

## **HERITAGE STATEMENT relating to the installation of an air source heat pump with associate works at Ashley House, Cheap Street, Chedworth GL54 4AB**

This heritage statement has been prepared in support of a planning application for permission to install an Air Source Heat Pump on the South West elevation of the dwelling, as a replacement to the oil-fired boiler that currently provide heating to the property.

### **Heritage significance**

Ashley House is located in the Chedworth conservation area. The village contains modest vernacular cottages and houses built in the Cotswold tradition. The house is not listed and neither is it bordered on any side by listed buildings. The house was constructed in the Cotswold style in the 1990s. New developments should seek to preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the conservation area.

### **Design proposals**

The situation of the proposed air source heat pump has been considered carefully. The site is flat and requires minimal disruptive ground works to create the small area of hard standing required. The situation also takes into account the steeply sloping site, which makes siting on the South East side of the house impracticable. The unit has been chosen for its low noise levels (60db) and its quiet mark accreditation. We understand that the unit will be quieter externally than the existing oil-fired boiler.

The visual impact of the unit as seen from the highway will be mitigated by being partially screened by the existing retaining wall marked in the block plan. It is proposed that the part of the unit not screened by the retaining wall will be entirely screened with evergreen native hedging (such as yew). During the period while the hedge is growing, a hazel hurdle fence will screen the unit entirely as seen from the highway. The unit will not be visible from any local footpaths.

The area of hard standing (concrete base) required to site the unit is proposed to be approximately the same area as the unit itself and will not be visible at all from the highway.

### **National Planning Policy**

The proposed replacement of an oil-fired boiler with an air source heat pump is in line with National Planning Policy Framework section 151 which states:

To help increase the use and supply of renewable and low carbon energy and heat, plans should:

- a) provide a positive strategy for energy from these sources, that maximises the potential for suitable development, while ensuring that adverse impacts are addressed satisfactorily (including cumulative landscape and visual impacts);
- b) consider identifying suitable areas for renewable and low carbon energy sources, and supporting infrastructure, where this would help secure their development; and
- c) identify opportunities for development to draw its energy supply from decentralised, renewable or low carbon energy supply systems and for co-locating potential heat customers and suppliers.