



Temple heat network area - Frequently Asked Questions

The [Bristol City Leap](#) partnership between Bristol City Council, Ameresco and Vattenfall will accelerate investment in Bristol to help meet the city's ambition to be carbon neutral by 2030.

Vattenfall is responsible for expanding the city's existing heat network and developing new network areas with the goal to interconnect them to serve the city with reliable, low carbon heat.

About Vattenfall

[Vattenfall](#) own and operate the Bristol heat network. Four network areas are already in operation in Redcliffe, Old Market, Bedminster and Temple.

Vattenfall bring investment and unrivalled know-how to design and deliver a large-scale, resilient heat network that supply low carbon heat, creates jobs and boosts the local economy in Bristol.

Vattenfall is currently supplying heat and hot water to Bristol customers, with over 5,000 homes and around 180m² of commercial space being serviced. Vattenfall is now expanding heat networks in Bedminster, Redcliffe and Temple to support new residential and commercial developments.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) related to the Temple heat network area below. If you have a question that isn't answered here, please send them to bristol.enquiries@vattenfall.com

About the Temple heat network

Where is the Temple heat network?

The Temple heat network area will be east of Bristol Temple Meads, starting north of Avon Street and finish south of Albert Road. Please find the map at the end of this document to see where heat network pipe will be installed.

If you're a local business affected by these works, we will contact you directly. If you have any questions in the meantime, please email us at Bristol.enquires@vattenfall.com.

When is construction work happening?

Construction of the Temple heat network started in Summer 2024 and is set to finish in Winter 2026. Currently, the team is installing the heat network in:

- Silverthorne Lane** – we installed nearly 150m of heat network pipe in Summer 2024. Due to a historic wall in the area, work was temporarily suspended whilst a solution is found for the safe removal and reconstruction of a grade two listed wall. Currently the University of Bristol is working with Historic England to find a resolution. We plan to restart installing the heat network in this area in Spring 2026 and complete by Spring 2026. This heat network pipe will providing heating and hot water to new student accommodation in the area.
- Gas Lane** – we completed works to install almost 150m of heat network pipe in Gas Lane in July 2025, connecting new student accommodation which is being developed by Watkin Jones.
- Feeder Road** – works to install heat network pipe are ongoing and we expect to complete this phase by Autumn 2025. This stretch of pipe will connect the existing Temple Island heat network to Bristol Temple Quarter and will allow us to provide heating to the University of Bristol's Temple Quarter Enterprise Centre, and nearby student accommodation. You can read about our unique energy partnership with the University of Bristol's Temple Quarter Enterprise Centre [here](#).
- Avon Street** – works to install heat network pipe started in Spring 2025 and are estimated to be completed by early 2026. This stretch of pipe will allow us to link up the Temple heat network area with the existing Old Market heat network area, connecting new student accommodation along the way.
- Albert Road** - works to install heat network pipe are expected to start in Autumn 2025 and finish by end of Summer 2026, providing heating and hot water to new residential developments in the area, as part of Bristol Temple Quarter.
- Temple Island** - Bristol City Council have already installed a heat network in Temple Island, under previous plans to build an arena in the area. Now the site has been bought by Legal & General with plans set to regenerate the area with new residential, commercial and social spaces. You can find out more [here](#). Vattenfall will adopt this heat network and ultimately own and operate it in the future. By adopting this heat network we can distribute low carbon heat from a new permanent energy centre we're currently developing on Bath Road, through the entirety of the Temple network area and beyond to the Old Market heat network area.

July 2025, Temple network – FAQs

Please note, this is a live infrastructure project and exact timings are subject to change. All information provided below is estimated, and accurate dates for works will be communicated as and when possible.



Who is connecting to the Temple heat network?

The Temple heat network will primarily support the development of Bristol Temple Quarter which includes University of Bristol's new Enterprise Campus, the future development of Temple Island and nearby new buildings. Connected buildings will be new homes, offices, educational facilities, as well as leisure and social spaces. Find out more about what new buildings are proposed for the area [here](#).

By providing low carbon heating and hot water to new buildings in the area, it will significantly reduce the reliance on fossil fuels and contribute to Bristol City Council's decarbonisation targets.

How is heat being generated?

We will generate heating and hot water using energy centres. Whilst we bring forward plans for our permanent energy centre in the Temple area, we will utilise a former Bristol City Council depot on Feeder Road. Initially, heat will be generated by gas for approximately one year, and then air-source heat pump technology for approximately two years.

Our permanent energy centre is planned to be situated off Bath Road (A4). It will be a state-of-the-art air source heat pump, with electric boilers. We expect to apply for planning permission in Summer 2025.

More information about the proposed Bath Road Energy Centre can be found here – <https://www.bristolcityleap.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Bath-Road-Energy-Centre-Final-FAQs-.pdf>

What is the impact on local residents and businesses?

The installation of the heat network in the Temple area will cause some highway disruption within an industrial area. For businesses located on the route, we will contact you ahead of any works to ensure access to businesses, parking and/or logistic requirements have been fully considered and planned for accordingly. There are a handful of residential homes in the area, and will be contact relevant homeowners in advance of works to advise on any temporary road closures or footpath diversions.

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About heat networks

A heat network (also known as district heating) is a system of insulated pipes that transports heat from centralised sources to multiple buildings, where it is used to provide heating and hot water to residents and businesses in each building.

For a heat network to maximise its potential, it provides heating and hot water (and in some cases cooling) to all the properties connected to it. This means that there is one heat network operator for the development and so you can't switch to a different supplier for heat.

Heat networks provide a more efficient way of heating by using a larger central heating source instead of lots of small individual heating systems. Customers connected to a heat network benefit from an all-inclusive service as repairs and maintenance are all included.

Vattenfall were selected to supply the heat for the entire Bristol heat network, so customers won't be able to switch supplier once connected to the network. But heat network customers have full control of their energy consumption, in the same way as traditional heating systems.

In Bristol, Vattenfall currently provide this service to the building boundary. This means a building owner is the customer. The building owner takes the heating and hot water we provide to them to supply the occupants of the building which can be resident or businesses.

As part of the Bristol City Leap concession agreement, we have committed to fair and transparent pricing, benchmarked against a comparison to the costs of an individual air source heat pump, with tariffs made publicly available. The heat network will also be regulated by the energy regulator Ofgem within a year.

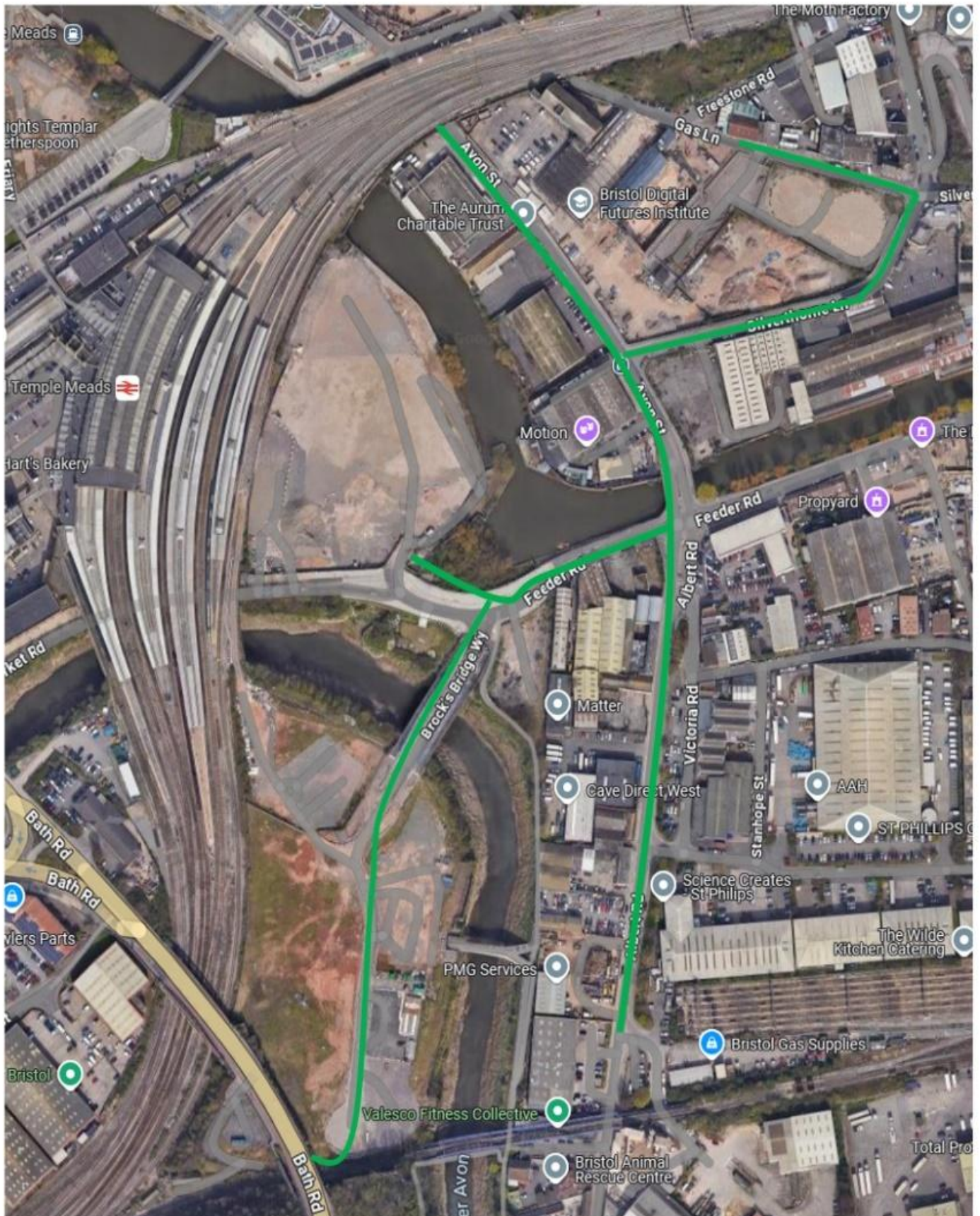
More information can be found on our website: [What is a heat network? - Vattenfall Heat UK](#).

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Map of Temple heat network route



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