

Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed: Installation etc of a solar canopy on non-domestic, off-street parking

Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) - Schedule 2, Part 14, Class OA

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Local Planning Authority details:

Development Management, Economic Development and Planning,
County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, BA14 8JN
Tel: 0300 456 0114 Email: developmentmanagement@wiltshire.gov.uk



Publication on Local Planning Authority websites

Information provided on this form and in supporting documents may be published on the authority's planning register and website. Please ensure that the information you submit is accurate and correct and does not include personal or sensitive information. If you require any further clarification, please contact the Local Planning Authority directly.

1. Applicant Name and Address	2. Agent Name and Address
Title: First name: NATASHA	Title: First name: SIMON
Last name: GUMBRELL	Last name: LEE
Company (optional): WILTSHIRE COUNCIL	Company (optional): ROBERTS LIMBRICK
Unit: Number: Suffix:	Unit: Number: Suffix:
Building name:	Building name:
Address 1: COUNTY HALL	Address 1: THE CARRIAGE BUILDING
Address 2: BYTHESEA ROAD	Address 2: BRUTON WAY
Address 3:	Address 3:
Town: TROWBRIDGE	Town: GLOUCESTER
County: WILTSHIRE	County: GLOUCESTERSHIRE
Country: ENGLAND	Country: ENGLAND
Postcode: BA14 8JN	Postcode: GL1 1DG

3. Site Address Details

Please provide the full postal address of the application site.

Unit:		Number:		Suffix:	
Building name:					
Address 1:	BYTHESEA ROAD				
Address 2:	WILTSHIRE				
Address 3:	TROWBRIDGE				
Address 4:	THE PROPOSED SOLAR CAR PORTS ARE LOCATED ON THE FORMER EAST WING CAR PARK SITE. THIS IS NOW BEING DEVELOPED AS A NEW LEISURE CENTRE AND ANCILLARY WORKS AS PART OF THE APPROED APPLICATION; PL/2026/01076				
Postcode:	BA14 8JN				

4. Eligibility

Is this application for the installation, alteration or replacement of a solar canopy within an area lawfully used as offstreet parking other than for a dwellinghouse or a block of flats?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Note: 'Solar canopy' in this context means a canopy structure:

- installed with solar PV or solar thermal equipment, and
- open on all sides or, in the case of development adjoining a building, on three sides.

If you have answered no above, then this is not the correct form and you should not continue with this application.

This form is specific to an individual permitted development right. A range of rights exist for different solar panel projects, and you should determine if/which one covers your proposal and if it requires an application to be made.

Would any part of the development exceed 4 metres in height above ground level?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If you have answered yes above, the proposal will exceed the limits set by legislation. In this circumstance, you should not continue with this application and seek advice from the Local Planning Authority on the best course of action.

Would any part of the development be within the curtilage or within 10 metres of the curtilage of a dwellinghouse or block of flats?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If you have answered yes above, the proposal will exceed the limits set by legislation. In this circumstance, you should not continue with this application and seek advice from the Local Planning Authority on the best course of action.

Would the development be used for the display of an advertisement?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If you have answered yes above, the proposal will exceed the limits set by legislation. In this circumstance, you should not continue with this application and seek advice from the Local Planning Authority on the best course of action.

Is the off-street parking area where the proposed development would take place in use by virtue of permitted development rights for temporary use of land (as per Schedule 2, Part 4, Class B, of The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) - <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2015/596/schedule/2/part/4/crossheading/class-b-temporary-use-of-land>)

☐ Yes ☐ No

If you have answered yes above, the proposal will exceed the limits set by legislation. In this circumstance, you should not continue with this application and seek advice from the Local Planning Authority on the best course of action.

If the proposed development would be above a permeable surface, would provision be made to direct run-off water from the solar canopy to a permeable or porous area or surface within the off-street parking area?

☐ Yes / It would not be above a permeable surface ☐ No

If you have answered no above, the proposal will exceed the limits set by legislation. In this circumstance, you should not continue with this application and seek advice from the Local Planning Authority on the best course of action.

4. Eligibility (continued)

Would any part of the development be within the curtilage of:

- a scheduled monument (or on a site designated as a scheduled monument); or
- a listed building?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If you have answered yes above, the proposal will exceed the limits set by legislation. In this circumstance, you should not continue with this application and seek advice from the Local Planning Authority on the best course of action.

Would the solar canopy be removed as soon as reasonably practicable when no longer needed?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If you have answered no above, the proposal will exceed the limits set by legislation. In this circumstance, you should not continue with this application and seek advice from the Local Planning Authority on the best course of action.

5. Description of proposed work and impacts

Please describe the proposed development, including the siting, design and external appearance of the development, giving particular thought to the impact of glare on the occupiers of neighbouring premises.

THE PROPOSED SOLAR CARPORTS ARE LOCATED WITHIN THE MAIN PARKING AREAS OF THE NEW TROWBRIDGE LEISURE CENTRE WHICH HAS BEEN APPROVED VIA A SEPARATE PLANNING APPLICATION (REFERENCE: PL/2026/01076) AND ARE INTEGRATED INTO THE SITE LAYOUT. THE ARRANGEMENT MAINTAINS VEHICLE CIRCULATION, PEDESTRIAN SAFETY, AND EMERGENCY ACCESS WHILE MAXIMISING THE AVAILABLE PARKING FOOTPRINT.

THE PREDOMINANTLY SINGLE-PITCH STRUCTURES ARE ORIENTED TO OPTIMISE SOUTHERN SOLAR EXPOSURE AND MINIMISE INTER-ROW SHADING. THE USE OF BIFACIAL PV MODULES ENHANCES PERFORMANCE THROUGH ADDITIONAL REFLECTED IRRADIANCE. SHADING FROM ADJACENT BUILDINGS, LIGHTING COLUMNS, AND BOUNDARY FEATURES HAS BEEN CONSIDERED WITHIN THE LAYOUT DESIGN.

THE FORMS ARE CLEAN, LINEAR, AND CONTEMPORARY, ENSURING THE STRUCTURES COMPLEMENT THE NEW LEISURE CENTRE ARCHITECTURE WHILE REMAINING VISUALLY LIGHTWEIGHT WITHIN THE CAR PARK SETTING. THE MATERIAL PALETTE FOR THE SOLAR CARPORTS HAS BEEN CAREFULLY SELECTED TO BALANCE STRUCTURAL DURABILITY, ARCHITECTURAL QUALITY, AND LONG-TERM PERFORMANCE WITHIN A PUBLIC LEISURE ENVIRONMENT. THE DESIGN COMBINES ROBUST INDUSTRIAL ELEMENTS WITH NATURAL FINISHES TO CREATE A STRUCTURE THAT IS BOTH FUNCTIONAL AND VISUALLY SYMPATHETIC TO THE WIDER LEISURE CENTRE DEVELOPMENT.

THE PRIMARY STRUCTURAL FRAME CONSISTS OF GALVANISED STEEL COLUMNS PAINTED RAL 7016, DESIGNED TO PROVIDE STRENGTH, DURABILITY, AND RESISTANCE TO CORROSION. SUPPORTING THE ROOF STRUCTURE ARE ENGINEERED GLULAM TIMBER RAFTERS. THE USE OF GLULAM INTRODUCES A WARM, NATURAL MATERIAL THAT SOFTENS THE OVERALL AESTHETIC AND REDUCES THE VISUAL HEAVINESS OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH STEEL-ONLY CARPORT STRUCTURES. THE ROOF ASSEMBLY COMPRISES A BESPOKE STEEL MOUNTING SYSTEM THAT SUPPORTS THE PHOTOVOLTAIC MODULES WHILE FORMING A FULLY WATERTIGHT CANOPY. THE SYSTEM INCORPORATES INTEGRATED DRAINAGE CHANNELS CONCEALED WITHIN THE STRUCTURAL ZONE, MAINTAINING A CLEAN, UNCLUTTERED UNDERSIDE APPEARANCE. RAINWATER IS DIRECTED INTO CONTROLLED DISCHARGE POINTS CONNECTED TO THE BELOW-GROUND DRAINAGE NETWORK.

CARPORTS WILL BE SUPPORTED ON REINFORCED CONCRETE PAD FOUNDATIONS DESIGNED TO SUIT GROUND CONDITIONS AND STRUCTURAL LOADING REQUIREMENTS, INCLUDING WIND UPLIFT. UNDERGROUND SERVICE ROUTES, CABLE CONTAINMENT, AND DRAINAGE DUCTING ARE COORDINATED TO AVOID CLASHES WITH EXISTING UTILITIES.

OVERALL, THE SITE OFFERS SUITABLE SPACE, ORIENTATION, GROUND CONDITIONS, AND ELECTRICAL PROXIMITY TO SUPPORT A TECHNICALLY VIABLE AND EFFICIENT SOLAR CARPORT INSTALLATION ALIGNED WITH THE LEISURE CENTRE’S SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVE.

5. Description of proposed work and impacts (continued)

If any part of the solar canopy would be situated in:

- a conservation area;
- an area of outstanding natural beauty;
- an area specified by the Secretary of State for the purposes of enhancement and protection of the natural beauty and amenity of the countryside;
- the Broads;
- a National Park;
- a World Heritage Site.

Please provide details of any impact of the solar canopy on the land and how this will be mitigated. This should also identify and address the land’s designation(s) as per the list above.

THE SOLAR CAR PORTS ARE LOCATED OUTSIDE ALL THE AREA TYPES NOTED ABOVE.

If the proposed development would be above a permeable surface, please provide details of the provision to be made to direct run-off water from the solar canopy to a permeable or porous area or surface within the off-street parking area

THE BESPOKE ROOF SYSTEM INCORPORATES INTEGRATED DRAINAGE CONNECTED TO BELOW-GROUND INFRASTRUCTURE, ENSURING EFFECTIVE WATER MANAGEMENT WITHOUT IMPACTING EXISTING SURFACE WATER ARRANGEMENTS.

THE ROOF ASSEMBLY COMPRISES A BESPOKE STEEL MOUNTING SYSTEM THAT SUPPORTS THE PHOTOVOLTAIC MODULES WHILE FORMING A FULLY WATERTIGHT CANOPY. THE SYSTEM INCORPORATES INTEGRATED DRAINAGE CHANNELS CONCEALED WITHIN THE STRUCTURAL ZONE, MAINTAINING A CLEAN, UNCLUTTERED UNDERSIDE APPEARANCE. RAINWATER IS DIRECTED INTO CONTROLLED DISCHARGE POINTS CONNECTED TO THE BELOW-GROUND DRAINAGE NETWORK.

6. Checklist

Please read the following checklist to make sure you provide all the required information in support of your proposal. The information provided should include all the details necessary for the Local Planning Authority to determine if the proposal complies with permitted development legislation, and if its prior approval should be granted. If sufficient information is not provided the Local Authority can either request it, or refuse the application.

All sections of this application completed in full, dated and signed.
The correct fee
A plan indicating the site and showing the proposed development.

PAYMENT TO BE MADE VIA DIRECT TRANSFER FROM THE COUNCIL. SEE EMAIL FOR DETAILS.

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A plan drawn to an identified scale will assist the authority in assessing your development proposal.
Plans can be bought from one of the Planning Portal's accredited suppliers: <https://www.planningportal.co.uk/buyapanningmap>

7. Declaration

I/we hereby apply for prior approval as described in this form and the accompanying plans/drawings and additional information. I/we confirm that, to the best of my/our knowledge, any facts stated are true and accurate and any opinions given are the genuine opinions of the person(s) giving them.

Signed - Applicant:

Or signed - Agent:

S.J.B.Lee

Date (DD/MM/YYYY):

12/05/2026

(date cannot be pre-application)

8. Applicant Contact Details

Telephone numbers

Country code:

National number:

Extension:

Country code:

Mobile number (optional):

Country code:

Fax number (optional):

Email address:

9. Agent Contact Details

Telephone numbers

Country code:

National number:

Extension:

03333 405 500

Country code:

Mobile number (optional):

Country code:

Fax number (optional):

Email address:

mail@robertslimbrick.com

Page 5 of 5

Version PDF 2024