

Sustainable Design SPD Checklist

The following checklist corresponds to the questions presented in Chapters 1 – 7 of the SPD.

The checklist provides a framework for applicants in completing Sustainable Design and Energy Statements to accompany planning applications - see figure A1 below for an example.

This will help applicants demonstrate that the most appropriate sustainable design solutions are selected, and provide the local planning authority with a systematic method of assessing whether the proposal meets the relevant planning policies and other requirements.

Users should refer the table on page 11 of the SPD, and to 1-APP for the definitive list of applications where a Sustainable Design and Energy Statement is required.

Figure A1 Checklist example

REF	SPD Question	Internal Use Only
Q 7.2	Is car parking well integrated so it supports the street scene? (BfL 12)	√
	Reference or description	See Sustainable Design and Energy Statement para 3.5
	Internal Use	

Building for Life questions can be identified in the checklist by the initials **BfL**, plus the relevant number. This reference has been provided to enable schemes to be put forward for accreditation under the BfL standard if desired.

Each section includes questions relevant to both residential development and non-residential development. The questions can then be selected that are relevant to the development in hand.

1. Character

REF	SPD Question	Internal Use Only
Q 1.1	Does the scheme feel like a place with a distinctive character? (BfL 8)	
Response	The Scheme involves the individual bespoke conversion of existing traditional farm buildings	
Reference		
Q 1.2	Do buildings exhibit architectural quality? (BfL 17)	
Response	The Scheme seeks to retain the character of the existing buildings	
Reference		
Q 1.3	Does the scheme exploit existing buildings, landscape or topography? (BfL 7)	
Response	Yes – The scheme involves the conversion of existing buildings	
Reference		
Q 1.4	Is the design specific to the scheme? (BfL 6)	
Response	Yes- The design is a conversion scheme	
Reference		

2. Continuity and Enclosure

REF	SPD Question	Internal Use Only
Q 2.1	Are streets defined by a coherent and well structured layout? (BfL 10)	
Response	Not Applicable	
Reference		
Q 2.2	Are public spaces and pedestrian routes overlooked and do they feel safe? (BfL 15)	
Response	Not applicable	
Reference		
Q 2.3	Are private space well designed with respect to their intended user?	
Response	The dwellings will have their own private amenity space which will exceed residential design standards in terms of size.	
Reference		

3. Ease of Movement

REF	SPD Question	Internal Use Only
Q 3.1	Does the scheme integrate with existing roads, paths and surrounding development? (BfL 9)	
Response	Yes – The scheme utilizes an existing access.	
Reference		
Q 3.2	Does the building layout take priority over the roads and car parking, so that highways do not dominate? (BfL 11)	
Response	Yes – The scheme uses an existing access and existing hardstanding for car parking, maneuvering etc	
Reference		
Q 3.3	Are the streets pedestrian, cycle and vehicle friendly? (BfL 13)	
Response	Not applicable	
Reference		
Q 3.4	Does the development have easy access to public transport? (BfL 4)	
Response	There is no public transport in the vicinity	
Reference		
Q 3.5	Are transportation routes resilient to changing environmental conditions?	
Response	Not known	
Reference		

4. Legibility

REF	SPD Question	Internal Use Only
Q 4.1	Do buildings and layout make it easy to find your way around? (BfL 9)	
Response	Not applicable	
Reference		

5. Adaptability, Resilience and Environmental Sustainability

Q 5.1 – Q5.10 are posed to assess the qualities of all schemes in terms of adaptability, resilience and environmental sustainability considerations. Answering these questions is required for the purposes of this SPD and the achievement of sustainable design in North Northamptonshire. However, for residential schemes, answering Q5.3 – Q5.10 below will assist schemes seeking a positive score the following BfL questions:

BfL 20 - Do buildings or spaces outperform statutory minima, such as Building Regulations?

BfL 5 - Does the development have any features that reduce its environmental impact?

In assessing schemes against the BfL criteria, CABE do not give accreditation for the above questions to schemes that provide a token gesture e.g. the provision of recycling facilities or a water butt. The achievement of a positive score for these questions is considered holistically and in the context of the overall sustainability credentials of particular schemes. As such, answering the following question for the purposes of this SPD will also help schemes make a robust case for the achievement of a positive score for **BfL questions 20 and 5**.

REF	SPD Question	Internal Use Only
Q 5.1	Do internal spaces and a layout allow for adaptation, conversion or extension? (BfL 18)	
Response	Yes – The internal spaces are capable of adaption. All three dwellings meet the National Space Standards	
Reference		
Q5.2	Has the scheme made use of advances in construction or technology that enhance its performance, quality and attractiveness? (BfL 19)	
Response	Details yet to be determined	
Reference		
Q 5.3	Does the scheme incorporate energy efficient design?	
Response	Details yet to be determined	
Reference		
Q 5.4	Does the scheme have appropriate water conservation measures?	
Response	Details yet to be determined	
Reference		
Q 5.5	Does the scheme have appropriate flood-risk management strategies?	
Response	Not applicable	
Reference		

Q 5.6	Does the scheme promote waste management and recycling?	
Response	There is adequate space within the site to assist with the storage and recycling of waste	
Reference		
Q 5.7	Does the scheme incorporate green infrastructure and ecological considerations?	
Response	Details yet to be determined	
Reference		
Q 5.8	Does the scheme make use of recycled land and/or material?	
Response	Yes – The scheme involves the conversion of existing buildings	
Reference		
Q 5.9	Are buildings orientated and designed to maximise levels of solar gain, daylight and natural ventilation?	
Response	The proposal involves the conversion of existing buildings but includes additional openings to aid natural lighting and ventilation	
Reference		
Q 5.10	Does the development work with the natural features of the site?	
Response	The site has little in the way of existing natural features and landscaping will be enhanced	
Reference		

6. Diversity

REF	SPD Question	Internal Use Only
Q 6.1	Does the development contain an appropriate type and mix of uses for its location?	
Response	The dwellings are fixed by the constraint of the existing buildings but will be suitable for their locality	
Reference		
Q 6.2	Does the development provide (or is it close to) community facilities, such as a school, park, play areas, shops, pubs or cafes? (BfL 1)	
Response	Not applicable	
Reference		
Q 6.3	(In residential schemes) Is there a tenure mix that reflects the needs of the local community? (BfL 3)	
Response	Not applicable	
Reference		
Q 6.4	(In residential schemes) Is there a mix of accommodation that reflects the needs and aspirations of the local community? (BfL 2)	
Response	Not applicable	
Reference		
Q 6.5	Is the density of the built form appropriate for its locations?	
Response	The density of development is suitable for this rural location	
Reference		

7. Quality of the Public Realm

REF	SPD Question	Internal Use Only
Q 7.1	Is car parking well integrated so it supports the street scene? (BfL 12)	
Response Reference	The proposal involves the use of existing hardstanding within the site	
Q 7.2	Is public space well designed and does it have suitable management arrangements in place? (BfL 16)	
Response Reference	Not applicable	
Q 7.3	Does the public realm contribute to the environmental sustainability of the scheme?	
Response Reference	Not applicable	