

DO GRANT HEAT PUMPS NEED PLANNING PERMISSION?



WALES



PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT

In the majority of cases, planning permission does not need to be obtained for installing an air source heat pump. This is because the installation of an air source heat pump is considered permitted development if certain conditions are met.





PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS FOR HEAT PUMPS IN WALES



**UPDATED
JUNE 2026**

The changes to Permitted Development Rights in Wales which came into effect on 1st June 2026 include:

3m boundary restriction removed

a heat pump can be installed within 3m of the boundary of the curtilage of a detached dwellinghouse under permitted development, distance is determined by noise compliance (MCS 020 a)

Heat pump cubic size increased

larger heat pump units up to 1.5 cubic meters can be installed on or within the curtilage of a dwellinghouse without planning permission

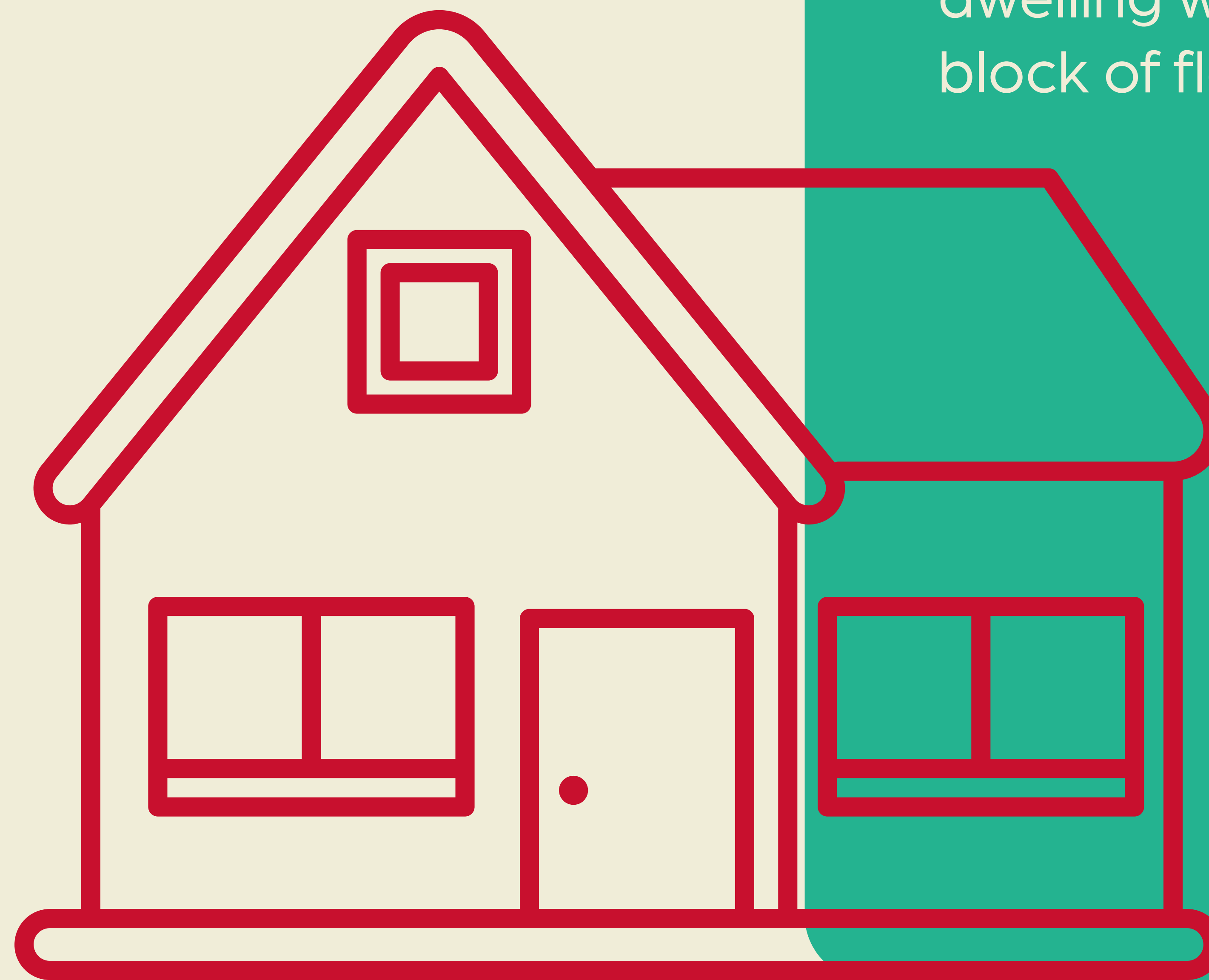
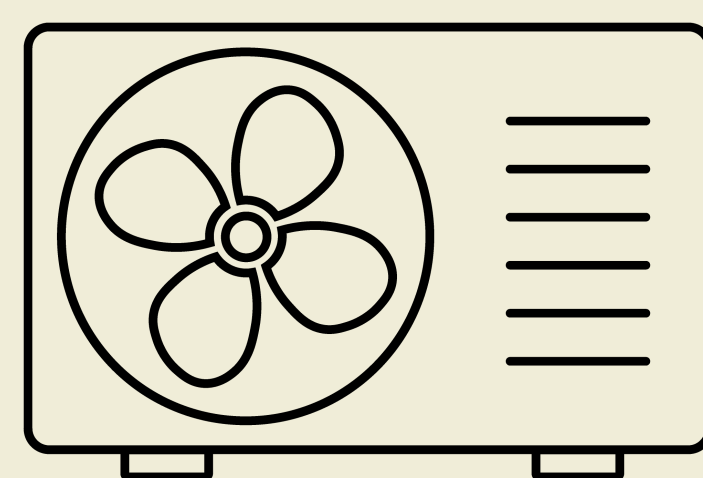
Up to two heat pumps allowed for detached homes

up to two heat pumps can be installed on or within the curtilage of a detached dwelling under permitted development.

While some of the permitted development rights in Wales differ to those in place in England, the changes introduced in June 2026 have closely aligned the rules in place in England and Wales for installing an air source heat pump under permitted development. MCS Standards are applicable in Wales as well as in England and properties which are listed, located in conservation areas or within a World Heritage Site will be subject to planning permission in both England and Wales.

HEAT PUMP LOCATION, SITING & LISTED PROPERTIES

Care should be taken when deciding where to position a heat pump unit, both to maximise performance and to ensure it falls within permitted development.



Instances where planning permission is required:

- If a heat pump is being installed at a listed building or on a site designated as a scheduled monument
- If more than one heat pump is being installed on or within the curtilage of a dwelling which is not detached or is a block of flats
- If more than two heat pumps are installed on or within the curtilage of a detached dwelling
- If a heat pump is being installed on a flat roof within 1m of the external edge of the roof or on a pitched roof.

SIZE MATTERS



To comply with permitted development the volume of the outdoor unit must not exceed 1.5 cubic metres for heat pump installations on or within the curtilage of a dwellinghouse – if it is larger, planning permission will need to be obtained.



**ALL GRANT AERONA
AIR SOURCE HEAT
PUMPS MEET THE
1.5 CUBIC METER
REQUIREMENT**

MCS STANDARDS SOUND LEVELS

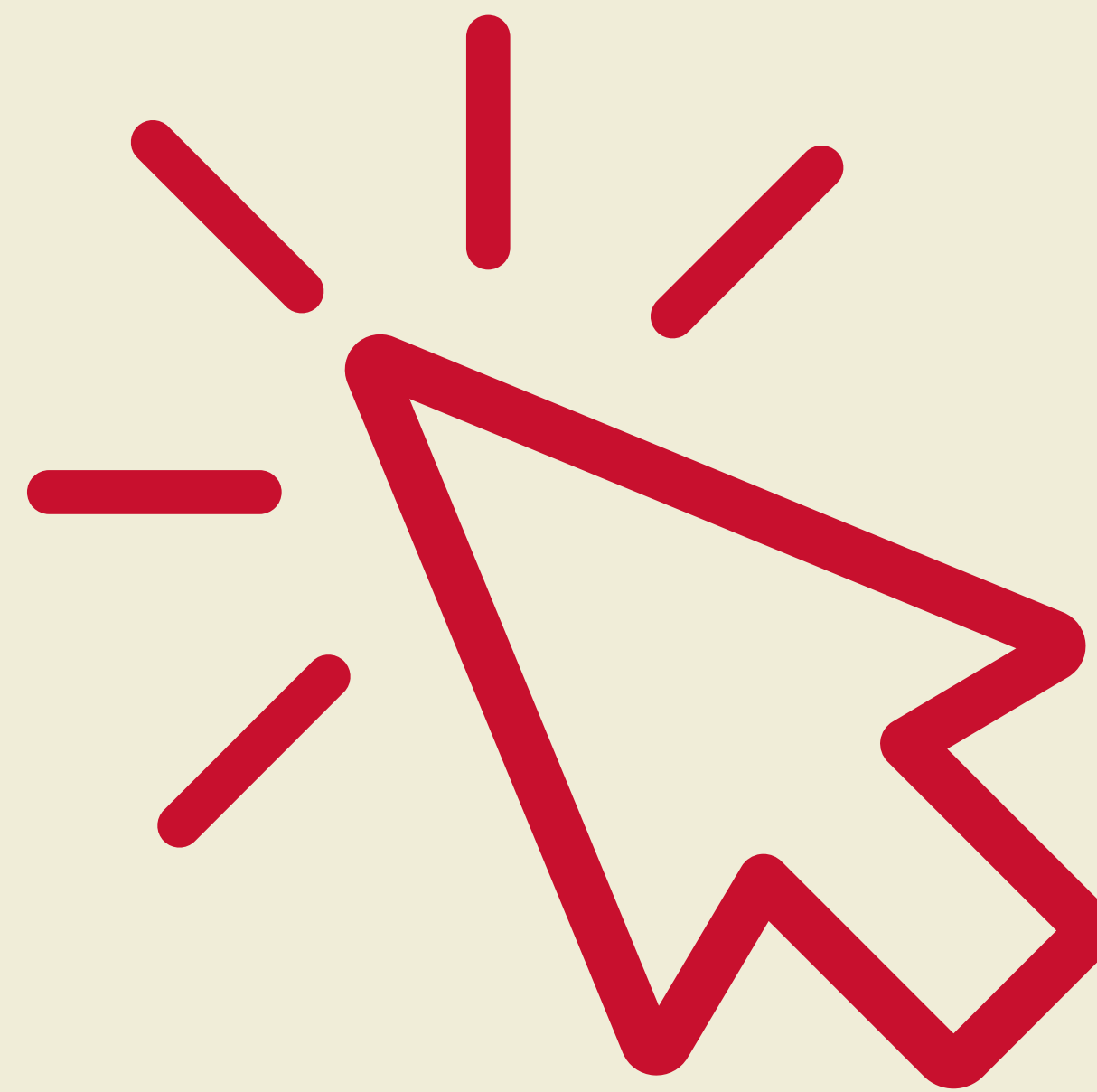


Part of the MCS Planning Standards (Microgeneration Installation Standard MCS020 a)) relates to sound levels, specifically the sound level calculated at an assessment position adjacent to the nearest doors or windows of the neighbouring building.

If a sound level of 37dB(A) or less is calculated, the installation will meet this condition for permitted development. The method for making this sound assessment is detailed in the MCS 020 a) Standard and forms part of MCS installation practices.

CAN YOU HEAR THAT?

QUICK LINKS



[Do Grant heat pumps need planning permission?](#)

[MCS Planning Standards](#)

[Grant heat pumps](#)