

# Core Strategy Policy SS7 and SD1- Climate Change Measures compliance checklist

## Background

On 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019, Herefordshire Council unanimously passed a motion declaring a Climate Emergency. This signalled a commitment to ensuring that the council considers tackling Climate Change in its future work and decisions taken. With this resolution came a county-wide aspiration to be zero carbon by 2030. From a planning perspective, it is therefore imperative that the council needs to demonstrate explicitly how the policies relating to Climate in the adopted Core Strategy, SS7 and SD1, are being fully taken into account in the decision making process.

Policy SS7 sets out how the plan will seek to address the impact that new development in Herefordshire has on climate change. It outlines how development proposals will be required to include measures which will mitigate their impact on climate change, at both a strategic level and through requiring such measures in design criteria.

Policy SD1 and its supporting text set out how new development will have to incorporate sustainability measures, and give consideration to climate change impacts through design. Alongside other aspects of sustainable design, in terms of climate change impacts, development proposals should incorporate the following requirements:

- *Utilise physical sustainability measures that include, in particular, orientation of buildings, the provision of water conservation measures, storage for bicycles and waste including provision for recycling, and enabling renewable energy and energy conservation infrastructure;*
- *Where possible, on-site renewable energy generation should also be incorporated;*

The policy's supporting paragraphs 5.3.31 - 5.3.33 elaborate on how this will be applied:

*5.3.31 All developments must demonstrate how they have been designed and how they have incorporated measures to make them resilient to climate change in respect of carbon reduction, water efficiency and flood risk. Carbon reduction should influence design from the outset by ensuring the fabric of the building is as energy efficient as possible, for example, attaining thermal efficiencies through construction that achieves low U values and fuel efficiencies through the use of services such as efficient boilers. Good site planning can also aid greater energy efficiency in new development, for example, by seeking to maximise solar gain.*

*5.3.32 Revisions to the Building Regulations are introducing progressive increases in the energy efficiency requirements for new buildings. In terms of energy conservation, developments in sustainable locations that achieve accredited standards of energy conservation which cover a range of sustainability criteria will be supported, particularly where the level achieved materially exceeds the relevant Building Regulations and other relevant standards in place at the time.*

*5.3.33 Large-scale developments should demonstrate how opportunities for on-site renewable energy generation and sustainable waste management have also been considered and addressed within the design of the scheme. Such details should include an*

*appraisal of all suitable renewable energy technology. Other developments will also be encouraged to consider whether on-site renewable energy opportunities might be available. Alongside this, the council supports the provision of renewable and low carbon technologies within existing developments, subject to such proposals according with other policies of the Core Strategy.*

This checklist has been prepared in order for applicants to demonstrate to decision makers that the policies have been complied with, in that sustainability measures have been incorporated in development proposals where possible. It should be submitted by the applicant as supporting evidence of compliance with the climate change mitigation criteria of policy SD1, supporting the objectives of policy SS7. In the event of non-compliance, sufficient justification would need to be provided as to why this is necessary.

In the absence of a completed checklist, weight will be given to the apparent lack of consideration to the incorporation of sustainability measures as recommended in Policy SD1. This may result in the refusal of permission if other material considerations do not outweigh their inclusion.

## Guidance for applicants

All applications for all new build development (or at Reserved Matters stage if applicable) will need to submit information in the below table(s).

Some guidance is provided under headings in the tables as to what details are sought. If necessary, the written sections may refer to any further supporting documentation and/or drawings submitted with the application. Some measures may be not be viable or appropriate to incorporate on smaller scale proposals. However, where this is the case, it will need to be made clear in the reasoned justification.

Energy efficiency	
Please demonstrate how the proposal has been designed to achieve energy efficiency:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For all of those ticked, please provide further details of these in the relevant box below. This can refer to supporting documentation if necessary.</li> <li>Where measures are not ticked (ie. not incorporated), please provide a reasoned explanation as to why they have not been in the relevant box below. This can refer to supporting documentation if necessary.</li> </ul>	
<i>Please tick where incorporated</i>	
Building orientation/Thermal massing (maximising solar gain)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Thermally efficient materials	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Energy efficient heating systems	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Heat recovery systems	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other(s), Please detail these below	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

*Further details of **all** incorporated measures:*

A full explanation of the measures is set out in the planning statement and the Environmental Statement. The whole concept is to utilise the latent energy in feedstocks in an efficient manner within an anaerobic digester (AD) to produce gas to be fed into the national grid and to produce heat to ensure grain can be dried and maintained at an ambient temperature and humidity.

*Reasoned explanation for all measures **not** incorporated:*

Solar panels are included within the design for many parts of the AD to generate electricity for the whole operation, and not for export, taking account of solar gain and orientation where possible. The grain store cannot be readily aligned to maximise solar gain because of other environmental impacts the positioning would have.

## Renewable and low carbon energy

Please demonstrate how opportunities for on-site renewable energy generation have been considered and addressed in the design of the scheme:

- For all of those ticked, please provide further details of these in the relevant box below. This can refer to supporting documentation if necessary.
- Where measures are not ticked (ie. not incorporated), please provide a reasoned explanation as to why they have not been in the relevant box below. This can refer to supporting documentation if necessary.

*Please tick where incorporated*

Solar (eg. photovoltaic or solar thermal panels)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wind	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hydro	<input type="checkbox"/>
Geothermal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Biomass	<input type="checkbox"/>
Air source heat pumps	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground source heat pumps	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water source heat pumps	<input type="checkbox"/>
Battery storage	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use of hybrid systems	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use of heat networks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Other(s) Please detail these below



*Further details of **all** incorporated measures:*

As above, see planning and environmental statements. The solar-generated electricity will be used on site by the AD Plant and the Grain Store. The reference to heat systems reflects the use of heat in the grain store and in the AD process. The main objective of the project is, as stated above, to generate gas.

*Reasoned explanation for all measures **not** incorporated:*

The site is not appropriate for other measures.

### Enabling sustainable living

Please demonstrate how the design has enabled low-carbon ways of living and/or working by its future occupants where possible:

- For all of those ticked, please provide further details of these in the relevant box below. This can refer to supporting documentation if necessary.
- Where measures are not ticked (ie. not incorporated), please provide a reasoned explanation as to why they have not been in the relevant box below. This can refer to supporting documentation if necessary.

*Please tick where incorporated*

Provision for recycling / waste storage/composting



Provision for bicycle parking / storage



Travel plan



Electric vehicle charging points



Other(s) Please detail these below



*Further details of **all** incorporated measures:*

*Reasoned explanation for all measures **not** incorporated:*

Not applicable. See submitted statements.

There would be no domestic waste to consider in this application. The handling of all feedstock is regarded by Herefordshire as a waste operation, and therefore the proposals have been designed to address necessary requirements. Given that there would be limited staff numbers at the site, and the distance from settlements, we have not provided any cycle storage, but we can do if the authority considers it is essential. Similarly, we have no intention of producing a travel plan to be implemented during operation, but the Site Environmental Management Plan will include a travel plan to address access to the site during the construction phase. The electricity generated by the solar panels will allow electric vehicle charging points to be included within the proposals.