

Biodiversity Enhancement Statement

To support an application for Listed Building Consent to install a new external air source heat pump to replace the existing gas boiler

December 2025

Site Address:

17 King Street

Arundel

West Sussex

BN18 9BJ

For & on behalf of:

Mr & Mrs I Graham

17 King Street

Arundel

West Sussex

BN18 9BJ

Ref: IG01/BES/25

The Heritage Statement for the proposal has been included in the design and access statement due to the small scale nature of the proposal and very limited impact on the building and wider surroundings.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This statement outlines how the proposed development will protect and enhance the existing onsite natural environment, in accordance with Arun District Council's local validation requirements and Policy ENV DM5:

17.1 Natural Environment

Arun's Local Plan strategic objective for the Natural Environment is:

"To plan for climate change and work in harmony with the environment to conserve natural resources and increase biodiversity."

Policy ENV SP1

Natural Environment

Arun District Council will encourage and promote the preservation, restoration and enhancement of biodiversity and the natural environment through the development process and particularly through policies for the protection of both designated and non-designated sites. Where possible it shall also promote the creation of new areas for habitats and species. In relation to designated sites, development will be permitted where it protects sites listed in Tables 17.1-17.7 that are recognised for the species and habitats contained within them.

2. Existing site conditions and description of works

- 2.1 The existing site is a domestic dwelling with a rear garden area consisting of a paved patio areas, grass, mature trees, shrubs and hedgerows. The rear garden, due to the site topography has various levels, with steps and paved areas to enable access and use of all area of the garden.
- 2.2 The proposal is to position the new ASHP on a section of the existing patio area located close to the rear elevation of the western side of the property adjacent to the existing plant room and requires no ground work for pipes or cables. These are directly installed from the unit into the existing plant room, which is in effect 'back to back' from one another and minimises this requirement of length of external pipes and cable runs.
- 2.3 The footprint of the new ASHP measures 0.49 m² and requires no changes to the existing patio area or landscaping arrangements which all remain as the existing.

- 2.4 Access to the rear garden remains as the existing and this is not affected or changed by the proposal.
- 2.5 All existing grassed areas to the rear garden remains as existing and is not affected or changed by the proposal.
- 2.6 The site is modest in its diversity and planting, with all existing plants being retained to protect the current biodiversity. The proposal intends to retain both existing planting, shrubs, trees and grassed areas to the entire site.

3. Commitment to Biodiversity

- 3.1 The homeowner is committed to integrating biodiversity enhancements into the project and wherever possible to support local wildlife, and promote a healthy ecosystem.
- 3.2 The proposal will preserve all existing natural features and retain all grassed areas, planting, shrubs, trees and hedges within the site.
- 3.3 The heat pump itself contributes to biodiversity net gain by reducing carbon emissions.
- 3.4 The proposals Biodiversity Enhancement Measures will include:

Habitat Preservation:

Preserving any mature trees, shrubs, flower beds and grassed areas to continue to provide habitat and food sources for local wildlife. The proposal will not encroach upon the existing grassed areas, ensuring that the natural environment remains undisturbed, with all vegetation retained.

Construction phase:

All vegetation will be protected during the works, with temporary barriers and the routes to the rear works area, being maintained through the use of the existing home. No hard or soft landscaping will be damaged or disturbed during the work phase.

Enhancement of Wildlife:

Bird boxes and feeders are currently installed to attract and support local bird populations and to further enhance the ecological value of the site. A further box will be fitted at an appropriate location within the rear garden.

Water Collection:

Consideration to fitting a rainwater butt installed to the downpipe will support water conservation and provide incidental water sources for birds and insects and additional water sources for plants during periods of drought.

Minimising Light Pollution for Nocturnal Wildlife:

There are no changes to any external lighting and the proposal will not installed lighting. However should lighting be required this will be kept to a minimum and directed downwards to reduce light spill. This measure also helps protect nocturnal wildlife, particularly bats, which are sensitive to artificial lighting.

4. Monitoring and Maintenance

- 4.1 Regular monitoring will be conducted of the biodiversity features to ensure they are functioning effectively and providing the intended benefits.
- 4.2 The homeowner will maintain adequate spacing around the ASHP and ensure all plants and shrubs are at least one metre away from the heat pump unit to allow for proper airflow and maintenance access.
- 4.2 All biodiversity features carried out during the proposal will be maintained by the homeowner as part of regular garden maintenance. There is no anticipated future need for removal or disturbance of these features.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 This development proposal has been designed to minimise impact on the existing natural environment while offering opportunities for biodiversity enhancement. The measures outlined above ensure compliance with Arun District Council's requirements and contribute positively to local ecological sustainability.