



**St Wilfrid's Hospice**  
Making a difference to local lives

## Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Statement (AONB)

St Wilfrid's Hospice intends to install solar panels at the Hospice location in Bosham, with the primary objective of reducing Hospice costs and carbon footprint.

It costs £9,000,000 a year to run the Hospice, and with costs increasing St Wilfrid's has looked at environmentally friendly ways to reduce expenditure, to ensure that the maximum possible proportion of funds raised go towards providing palliative care services to people in the community.

With the installation of solar panels, St Wilfrid's expects to see a saving of 35% on current energy bills - a significant saving for a charity that relies on funds raised by the community to operate. St Wilfrid's only receives a small grant from the NHS to fund services, with the rest being raised from generous donations.

St Wilfrid's understands the importance of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and is committed to taking action to prevent disruption to the surrounding area. As a result, the Hospice has worked with Chichester District Council (CDC) and Chichester Harbour Conservancy to review plans and ensure the proposed work is suitable for the area. St Wilfrid's can confirm that solar panels will be installed on flat roofs only, and that they will be only 15cm higher than the roofs. The panels will be black, to meet the requirement advised by the CDC, and positioned away from the main road to minimise visual disruption. Consequently, St Wilfrid's does not anticipate that the panels will have any impact on the amenity of the AONB.

St Wilfrid's has been very conscious of, and has made provision through the project discussions to meet the requirements of, the Joint AONB Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), particularly in respect of the design, appearance and materials of the proposed panels.

The solar panelling is to be located on the flat roofs with the best exposure to sunlight, affecting only a small area of the total roof coverage, and will not be located on any pitched roofs. This will achieve the solar energy capture desired, without compromising the general look of the building to visitors and residents.

Once the solar panelling is installed there will be no effect on the current fenestration or light in the building.

St Wilfrid's is committed to introducing renewable energy solutions, products and technologies. The Project will not negatively affect the flora and fauna on or around the property or surrounding area.

Lois Howell  
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