

Payment forecasting

Last updated version: July 2026

Period	Report/forecast submission date	Last date to submit payment claim	Funds received by
8	15-Sep-26	22-Oct-26	18-Nov-26
9	15-Oct-26	20-Nov-26	16-Dec-26
10	13-Nov-26	06-Jan-27	27-Jan-27
11	15-Dec-26	22-Jan-27	17-Feb-27
12	15-Jan-27	19-Feb-27	17-Mar-27

Accurately forecasting your future project payments is a very important part of your Scotland's Public Sector Heat Decarbonisation Fund project delivery.

Each month, the forecast profile for your project should be updated via the Fund's management portal.

We share forecasting information with the Scottish Government up to two months in advance of payments to grantees.

Each payment period usually begins on the 15th of the month*, when your monthly report is submitted.

**Please note earlier forecast periods for December due to the holiday period.*

Updating your monthly report: project programme forecast

1. Update the 'date completing forecast' field (cell D11) in the format DD/MM/YYYY
2. Update all previous months with correct actual payment requests
3. Update all future months with accurate forecast of requests you expect to be able to make by the payment submission deadline
4. Provide commentary explaining any underspend or significant changes to the forecast.

How to profile your spend

There isn't a requirement to forecast a payment every period unless this is needed for cashflow.

You should only forecast a payment you are confident you can submit by the payment submission deadline.

The entire grant amount needs to be profiled out so that **the funding still to forecast should be £0 (cell P37)** *unless* there is underspend.

Ensuring payment request submission

We recommend you discuss invoicing with your contractors to ensure you are confident of what invoices you will have by the submission deadline.

You can achieve this by:

- Meeting with contractors prior to the forecast deadline (usually the 15th)
- Making sure your accountable officer is available to sign the payment request documents ahead of the submission deadline

This is important because:

- Payment submissions which are incomplete or not signed may not be processed and will need to wait until the next period
- Everything must be evidenced through invoices by the payment submission date
- We can only process forecasted payments. **No forecast, no payment.**

If your payment request has significant variance from the forecasted request, we may be unable to pay this. If you need to make a request which is more than 10% larger than your forecast, please discuss this with your relationship manager.

What's required for payment request submissions

By the payment submission deadline, you will need to submit:

1. Invoices
2. Proof of payment evidence
3. A signed schedule 5 payment request
4. Statement of expenditure – returned as an excel document

If your request amount is different from what was previously forecast, you must provide an updated forecast re-profiling the spend across the rest of the cashflow.

Invoices clearly linked to your Scotland's Public Sector Heat Decarbonisation Fund project are required as evidence for the payment request to be approved.

Other supporting evidence may be provided including purchase orders. However, purchase orders alone are not sufficient evidence.

We would request that the invoices note all the following:

- Reference to "*Phase 3 Scotland's Public Sector Heat Decarbonisation Fund*" and your specific project ID
- The name of your public sector body
- The site of the works
- The type of works completed.
- Invoice date must be within the grant period.

If you have any questions about this process or any of the steps, please contact your relationship manager.