORE VISIT

WWW.NETZERO.IM/HEATINGSYSTEMS

WHAT IS A FOSSIL FUEL HEATING SYSTEM?

Part of a **consultation** ending May 2023, requested feedback to define what is – and is not – a fossil fuel heating system. This has shaped the definition of what systems are prohibited in **new buildings** by the upcoming 2025 ban and, which applications will be refused at Building Control.

The resulting definition of a ‘fossil fuel heating system’ will be set out in regulations for new buildings, which will be progressed over the coming months.

IS a fossil fuel heating system (ie. will NOT be permitted)

New or pre-used boilers capable of providing heat and/or hot water through the combustion of fossil fuels (other than for high temperature applications for commercial or industrial purposes).

NOTE: This includes fossil fuel heating systems that could use low carbon fuels, such a hydrogen ready gas boilers or oil boilers that could use biofuels. At present, neither hydrogen nor biofuels are available for building heating on the Isle of Man. Allowing the continued installation of such heating systems would mean allowing the continued use of natural gas and oil to heat buildings, until low carbon alternatives become available. Once the future of hydrogen and biofuels for home heating becomes clearer, these provisions could be revisited.

Supply and storage components of fossil fuel heating systems (eg. oil tank, gas supply), whether or not the boiler component is also installed.

NOTE: These parts of a heating system, although they do not themselves burn fossil fuels, are included within the ban to discourage retrofitting with fossil fuel heating systems.

Oil or gas fired appliances that can also be used for cooking, if they are connected apparatus that supplies heat or hot water.

IS NOT a fossil fuel heating system (ie. will be permitted)

Any low emissions heating system, including:

- air or ground source heat pumps;
- heat networks (where the heat source is not powered by fossil fuels);
- solar thermal and solar thermal storage systems;
- electric storage heaters;
- electric boilers;
- fuel cells; and
- direct electric heaters (including electric panel heaters, electric fan heaters, thermal fluid-filled radiators, and electric radiant heaters).

Systems designed for high temperature applications for commercial or industrial purposes.

Freestanding heating appliances (eg. electric oil filled radiators, gas heaters that house a small bottle of gas etc.)

Components of heating systems that do not themselves burn fossil fuels eg. internal pipework, radiators, valves etc. (with the exception of supply and storage components).

Open fires and multi-fuel/wood burning stoves, whether or not connected to apparatus that supplies heat or hot water. This includes AGAs and similar appliances that do not use oil or gas.

Biomass boilers (ie. boilers that use renewable biomass fuels such a woodchips)