



10 JUL 2013

**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 neighbouring property.**

The adjoining property 'Woodfield', lies to the south of the application property. The proposed increase in floor area to the approved single storey extension will have no impact in terms of daylight or sunlight on this property. It is proposed that the existing kitchen door and window which face in the direction of the adjoining property will be altered to be a window only with obscure glazing.

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

The approved single storey extension is orientated north-east and the consent allows for large glazed doors to the extension. This application proposes the addition of a glazed roof lantern which will increase the amount of sunlight which can reach further into the building and maximise passive solar gain from the southern aspect.

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

This application proposes removal of the existing single leaf brick wall to the entrance elevation (south-west) with new insulated cavity brickwork. The existing door and windows will be replaced, the windows will be double glazed. The roof over the existing dining room will be removed as part of this proposal to build the 1st floor extension, this existing roof is uninsulated and its removal will therefore improve the thermal performance in this area of the building.

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

The applicant is considering the viability of the installation of an Air source Heat Pump to power the underfloor heating to the proposed single storey extension.

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

It may be possible to re-use a number of the existing facing bricks to the entrance elevation wall to construct the new cavity brickwork, as well as the proposed new extension.

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

The recently constructed annex extension has an accessible ramp and entrance into the building.

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

There are no hard standings or parking areas proposed as part of this application.

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).

There are no water efficiency proposals as part of this application.

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

The proposals have no impact on existing trees, hedges or natural features within the garden. All reasonable precautions will be taken to protect trees and hedges during the construction works.

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

There are a number and variety of mature trees in the garden and boundary hedges which will already be contributing towards biodiversity at the property.