

Installation or alteration of air source heat pumps on domestic premises

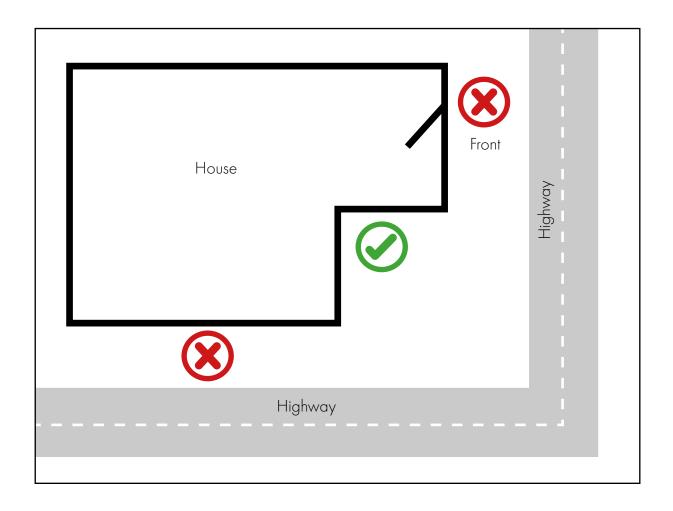
April 2024

Within the curtilage of or on a dwellinghouse or block of flats, you can install/alter/replace a microgeneration air source heat pump under permitted development.

Certain criteria must be met so that these works can be carried out without the need for planning permission. These are:

- The air source heat pump must comply with the MCS Planning Standards (or equivalent standards). This includes a noise level that is equal to or lower than 42 dB (decibels);
- Only one air source heat pump can be present on the same building or within the curtilage of the building/block of flats;
- A wind turbine must not also be installed on the same building or within the curtilage of the building/block of flats;
- The volume of the air source heat pump's outdoor compressor must not exceed 0.6 cubic metres;
- Any part of the air source heat pump must not be within 1 metre of the boundary of the curtilage of the dwellinghouse or block of flats;
- The air source heat pump must not be installed on a pitched roof and must not be on a flat roof where it would be within one metre of the external edge of the roof;
- The air source heat pump must not be installed on a site designated as a scheduled monument or on a building/land within the curtilage of a listed building;
- Within a conservation area or a World Heritage Site, an air source heat pump must not be installed on a wall/roof that fronts a highway, not on a side wall where this is the closest elevational wall to the highway, and no part of the heat pump is to be above the level of the ground floor;

Please see the below diagram for guidance on this.



This is also subject to conditions which includes:

- The air source heat pump must be solely used for heating purposes;
- The air source heat pump, so far as practical, should be sited to minimise its effect on the external appearance of the building and the amenity of the area;
- The air source heat pump shall be removed as soon as reasonably practicable when no longer needed.

If your heat pump fails to meet this criterion then a planning application will be required.