

DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT

Proposed Installation of an 8kW Aira Air Source Heat Pump

Property: 68 Wellhouse Green, Golcar, Huddersfield, HD7 4ET

Applicant: [Applicant's Name]

Planning Authority: Kirklees Council

Date: 12 August 2026

1. Introduction

This Design and Access Statement has been prepared to support an application for the installation of a new **8kW Aira air source heat pump** at 68 Wellhouse Green, Golcar, Huddersfield.

The purpose of the proposal is to provide a more efficient and lower-carbon heating system for the existing home.

The proposal is limited to the installation of one external heat pump unit and the associated pipework and electrical connections. There will be no extension to the property and no change to its residential use.

2. The Property and Its Setting

68 Wellhouse Green is an existing residential property forming part of a traditional stone-built terrace.

The property is **Grade II listed** and is located within the **Wellhouse Conservation Area**. The historic character of the property and its surroundings has therefore been taken into account when considering the proposed installation.

3. The Proposed Development

The proposal is for the installation of a single **Aira 8kW air source heat pump**.

The system will include:

- One external Aira 8kW heat pump unit;
- Necessary heating pipework;
- Electrical connections; and
- A suitable base/support for the external unit.

The exact location of the unit is shown on the submitted proposed site plan and drawings.

The installation will not require the removal of windows, doors, roof materials or other important architectural features.

Where pipework or fixings are required, these will be kept to a minimum and installed as discreetly as possible.

4. Design and Appearance

The heat pump is a modern piece of domestic heating equipment and has been chosen because of its relatively compact size and suitability for residential use.

The unit will be positioned to allow the equipment to operate correctly and be maintained.

The installation will be finished in a suitable subdued colour and, where appropriate, screening may be used to reduce its visual impact.

The screening will not obstruct the airflow required by the heat pump and will allow access for maintenance.

The proposal has been designed so that the main architectural features of the listed building remain unchanged.

5. Impact on the Listed Building and Conservation Area

The applicant recognises the historic importance of the property and its surroundings.

The installation has therefore been designed to have as little impact as reasonably possible.

In particular:

- No significant historic stonework will be removed;
- No historic windows or doors will be altered;
- The roof will remain unchanged;
- The main architectural appearance of the property will be retained;
- The heat pump will be located away from important architectural features where practicable; and
- The installation will be capable of being removed in the future.

The proposal is small in scale and will not alter the character of the existing terrace or the wider Conservation Area.

It is considered that the installation will have only a limited visual effect and will preserve the character and appearance of the historic property and its surroundings.

6. Noise and Residential Amenity

The proposed Aira 8kW heat pump is designed for domestic use.

The noise assessment created in accordance with MCS has determined a result of 36/0db which is a pass.

The unit will be positioned to minimise potential noise impact on neighbouring properties and will be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's requirements.

It is therefore considered that the installation will not have an unacceptable effect on neighbouring residential amenity.

7. Sustainability

The main purpose of the proposal is to improve the energy efficiency of the existing home.

An air source heat pump provides heating by extracting heat from the outside air rather than burning gas or oil at the property.

The proposed system will therefore:

- Provide a lower-carbon heating system;
- Reduce reliance on fossil fuels;
- Improve the energy efficiency of the property; and
- Contribute towards national and local targets for reducing carbon emissions.

The proposal also allows an existing historic property to benefit from modern low-carbon technology without requiring major alterations to the building.

8. Access

There will be no changes to the existing pedestrian or vehicular access to the property.

No new parking, highway works or changes to the public footpath are required.

The heat pump will be accessible for installation and future maintenance using the existing access to the property.

9. Planning and Heritage Considerations

The proposal has been designed having regard to the **National Planning Policy Framework** and relevant **Kirklees Local Plan** policies relating to:

- Good design;
- Sustainable development;
- Renewable and low-carbon energy;
- Energy efficiency; and
- The protection of heritage assets.

The proposal provides a clear environmental benefit while involving only a small and reversible change to the existing property.

The installation will allow the historic dwelling to be heated more efficiently while retaining its existing character and appearance.

10. Conclusion

The proposed installation of an **8kW Aira air source heat pump** at 68 Wellhouse Green is a small-scale improvement to an existing residential property.

The proposal will provide a more efficient and lower-carbon heating system while minimising any impact on the Grade II listed building and the Wellhouse Conservation Area.

The installation will not alter the use of the property, its main architectural features, its roof or its existing access arrangements.

The equipment will be positioned and installed as discreetly as practicable, with appropriate consideration given to appearance, noise, historic fabric and neighbouring properties.

The proposal therefore represents a sensible and proportionate way of introducing low-carbon heating to the existing home and is considered to be an appropriate form of sustainable improvement.

It is respectfully requested that planning permission and any associated Listed Building Consent be granted for the proposed installation.