

Heat Pump Location Assessment

MCS Version Number: MCS 020 (a) Issue 1.0
Designed By: Alto Energy Limited
MCS Scope: MCS Accredited for Design and Installation
Certification Number: NIC-5693
Project Reference: CTE-Exeter-12
Date: 13 November 2025



This Location Assessment document provides an assessment of the various factors of the permitted development rules, to give an indication as to whether or not the heat pump might require Planning Permission. In all instances the heat pump location must comply with Permitted Development rules (as well as the heat pump manufacturers requirements on minimum clearances), otherwise planning permission will be required. This document is not intended as a statement of compliance with any local planning rules and the final responsibility for obtaining Planning Permission rests with the homeowner.

For more information please visit the Planning Portal website:

<https://www.planningportal.co.uk/permission/common-projects/heat-pumps/planning-permission-air-source-heat-pump>

Assessment Position Tested

Please contact Alto Energy if the intended installation location is different to the location in this Location Assessment. Installing the heat pump in a different location may impact compliance with Permitted Development rules.

Photograph:	Location Description:
	At rear of extension, on the shower wall; <3m from boundary

1. The suggested location must be checked on site to ensure the heat pump has sufficient clearance. See schematic for details on minimum clearances.
2. If the heat pump is to be installed at height then the customer is responsible for any access equipment required for commissioning and warranty work.

Summary

PD1	Sound Assessment	Pass
PD2	Physical Size Of Air Source Heat Pump	Pass
PD3	Quantity of Air Source Heat Pumps	Pass
PD4	Proximity to Boundary (Wales only)	Fail
PD5	Flat Roof Installation	Pass
PD6	Listed Building	Pass*
PD7	World Heritage Sites & Conservation Areas	Pass*
PD8	Installations On Front Of Properties	Pass
ARE ALL PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS MET?		NO

* Some information is assumed - if incorrect it is the homeowner's responsibility to inform us otherwise.

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PD1. MCS 020 Noise Assessment for ASHP Installation

If the installation does not pass the MCS020 Sound Assessment then planning permission will be required.

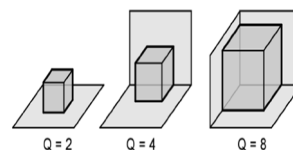
Heat Pump 1	Heat Pump Sound Power Level (dB)	60 dB
	Directivity	4
	Distance to neighbours habitable window (m)	8.5 m
	Barrier between heat pump and neighbours window	Type 2
	Visibility of heat pump from neighbours window	Partial View
Heat Pump 2	Heat Pump Sound Power Level (dB)	N/A
	Directivity	N/A
	Distance to neighbours habitable window (m)	N/A
	Barrier between heat pump and neighbours window	N/A
	Visibility of heat pump from neighbours window	N/A
Heat Pump 3	Heat Pump Sound Power Level (dB)	N/A
	Directivity	N/A
	Distance to neighbours habitable window (m)	N/A
	Barrier between heat pump and neighbours window	N/A
	Visibility of heat pump from neighbours window	N/A
Total	Calculated Sound	36.2 dB
	Result	Pass

Definition of terms

Below is a definition of the terms used in the above Sound Assessment

Directivity

This is the number of reflective side within 1m of the heat pump, as per the following diagram



Barrier between heat pump and neighbours window

Type 1 – a solid brick/masonry wall or a solid fence that is at least 18mm thick and extends horizontally by 1m from the heat pump

Type 2 – a solid fence that is less than 18mm thick with no gaps and extends horizontally by 1m or more from the heat pump

No barrier – open fences, fences with gaps and cracks, and vegetation do not count as a barrier.

Visibility of heat pump from neighbours window

No view – If a barrier that completely obscures the vision of an assessment position from the top edge of the heat pump.

Partial view – If by moving up to 0.25m in any direction from the top edge of the heat pump the assessment position is visible.

Full view – If the assessment position is visible from the top edge of the heat pump.

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PD2. Physical size Of Air Source Heat Pump

If the physical size of the air source heat pump is greater than 1.5m³ then planning permission will be required. If the heat pump is to be installed on a block of flats then the heat pump must be less than 0.6m³

Step:	Instructions	Results/Notes
1	Heat Pump Selection	Bosch CS2000AWF 10kW 1P
2	Height [mm]	864
3	Width [mm]	1385
4	Depth [mm]	445
5	Total Volume Of Outdoor Unit [m ³]	0.533
6	Is the Total Volume Of Outdoor Unit lower than 0.6m³?	
	If yes - the ASHP will PASS the permitted development size limit and	Pass
	If no - the ASHP will FAIL the permitted development requirements. This installation may still go ahead if planning permission is granted by the local planning authority.	

PD3. Number of Air Source Heat Pumps

Under permitted development you are allowed a maximum of 2 Air Source Heat Pumps on a detached house and 1 for any other house. Additional air source heat pumps at the same property require a planning application. This includes blocks of flats, which are classed as the same property.

Step:	Instructions	Results/Notes
1	Number of heat pumps for this installation	1
2	Number of other heat pumps already installed at the property	0
3	Total Number Of Heat Pumps installed at the property	1
4	Number of heat pump permitted for property type	1
5	Is the Total Number of Heat Pumps less than limit set in Permitted Development?	
	If yes - the ASHP will PASS the permitted development quantity limit	Pass
	If no - the ASHP will FAIL the permitted development requirements. This installation may still go ahead if planning permission is granted by the local planning authority.	

PD4. Proximity to Boundary (Wales only)

For heat pumps installed in Wales the heat pump must be at least 3m from the property boundary

Step:	Instructions	Results/Notes
1	Is the property located in Wales?	Yes
2	If so, are all parts of the heat pump more than 3m from the boundary?	No
3	Result	Fail

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PD5. Flat Roof Installations

If installed on a flat roof, all parts of the heat pump must be 1m from the external edge of the roof.

Step:	Instructions	Results/Notes
1	Are all parts of the ASHP further than 1m from the external edge of the roof?	Pass
	If N/A - the ASHP will PASS the permitted development requirement	
	If yes - the ASHP will Pass the permitted development requirement for roof installations and may be permitted development (subject to compliance with other permitted development limitations/conditions and parts of this standard).	
	If no - the ASHP will FAIL the permitted development requirements. This installation may still go ahead if planning permission is granted by the local planning authority.	

PD6. Listed Buildings

If the air source heat pump is being installed at a Listed Building then planning permission will be required.

Step:	Instructions	Results/Notes
1	Is the ASHP to be installed in a Listed Building?	Pass*
	If no - the ASHP will PASS the permitted development requirement for	
	If yes - the ASHP will FAIL the permitted development requirements. This installation may still go ahead if planning permission is granted by the local planning authority.	

* Subject to homeowner confirmation that the property is not a Listed Building

PD7. World Heritage Sites & Conservation Areas

On properties in a Conservation Area or World Heritage Site, the air source heat pump must not be installed on a wall or roof which fronts a highway, or be nearer to the highway than any part of the building.

Step:	Instructions	Results/Notes
1	Is the ASHP to be installed in a World Heritage Site or Conversation Area?	No - Homeowner To Confirm
2	If the answer to Step 1 is Yes, is the ASHP to be installed on a wall or roof which fronts a highway, or otherwise be nearer to the highway than any part of the building?	N/A
4	Is the ASHP location compliant with the World Heritage Site & Conservation Area requirement to not front a	Pass*
	If N/A - the ASHP will PASS the permitted development requirement for World Heritage Sites & Conservation Areas and may be permitted	
	If Yes - the ASHP will PASS the permitted development requirement for World Heritage Sites & Conservation Areas and may be permitted development (subject to compliance with other permitted development limitations/conditions and parts of this standard).	
	If no - the ASHP will FAIL the permitted development requirements. This installation may still go ahead if planning permission is granted by the local planning authority.	

* Subject to homeowner confirmation that the property is not in a World Heritage Site or Conservation Area

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PD8. Installations On The Front Of Properties

On all properties, the air source heat pump must not be installed on any part of the wall above the level of the ground floor storey, if that wall fronts a highway.

Step:	Instructions	Results/Notes
1	Is the ASHP to be installed on the front of the property?	No
2	If the answer to Step 1 is Yes, is the ASHP to be installed above the level of the ground floor storey?	N/A
3	Is the ASHP location below the height of the ground floor storey on the wall fronting the highway?	Pass
	If N/A - the ASHP will PASS the permitted development requirement	
	If Yes - the ASHP will PASS the permitted development requirement for installations at the front of properties and may be permitted development (subject to compliance with other permitted development limitations/conditions and parts of this standard).	
	If no – the ASHP will FAIL the permitted development requirements. This installation may still go ahead if planning permission is granted by the local planning authority.	