



The countryside charity
Sussex

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Horsham District Local Plan 2023-40 Consultation (Regulation 19)

CPRE Sussex's response to:

STRATEGIC POLICY 6: CLIMATE CHANGE

It is CPRE Sussex's position that all new-build houses should be fitted with roof and/or wall mounted solar panels (photovoltaic and thermal).

1. CPRE Sussex is very concerned that despite the urgent need to achieve net zero carbon emissions, permissions in Horsham District continue to be given for new homes to be built without roof and/or wall mounted solar panels (photovoltaic and thermal).
2. West Sussex County Council has advised in their *Solar Together* initiative that *"By generating electricity from the sun, you could reduce your annual carbon emissions by approximately one tonne each year and help West Sussex to become carbon neutral"*.

<https://solartogether.co.uk/westsussex/blog/best-ways-to-increase-solar-self-consumption>

3. Researchers at Oxford University found that UK households with solar PV self-consume 45% of their own solar generation on average and reduce annual electricity demand from the grid by 24%. With additional adjustments, this reduction of 24% can be increased to over 35% (E. Mckenna, J. Pless, and Darby, S: Solar photovoltaic self-consumption in the UK residential sector: New estimates from a smart grid demonstration project. Energy Policy Volume 118, July 2018, pagesc482 – 491).

4. We therefore ask that

- i. Strategic Policy 6: 1 a) be amended to read:

'Design which incorporates high standards of energy efficiency including optimal levels of thermal insulation, ventilation and cooling and roof and/or wall mounted solar panels (thermal and photovoltaics)', in place of 'passive solar design'.

This is because the plan's glossary states that, 'passive solar energy' is 'Energy provided by a simple architectural design to capture and store the sun's heat. Examples include a garden greenhouse, or south-facing window in a dwelling' .Roof and Wall mounted solar PV is omitted; it should be included.

- ii. Chapter 5: Climate Change and Water, page 38. 'issues identified and addressed through policies in the Regulation 19 plan' third bullet, be amended to read

'Development needs to be designed to reduce reliance on carbon-based heat and electricity sources to reach these targets. There is a need for Local Plan policies to ensure that development delivers development that is zero carbon, both in terms of its

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building fabric and energy supply including the use of renewable technologies such as heat pumps, district heating schemes and (NOT 'or') solar energy, including roof and wall mounted solar photovoltaic'.

Suggested amendments are underlined.

Dr R F Smith

Trustee CPRE Sussex