

EgertonNP Policy D5 - Renewable Energy and climate change mitigation

1. Proposals for individual and community scale energy generation from solar (thermal and photovoltaic) panels, wind turbines, local biomass facilities, anaerobic digesters, wood fuel products, ground source or air source heat pumps and other sustainable sources will be supported subject to the following criteria:

- the siting and scale of the proposed development is appropriate to its setting and position in the wider landscape; and
- the proposed development does not create an unacceptable impact on the amenities of local residents or the roofscapes of historic buildings; and
- the proposed development does not have an unacceptable impact on natural features or biodiversity.

2. Energy efficient buildings will be encouraged on the grounds of sustainability where they:

- reduce reliance on finite fossil fuel reserves
- deliver warmer homes to improve comfort and better health
- reduce energy bills, reducing fuel poverty and limiting flows of money out of the local economy
- incorporate conservation measures such as rainwater harvesting and grey water recycling

3. The provision of charging points for electric vehicles will be encouraged.

4. Tree planting schemes should be included in any new development.

5. Tree planting and improved woodland management will be encouraged across the parish both to sustain the overall environment and to provide a renewable energy and carbon offset resource.

Notes to support or explain this policy:

A small village such as Egerton may not be in a position to adopt some of the more ambitious renewable energy schemes under consideration, but support should be given to locally-based proposals. For sites already allocated within this plan, landowners and developers should work together to deliver exceptional sustainability benefits for the community.

Renewable and low carbon energy systems should be encouraged, not only on all new buildings and all substantial conversions, but also on existing properties, including solar thermal and photovoltaic panels, ground or air source heat pumps and combined heat and power systems provided that adverse impacts are addressed satisfactorily, including cumulative landscape and visual impacts on neighbouring properties or on the key views and vistas detailed in this plan. The passive house concept of producing renewable energy and conserving it should be encouraged, an example of which is in recent barn conversions at Coldharbour

Farm. Any larger scale proposal for renewable energy creation and should be considered if there is no adverse impact on neighbouring properties or on key views and vistas detailed in this plan, in particular views down from the ridge onto the Weald.

Question:

Are there any other energy conservation and renewable energy initiatives that should be included?