

Ref: FOI / 5803

08th July 2025

Freedom of Information Act 2000 Request Solar Energy Usage and Future Plans

I refer to your FOI request and respond as follows:

I would like to request information regarding your current and planned usage of solar energy across your estate.

1. Governance & Responsibility

- **Do you have a dedicated person or team responsible for solar energy investment and/or sustainability energy initiatives within your organisation?**

Yes

- **If so, please provide their role/title (personal names are not required).**

Energy Officer

2. Current Solar Deployment

- **How many solar panel installations (PV systems) do you currently operate across your estate?**

6 no Facilities

- **What is the total installed capacity of these systems (in kWp)?**

118 kWp

Derry

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98 Strand Road
Derry
BT48 7NN

Strabane

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47 Derry Road
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- **What proportion of your organisation's energy usage is currently provided by solar generation?**
- Council does not hold this information.

3. Investment & Strategy

- **Does your organisation have a documented investment strategy for expanding the use of solar panels or increasing on-site renewable energy generation?**

No

- **If so, please provide a copy of or link to the relevant strategy or plan (or summarise key points if not published).**
- N/A

4. Solar and Net Zero Commitments

- **Does solar energy form part of your organisation's Net Zero / Carbon Reduction Strategy?**

Yes

- **If yes, how is progress against this strategy communicated to the public (e.g. via website, reports, dashboards, etc.)?**
- Reports to Council committees' statutory returns.

5. Future Plans

- **Are there any planned solar panel projects or expansions within the next 3 years? If yes, please provide high-level details (e.g. number of sites, scale of deployment, approximate timescales).**

No

- **Have you conducted any feasibility studies on increasing solar capacity in the past 3 years? If so, can these be shared?**

No

6. Procurement & Partnerships

- **Does your organisation currently use any third-party companies or frameworks to deliver solar energy solutions or manage installations? If yes, which ones?**

No

- **Are there any upcoming procurement exercises planned relating to solar energy or wider renewable energy solutions?**

No

7. Battery Storage

- **Do you currently use battery storage alongside your solar panels?**

No

- **Are there plans to invest in battery storage in future?**

Will be considered as part of any future projects / programmes.

8. Funding

- **Has your organisation accessed or applied for any external funding to support solar energy projects (e.g. SALIX, Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, LEP funding)?**

No

9. Barriers

- **What are the main barriers your organisation faces to further adoption of solar energy (e.g. funding, planning restrictions, roof suitability, internal resource)?**

Funding / Resources

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have rights of review and appeal; these rights consist of two review processes.

Firstly, our internal review procedure is available by contacting:

John Kelpie
Chief Executive
Derry City and Strabane District Council
98 Strand Road
Derry BT48 7NN
Tel: 028 71253253 or email: john.kelpie@derrystrabane.com

Secondly, you can appeal directly by contacting the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
CHESHIRE SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or email: casework@ico.org.uk

I would however advise that the Information Commissioner has indicated that a review will not be undertaken unless the Council has first had an opportunity to reconsider its decision.

Yours sincerely

Conor Canning
Head of Environment & Building Control