

DELEGATED OFFICER REPORT

Application Ref: H/23/96295

Site Address: 8 CLANFIELD CLOSE, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH, SO53 2HL

Case Officer: Alexandra Stone

Description: Retention of 14no. Solar panels to the roof of the property

Particular Site Constraints?	Yes ☒	No ☐
- Within Urban Edge		

Planning History?	Yes ☒	No ☐
F/15/77103 – Permit – 28/10/2015 Single storey side and rear extension		

Publicity:	Letters ☒	Site Notice ☐	Newspaper ☐
Representations:	None		
Parish Council:	No Comment/No Objection		
Ecologist:	No Objection		

Site Visit:	Yes ☒	No ☐
Details: 25/04/2024		

Policy:

National Planning Policy Framework Planning Practice Guidance

Development Plan:

The Eastleigh Borough Local Plan 2016-2036 The most relevant policies are Strategic policies S1 and S2; and Development Management policies DM1, DM2, DM11 and DM14.

Supplementary Planning Documents:

Quality Places; Residential Parking Standards; Character Area Appraisals.

Assessment:

The development is considered acceptable and complies with policies DM1, DM11 and DM14 from the 2016-2036 local plan, in that:

Principle

- The development is within the urban edge where the principle of development is acceptable
- The new local plan states; Policy DM4, Zero or low carbon energy 5.25 - There are many ways in which low or zero carbon energy can be generated, ranging from photovoltaic panels installed on house roofs to larger-scale power generating installations such as solar farms. The policy is intended to enable such installations in line with current government initiatives, subject to other policies protecting local amenities, recreational, landscape, biodiversity and heritage interests and the best and most valuable agricultural land 5.27 - The Borough Council actively encourages the development of combined heat and power sources, and the sharing of such sources over a local area, including in Eastleigh town centre.

Design and layout

- The design of the solar panels are suited to the host dwelling in terms of its form, scale and appearance.
- The development would not be an overdevelopment of the site, would retain sufficient amenity space and meet parking standards.
- The design and layout respects the character and appearance of the locality.
- The solar panels are a modest addition, although marginally visible from the highway, they would not be much more in measurement of those allowed under permitted development.

Residential amenity

- The development accords with guidance set out in the 'Quality Places' SPD in that there will be no unacceptable impact on the amenity of the neighbouring properties in terms of loss of privacy, light or outlook.

Other material consideration

- There will be no adverse impact upon trees or other natural features worthy of retention.
- There are no likely significant impacts on the SPA.

Climate Change:

In July 2019, the Council declared a Climate Change and Environmental Emergency. In doing so it agreed, among other things, to: (a) put in place measures to ensure the Council's own operations and functions achieve carbon neutrality by 2025; (b) work with partners to aim for all projects and services delivered in the Borough to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030; (c) ensure that the Council's procurement policy recognises carbon neutrality as one of its primary considerations; and (d) recognise the urgency of action to mitigate and adapt to climate change in every decision taken by the Council. This is underpinned by the Climate and Environment Emergency Strategy 2020–2030 and the supporting Climate and Environmental Emergency Action Plan – Update June 2020.

The declaration of the Climate Change and Environmental Emergency demonstrates a strong commitment from the Council to achieve net zero. The NPPF, development plan and adopted local plan policy do not set this as a specific target, but it is a material consideration to be considered alongside all other material considerations. In any case addressing climate change is a core part of the NPPF and local plan policy. The need to support the economy is part of the Strategic Environmental Assessment for the adopted local plan, as is an assessment of climate impacts.

Equalities Implications:

Section 149 of the Equalities Act 2010 created the public sector equality duty. Section 149 states:

- A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:
 - a. eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
 - b. advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
 - c. foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

When making policy decisions, the Council must take account of the equality duty and in particular any potential impact on protected groups. It is considered that this application does not raise any equality implications

Conclusion:

Recommendation:	PERMIT ☒	REFUSE ☐
Comments ...		