Energy Measures & Listed Building Consent

Factsheet



Guidance for residents of Bath & North East Somerset Council

Basic maintenance and repairs should be done first to mitigate damp or underlying issues, with the appropriate consent.



Check out the Bath & North East Somerset Council guidance for further information

https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/policy-and-documents-library/energy-efficiency-retrofitting-and-sustainable-construction-spd



Green Heritage Homes and further resources

https://www.bwce.homeenergy.coop/listed-buildings









Energy Measure

What is it?

General Draught

Listed Building
Consent **not usually required**

- Proofing

Floors:

 Caulking smaller gaps with flexible caulking strips or mastic.

Doors:

 Installation of brush seal draught strips along door bottom and sides and over the letterbox flap, and use of key-hole escutcheons.

Chimneys:

 Chimney dampers or balloons can reduce draughts when the fireplace is not in use.

Key Considerations

- Draughtproofing should be discreet in appearance and colour, and not adversely impact historic fabric.
- Rebated draughtproofing should be installed by a professional.

Floors:

• Some ventilation should be maintained to avoid damp issues in floor joists.

Doors:

• Historic joinery and finishes should not be compromised.

Chimneys:

 Total sealing of flues is not recommended, and some air flow maintained.

Window Draught-Proofing

Listed Building Consent **not usually required**

- The elimination or reduction of gaps around windows to reduce cold draughts.
- Use of release tape, mastic beads or compressible and wiping seals.
- Historic windows contribute to a building's special interest and should be retained and refurbished.
- Windows and associated joinery, e.g. shutters, should remain openable and functional.
- Rebated draughtproofing should be installed by a professional.

Secondary Glazing

Listed Building Consent **may be required**

- Glazing fixed internally to the frame of an existing window.
- Consists of single glazed glass or a lightweight acrylic or polycarbonate sheet.
- Units which don't require a sub-frame are preferable, e.g. magnetic strip, to minimise appearance and use of material fixings.
- Units should be visually discreet, align with window glazing bars, and avoid obscuring distinctive architectural detailing.
- Installation should not impede use of historic windows or shutters.

Slim-Profile Double Glazing/ Vacuum Glazing

Listed Building Consent is required

- Replacement of existing windowpanes or entire sash/ casement units.
- Typical 12mm glazing thickness.
- Vacuum glazing is even slimmer 6-7mm thickness.
- Existing historic windows should be retained and refurbished.
- Replacement windows may be acceptable where:
 - Existing windows are modern or of no historic significance/ heritage value.
 - Existing original or historic windows are beyond feasible repair
 - Replacement would enhance the special architectural or historic interest of the building.
- Replacement windows should be of a sympathetic design to the building.

Energy Measure What is it? **Key Considerations** • Works should not negatively affect historically significant Insulation applied at roof level **Roof Insulation** over joists or between rafters. internal decoration, e.g. decorative ceilings, plasterwork. Listed Building • Effective solution to reduce heat • Vapour permeable insulation should be used, e.g. sheep's Consent may be wool, hemp, cellulose, wood fibre. Insulation applied over loss through the roof. required joists is preferable. Can be installed by the • A ventilation void should be maintained around the roof homeowner. eaves or behind insulation applied between rafters. • Listed building consent will be required if insulation affects historic fabric, such as historic ceilings or detailing, e.g. changing the eaves detail by laying insulation over rafters. Consent is required for the insulation of flat roofs. **Internal Wall** Insulation applied to the internal • Insulation should not compromise or cover historic fabric. face of an external wall. Removal or alteration of fabric, e.g. plaster, skirtings, Insulation (IWI) architraves, to install insulation won't be possible and may Vapour permeable materials Listed Building preclude this retrofit measure. should always be used where Consent is sympathetic with the qualities of • Insulation may be appropriate in spaces where historic required historic fabric, e.g. wood fibre, fabric/layout has been significantly altered or lost. insulating lime render, aerogel. Consider details around window reveals etc. to avoid cold bridging. • Make sure there is sufficient depth around window/door surrounds, fireplaces, etc. to avoid insulation standing proud of retained features. **External Wall** Insulation applied to the outside • EWI can have a significant visual impact on a listed of an existing wall, with protective building and may not be appropriate. Insulation should not Insulation (EWI) render or cladding over the top. compromise or cover historic fabric, and be well-detailed Listed Building around roof eaves, window reveals, etc. Vapour permeable materials Consent is should always be used where • There may be an opportunity for insulation (lime render sympathetic with the qualities finish) where it can be demonstrated a building was required of historic fabric (see examples historically rendered. listed above). • Damp or damaged walls should be repaired first. Heat pumps can be used for • Units should be installed in a discreet location away from **Heat Pumps** heating and cooling buildings and the principal elevation to minimise visual impact. Listed Building are a low carbon alternative to Consider compatibility of existing radiators and pipework to Consent is gas boilers. minimise fabric alterations. required Air source heat pumps are The noise data and positioning of units will need to be more commonly considered for considered. installation in listed buildings. **Solar Panels**

Listed Building Consent is required

- Solar photovoltaic/thermal panels use the energy of the sun to generate hot water and/or electricity.
- South, Southeast and Southwest orientations are best for maximum energy production.
- Panels should be located on concealed roof slopes, such as rear/secondary roofs, within roof valleys, or set back on flat roofs.
- Consider impact of additional load bearing on the existing roof structure.
- Panels should use a sympathetic finish to match the roof's appearance, e.g. monochrome black. Shiny/silver frames should be avoided.
- Ecology considerations, e.g. roosting bats

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