

GUIDANCE NOTE 30

CHP SERVING COMMUNITY HEATING

GN30.1

CHP Schemes serving Community Heating may serve anything from a single block of flats to thousands of domestic heat users, as well as public sector, commercial and industrial customers. In order to ensure incentives remain firmly linked to energy and environmental performance, criteria for Good Quality need to reflect the characteristics of particular applications.

RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY HEATING

GN30.2

Residential Community Heating Schemes (RCH) typically operate for 4 - 5,000 hours a year or less and displace a mix of alternative and conventional sources including domestic electric heating, individual domestic gas-fueled central heating and Community Heating boilers, and at peak heat demand can achieve very high efficiencies. Hence the environmental benefits of CHP serving Community Heating are generally greater than for other CHP applications.

GN30.3

Residential Community Heating (RCH) is the centralised supply of heat, predominantly for Residential Users for space heating and domestic hot water. For a Community Heating Scheme to qualify as RCH, the Responsible Person must demonstrate that it meets at least one of the following criteria:

- The proportion of CHP Qualifying Heat Output (CHP_{QHO}) in Annual Operation provided for Residential Use is $>60\%$
- The proportion of CHP Qualifying Heat Output (CHP_{QHO}) during the Heating Season provided for Residential Use is $>70\%$
- The proportion of CHP Qualifying Heat Output (CHP_{QHO}) at MaxHeat provided for Residential Use is $>60\%$
- Residential Users out-number institutional, commercial and industrial customers by at least 50:1 and the proportion of CHP_{QHO} in Annual Operation supplied for Residential Use is $\geq 10\%$
- In the case of proposed new Schemes, Schemes in Initial Operation or Schemes that are under development, as defined in the CHPQA Guidance Notes, the proportion of CHP_{QHO} for Residential Use is $>60\%$

GN30.4

Residential Use is defined by the Finance Act 2000 (Schedule 6). Residential User is defined (for the purposes of CHPQA) as the person or persons liable to pay each separate final bill, regardless of whether that bill be made on the basis of consumption or a fixed charge, and regardless of whether it is payable separately, or included within a rent or service payment. For example, within a block of flats, each flat counts as a single Residential User. Or within a student Hall of Residence, nurses' residency, or nursing home or hospice, each study-bedroom or bedroom

counts as a separate Residential User. Communal facilities with a block of flats are not included as Residential Users.

GN30.5

The QI Self-Assessment periods for CHP Schemes serving Residential Community Heating are defined in GN10.19 to 10.21.

GN30.6

CHP Schemes wishing to be assessed as serving Residential Community Heating will need to provide details of how they meet one of the criteria listed in GN30.3. This information should be provided on a supplementary sheet attached to the submission.

In reporting the Self-Assessment, CHP Schemes serving Residential Community Heating must indicate which months are being considered part of the Heating Season and hence included in the assessment of QI.

GN30.7

CHP Schemes below 2 MWe serving Residential Community Heating can also be assessed on the Heating Season, provided they comply with the normal CHPQA metering and reporting requirements.

GN30.8

Where a CHP Scheme includes more than one prime mover, Responsible Persons may choose to submit more than one application, one CHP Scheme being designated as serving Residential Community Heating and assessed over a seven-month period, and the other CHP Scheme assessed over 12 months.

GN30.9

The decision as to whether to include top-up and back-up facilities within the system boundary of a Residential Community Heating CHP Scheme is one for the Responsible Person.

Initial Operation

GN30.10

The period of initial operation for Community Heating Schemes (residential or otherwise) is defined in GN10.16 and 10.17.

NON-RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY HEATING

Self-Assessment Period

GN30.11

For Community Heating Schemes that do not match one of the definitions of Residential Community Heating the period of Self-Assessment for QI is 12 months.