

Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation

Policy DES9: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy

1. **The Council encourages schemes for renewable and low carbon energy generation and associated infrastructure at all scales including domestic schemes. It also encourages the incorporation of renewable and low carbon energy applications within all development. Planning applications for renewable and low carbon energy generation will be supported, provided that they do not cause a significantly adverse effect to:**
 - i) **landscape, both designated AONB and locally valued, biodiversity, including protected habitats and species and Conservation Target Areas;**
 - ii) **the historic environment, both designated and non-designated assets, including development within their settings;**
 - iii) **openness of the Green Belt;**
 - iv) **the safe movement of traffic and pedestrians; or**
 - v) **residential amenity.**

This policy contributes towards achieving objectives 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8.

8.31 The Government has set a target that the net UK carbon account for the year 2050 is 100% lower than the 1990 baseline³⁵. To help increase the use of renewable and low carbon energy the Council will promote the use of energy from renewable and low carbon sources, including community-led initiatives, and will develop policies to maximise renewable and low carbon energy development while ensuring that adverse impacts are addressed satisfactorily, including cumulative landscape and visual impacts. The Council will support the inclusion of connection readiness for decentralised energy networks and the use of decentralised energy sources in development. The Council will identify and publish a list of any areas considered suitable for wind energy development within the district.

8.32 There are many forms of renewable energy. The most prevalent being wind, solar, biomass, geothermal, hydro power and biofuels. The most appropriate form of renewable energy for a development will depend on the scale of the development and the opportunities and constraints presented by its location.

³⁵ Climate Change Act 2008 available at <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/27/contents>