

Wind Turbines and Green Energy

INTRODUCTION

There has been a great deal of interest in wind turbines over the years and recently as a result of long term guaranteed Government incentives which can provide substantial regular incomes for farmers and landowners. Other technologies are available and are subjects of separate Acorus factsheets.

PLANNING

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) provides a useful insight into national policy. Broadly speaking, planning authorities should have a positive strategy to promote energy from renewable and low carbon sources. This is essential to the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

Whilst seeking to maximise green energy opportunities, potential adverse impacts (e.g. landscape and visual impact, noise, shadow flicker and topple distance) must be satisfactorily addressed.

It is possible to install wall mounted domestic wind turbines under **Permitted Development Rights**, however specific conditions need to be met;

- Wind turbine installation must comply with the Microgeneration Certification Scheme Planning Standards or equivalent standards.
- No part (including blades) of the wind turbine should protrude more than three metres above the highest part of the roof (excluding the chimney) or exceed an overall height (including building, hub and blade) of 15 metres, whichever is the lesser. The lowest part of the wind turbine blade must not be less than five metres from ground level and must be within five metres of any boundary.
- Permitted Development Rights do not apply to a turbine within the curtilage of a Listed Building or within a site designated as a Scheduled Monument or on designated land* other than Conservation Areas. Also only applies to installations on detached houses and other detached buildings within the boundaries of a house or block of flats.



