

## Advice and Contacts

### Development Control, Daventry District Council

t. (01327) 871100 e. [plancare@daventrydc.gov.uk](mailto:plancare@daventrydc.gov.uk)  
Development Control, Daventry District Council,  
Lodge Road, Daventry,  
Northamptonshire, NN11 4FP.

### Building Control, Daventry District Council

t. (01327) 871100 e. [buildingcontrol@daventrydc.gov.uk](mailto:buildingcontrol@daventrydc.gov.uk)  
Building Control, Daventry District Council,  
Lodge Road, Daventry,  
Northamptonshire, NN11 4FP

### Department of Energy & Climate Change

[www.decc.gov.uk](http://www.decc.gov.uk)

### Daventry District Council's Local Plan

[www.daventrydc.gov.uk/local-plan](http://www.daventrydc.gov.uk/local-plan)

### Energy Saving Trust

[www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/Generate-your-own-energy](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/Generate-your-own-energy)

### Environment Agency

t. (01536) 385137 e. [planningkettering@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:planningkettering@environment-agency.gov.uk)  
Planning Liaison, Nene House,  
Pytchley Lodge Road, Kettering,  
Northamptonshire, NN15 6JQ

### Environment Agency Green Roof Toolkit

[www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/sectors/91967.aspx](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/sectors/91967.aspx)

### Groundwork Greenwork Guide

[www.greenroofguide.co.uk](http://www.greenroofguide.co.uk)

### Living Roofs

[www.livingroofs.org](http://www.livingroofs.org)

### Microgeneration Certification Scheme/ local renewable energy installers

[www.microgenerationcertification.org](http://www.microgenerationcertification.org)

### Planning Portal

[www.planningportal.gov.uk](http://www.planningportal.gov.uk)

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# Renewable Energy & Green Roofs



Information on Micro-Renewable Energy Technologies  
and Green Roofs

For new homes, buildings and extensions



## First Thing's First, Think Energy Efficiency!

Before investing in renewable energy technologies, it is important to be as energy efficient as possible and this can be achieved as follows:

- Fit loft and cavity wall insulation and low energy light bulbs.
- Upgrade your boiler if more than ten years old.
- Turn your heating down by 1 degree.
- Replace old electrical appliances with those that are 'A' rated.
- Fill and boil the kettle to meet just what you need.
- Hang washing out instead of using the dryer.
- Switch off lights and appliances when not required.

## What are Micro-Renewable Energy Technologies?

Energy from renewable sources can be used to produce both electricity and heat for use in the home. The following sections only provide brief information about domestic renewable energy systems. For further details please see the 'Advice and Contacts' section at the back of this leaflet.

### Renewable Electricity Systems

All of the following systems generate electricity that can be used, stored and sold back to the National Grid. You could also be eligible to receive cash for each unit of electricity you generate using these technologies – see the Feed-in-Tariff scheme section.

#### Solar Photovoltaic (PV) systems

These convert sunlight into electricity and work best in direct sunlight, they still generate some electricity on cloudy days. They can be mounted on roofs, walls or on freestanding frames.

#### Wind turbines

There are two types for small-scale domestic use:

- Mast mounted - free standing and erected in a suitably exposed position, often around 2.5kW to 6kW.
- Roof mounted - smaller than mast mounted systems and can be installed on the roof of a home where there is a suitable wind resource. Often these are around 1kW to 2kW in size.

Planning permission is required for the installation of microgeneration equipment on commercial and farm buildings.

This information is for guidance only, further information is available on the Planning Portal website - see 'Advice and Contacts' overleaf. Always check with your local planning authority to find out if you require planning permission to install renewable energies. If you are in doubt, or wish to discuss your renewable energy proposal please contact the Development Control Team. (Contact information is on the back of this leaflet).



## Building Regulations

Remember, whether you need to obtain planning permission or not, you will need approval from Building Control, to ensure that the installation is safe, and that the supporting structure is sound.

If works require alterations to the structure of a building, including altering the load on a roof, Building Regulations Part A (Structure) will apply.

If any electrical work is involved, Building Regulations Part P will apply – this means the work must be carried out by a 'competent person', verified either by Building Control or through one of the certification schemes for electricians (e.g NICEIC).

Green roofs must meet the standards of Part L Thermal Installation in the Approved Documents of the Building Regulations.

Daventry District Council's Building Control Team will be happy to give you advice. (Contact information is on the back of this leaflet).

## Planning Permission and Renewable Energy Installations

There has been a recent change in renewable energy planning policy making it not only easier to obtain permission, but also allowing some forms of renewable energy to be installed on a dwelling or within the curtilage of a dwelling without the benefit of planning permission and this is outlined below.

Planning Policy Statement 22:Renewable Energy, states:“The wider environmental and economic benefits of all proposals for renewable energy projects, whatever their scale, are material considerations that should be given significant weight in determining whether proposals should be granted planning permission”.

There are no local plan policies that relate specifically to renewable energy development, however there are a number of general policies on which proposal will be assessed, these include GN1 (protect and enhance the environment), GN2 (scale, type, design) and EN42 (design and amenity).

Solar thermal or photovoltaic panels that do not protrude more than 200 mm beyond the plane of the wall or roof slope to which they are fitted, or protrude beyond the ridgeline of the roof may not need a full planning application and may be considered 'permitted development'. If your property is within a Conservation Area, you may require the benefit of planning permission. If you live in a listed building you will require planning permission and listed building consent.

Ground based solar panels do not normally require the benefit of planning permission, but if your property is listed or sited within a Conservation Area you should check with the local planning authority before carrying out any work.

Ground and water source heat pumps planning permission is not required for the installation, alteration or replacement of a ground or water source heat pump within the property's curtilage.

Wind Turbine installations on your property will require planning permission. Visual impact and noise are the two main issues when considering whether the development would be acceptable.

## Hydroelectric systems

These use running water to turn a small turbine that generates electricity. Access to a fairly fast flowing watercourse is required and the right to build around it.

## Renewable Heating Systems

Installing any of the systems mentioned below could make you eligible to receive cash back from the Renewable Heat Incentive. (please see overleaf for details).

### Solar Hot Water Panels

Usually situated on roofs, these use heat from the sun to warm water that is then stored in a hot water cylinder. A boiler or immersion heater acts as a back-up to heat the water further to reach the required temperature.

### Air Source Heat Pumps

These absorb heat from the outside air to heat radiators, under floor heating systems or warm air convectors and hot water in your home.

### Ground Source Heat Pumps

These work in a similar way to air source heat pumps but absorb heat by circulating a mixture of water and antifreeze around a loop of pipe buried underground. Normally the loop is laid flat, or coiled in trenches about two metres deep, but you can install a vertical loop down into the ground to a depth of up to 100 metres for a typical domestic home.

### Wood or Biomass fuelled heating systems

These generally burn pellets, chips or logs to power central heating and hot water boilers. There are two main systems: a stand alone stove that can be fitted with a back boiler to provide hot water for central heating and domestic hot water or a boiler connected to a central heating and hot water system.

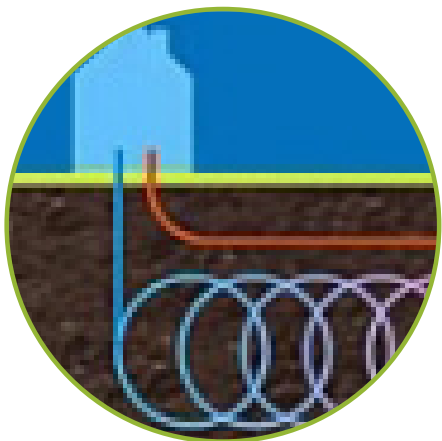




## The Feed-In-Tariff Scheme

The Feed In Tariff Scheme (FIT Scheme) came into effect on 1st April 2010 and enables householders and businesses to be paid for the electricity that is generated, as well as for any electricity that is exported. Payments are guaranteed by Government for 25 years and there is a tax free return at around 8% per annum, making this an extremely attractive investment.

The scheme includes small-scale solar PV (photovoltaic), hydro, wind and combined heat and power systems. Tariffs are index linked and fall year on year for new applicants from April 2012, so installing PV panels sooner rather than later is beneficial. Tariffs vary depending upon the technology, so that the payback comes right down to around ten years.



## The Renewable Heat Incentive

The Government intends to introduce a Renewable Heat Incentive in 2011. This will be based on a similar principle to the FIT Scheme, so good for renewable energy heating systems such as solar hot water, biomass and some heat pumps. More information can be found on the DECC website - for details view the 'Advice and Contacts' section at the back of this leaflet.

## The Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS)

The MCS certifies microgeneration technologies used to produce electricity and heat from renewable sources. MCS has been developed to provide consumers with an assurance that microgeneration products and installation companies meet a robust set of standards. The MCS is also linked to financial incentives such as Feed in Tariffs. It is therefore advisable that only an MCS accredited installer is used to fit renewable energy technologies. For a list of local MCS installers, view the 'Advice and Contacts' section at the back of this leaflet.

## Green Roofs

A green roof or 'living roof' is a roof of a building that is partially or completely covered with vegetation and a growing medium, planted over a waterproof membrane.

Green roofs can be used on many different types of new and existing domestic, commercial and community buildings. The aim of a green roof is to help absorb rainwater, provide insulation as well as provide valuable wildlife habitats to enhance biodiversity.

Daventry District Council has helped to influence the appearance of green roofs on new buildings in Daventry, including the 2nd Daventry Scouts Headquarters in Northern Way, the Prospect Way industrial development (Hi-Force premises), the new band hall and the iCon Environmental Innovation Centre in Eastern Way.

Green roofs are becoming more popular – just take a look at the scouts base off Northern Way to make a judgment on the aesthetics. Further information on green roofs can be obtained from the Environment Agency along with a Green Roof Toolkit. For details, view the 'Advice and Contacts' section at the back of this leaflet.

## Planning Permission and Green Roofs

Planning permission may be required for a green roof as it changes the appearance of the building. Full address details must be submitted along with plans and drawings as well as good quality photographs of the area that the green roof is going to be installed onto.

You do not need planning permission for green roofs on non-permanent structures such as sheds. Green roofs on conservatories, however, will need to be approved via the local authority planning process.

