

3.0 Microgeneration

- 3.1 NIPSA recommends that Permitted Development Rights are not extended to include wind turbines, as a proliferation of these structures will create visual clutter in the streetscape and landscape and will have detrimental cumulative visual impacts. We advise that the only way to address visual and cumulative impacts is by a Planning Application.
- 3.2 Our advice is that a separation distance of 34m between turbines will not address cumulative visual impact.
- 3.3 We would express major concern at the intention to allow Permitted Development Rights for wind turbines in areas designated for their landscape character and quality such as AONBs and National Parks.
- 3.4 We would not agree with the position that areas Permitted Development Rights will be allowed for biomass and CHP boiler houses and fuel stores within AONBs, National Parks, Conservation Areas and World Heritage Sites as there is potential for detrimental visual impacts within landscapes and streetscapes of the highest sensitivity and amenity value.
- 3.5 NIPSA does not agree that permitted development rights for anaerobic digestion plants do not need to be further restricted in AONBs, National Parks, World Heritage Sites and Conservation Areas, due to the potential detrimental impact of substantial buildings within these sensitive landscapes.
- 3.6 Again we do not agree that permitted development rights for above ground elements associated with both ground source heat pumps and water source heat pumps do not need to be further restricted in AONBs, National Parks, World Heritage Sites and Conservation Areas, due to the potential detrimental impact of substantial buildings within these sensitive landscapes.
- 3.7 We also advise that if permitted development rights were introduced for air source heat pumps they should be restricted in AONBs, National Parks, World Heritage Sites and Conservation Areas, due to the potential detrimental impact of substantial buildings within these sensitive landscapes.