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WELWYN
HATFIELD
BOROUGH COUNCIL



SUSTAINABILITY CHECKLIST FOR HOUSEHOLDER APPLICATIONS

The overall aim of the District Plan for Welwyn Hatfield is to make development more sustainable in order to improve people's quality of life. This checklist has been drawn up to identify the things that could make householder development more sustainable. The intention is that this should be completed and returned with your planning application form. It will then be used by the Council in assessing whether your proposal is acceptable.

However, this checklist only covers sustainability issues. There will be other matters which the Council will need to consider, such as design, which are set out in the District Plan and in this document. In designing your extensions, buildings or alterations you should refer to the relevant policies and standards.

Applicants should be aware that if their house is a listed building or in a Conservation Area, some or all of the criteria may not be appropriate to their application. In such cases you should contact a Planning Officer at the Council to discuss the checklist.

Please state how your proposal addresses the following criteria:

1. Minimize any impact on the daylight, sunlight and privacy enjoyed by any neighboring property.

Well away from neighbours and in a position where a previous building was.

2. Make best use of the sun's energy to reduce energy costs e.g. south facing living room windows.

Solar panels included and although can't face windows south much because of existing buildings, rooflights south are included.

3. Maximize other opportunities for energy saving, such as cavity wall insulation, double-glazing or loft insulation.

yes all that. It's a building regs requirement you know.....?

4. Use other sources of energy e.g. solar panels.

Solar panels included.

5. Use renewable recycled or second-hand materials during construction.

Yes sheepwool thermal insulation.
Timber framed construction, minimal use
of concrete etc.

6. Design the building/extension so it is accessible for people with all levels of mobility, in particular people with disabilities, prams.

Flat thresholds throughout and ground
floor w.c.'s. It's a building regs requirement
you know....?

7. Use permeable materials for hard standings or parking areas to reduce surface water run-off and evaporation.

Yes gravel hardstandings. It's a building
regs requirement you know....?

8. Install water-efficient fixtures and appliances to conserve water (e.g. special showers, taps, cisterns) and equipment to recycle water (e.g. rainwater butts).

Rainwater butts.
Low volume flush w.c.'s.

9. Preserve existing trees, hedges and other natural features.

Yes, if they're not dangerous. A tree
report has been included.

10. Use landscaping and natural features externally which will increase biodiversity e.g. planting native species, or species attracting wildlife and including water features.

It's already very wildlife friendly and
this won't make it any less so.

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Solar panels included.

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Yes, if they're not dangerous. A tree
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It's already very wildlife friendly and
this won't make it any less so.

11. Use hedges rather than brick and concrete walls or fences as a means of enclosure, or soften the look of existing walls/fences with climbing plants.

No change to enclosures.

12. Design the extension or building to include crime prevention measures e.g. avoid accessible flat roofs, avoid siting extensions/buildings close to footpaths, avoid solid fences giving easy access for burglars.

No flat roofs. No adjacent footpaths.

13. Minimize noise levels, and light and dust pollution during construction.

Difficult to legislate to control builders.
but design out cutting paving slabs etc.

14. Considers the need for adequate storage for cycles and domestic recycling facilities.

Loads of space and outbuildings for
cycles and recycling storage.

The completed checklist should be returned with your completed planning application. Further guidance on sustainable development can be found at <http://www.bartsdirect.org/schools/primary/aboutstatesch/assetsteward/Sustainability>