

Design Principles

# Photovoltaic Panels Guidance

In Letchworth Garden City

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PORTAL**

**Letchworth  
Garden City**  
Heritage Foundation

# Photovoltaic Solar Panels

## Heritage Character Area (HCA)

Letchworth Garden City Heritage Foundation is supportive of Letchworth residents' wishes to install renewable technologies in order to power their homes. To ensure the continued maintenance of the Garden City's character, we have issued the following guidance.

**Your application is more likely to be approved if you follow the guidelines.**

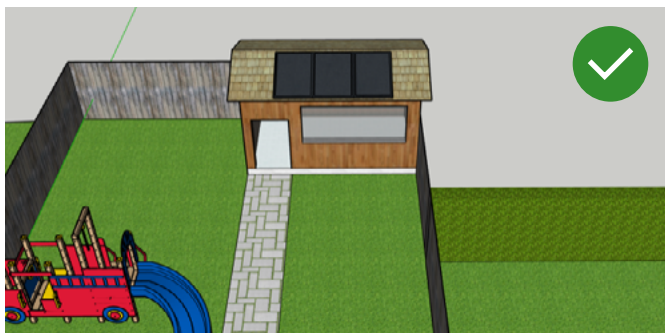
The installation of Photovoltaic (PV) panels is usually acceptable providing that they adhere to the following guidelines:

### Acceptable Installation in the HCA

- ✓ Panels should be positioned on rear roof pitches, on rear outbuildings, or as a ground array in back gardens
- ✓ The design of the array must be balanced and symmetrical; rectangular and straight-lined installations will be required



The above represents good installation in the HCA. It is located on the rear roof pitch with a balanced, rectangular design.



Installations placed on outbuildings, like this, represent viable alternatives to an unsuitable rear roof pitch in the HCA. As with main roof arrays, balanced design is key.

Panels may not be appropriate for Homes of Special Interest. Contact a member of the team to discuss options for the property at: [home@letchworth.com](mailto:home@letchworth.com)

When considering a rear extension or a new rear outbuilding, PV panels could be factored into the design.

If your proposal does not fit within the criteria stated below, please contact the Heritage Advice Service on: 01462 530335 or [home@letchworth.com](mailto:home@letchworth.com)

### Unacceptable Installation in the HCA

- ✗ Panels should not be located on any street facing roof pitches
- ✗ Panels should not overhang the roof slope



The Foundation discourages L-shaped installations such as the example above.



This (above) installation is also unacceptable in the HCA. Though the array is proportioned and rectangular, it is located on the street-facing roof pitch.

# Photovoltaic Solar Panels

## Modern Character Area (MCA)

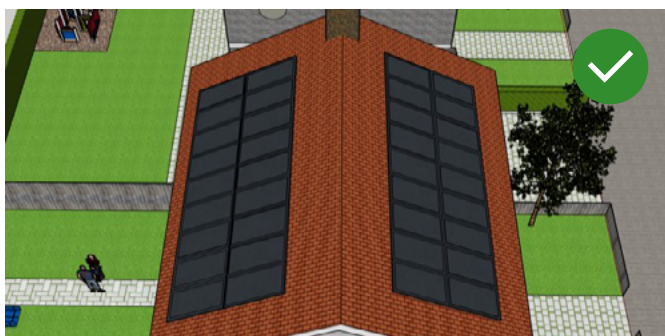
Letchworth Garden City Heritage Foundation is supportive of Letchworth residents' wishes to install renewable technologies in order to power their homes. To ensure the continued maintenance of the Garden City's character, we have issued the following guidance.

Please note that rear slopes or rear outbuildings would be the preferred locations for a PV installation before side/front facing roof pitches are considered.

The installation of Photovoltaic (PV) Panels is usually acceptable on any roof pitch in the modern character area, providing that:

### Acceptable Installation in the MCA

- ✓ The design of the array is tidy and balanced with rectangles and/or straight lines
- ✓ The colour/design fits subtly into the site of installation and is as complementary to the street scene as possible



Providing that the installation is balanced (rectangular or straight-lined), it is permissible to introduce PV panels to both the rear and street-facing roof pitches (see above).



The installation directly above represents an acceptable PV installation on a rear outbuilding.

Your application is more likely to be approved if you follow the guidelines.

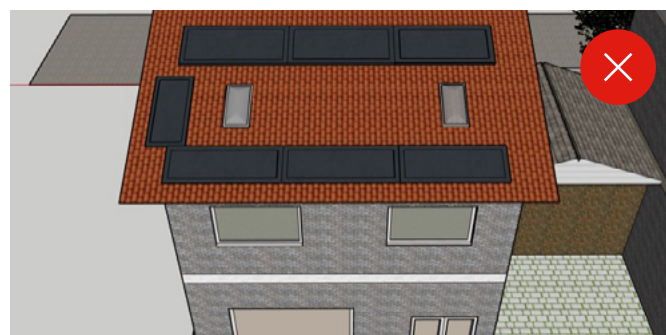
If your proposal does not fit within the criteria stated below, please contact the Heritage Advice Service on: 01462 530335 or [home@letchworth.com](mailto:home@letchworth.com)

### Unacceptable Installation in the MCA

- ✗ The panels do not overhang the roof line on any roof pitch



This array would not be acceptable in the MCA. Although installation is permitted on the front, street-facing roof pitch, the design itself is poor. The panels are disconnected, facing different directions, and unbalanced.



The Foundation discourages L-shaped installations such as the example above.

# Contemplating changes?

We're here to help, call  
us now on: 01462 530335

We understand planning alterations to your home can be a complicated and at times stressful process.

The Heritage Advice Service are on hand to support you through every step of the application process. In fact, we'd be happy to help from the very start. The earlier you come to talk to us, the more guidance we can provide.

Whether your plans just exist in your head or are hand drawn, we can discuss your ideas and help you develop a scheme that meets your needs and the Principles.

We're happy to hold a pre-application meeting with your architects, builders and designers. Our desire is to make the process run as smoothly as possible.

Once your application is in the system, it will be assigned to a member of the team who will follow it through until conclusion. They will be your consistent point of contact for all your enquiries related to your application and will work with you to get your application dealt with as quickly as possible.