



Modern Economy

Policy EJ6: Data and Energy Storage

- A. Applications for data or energy storage facilities will be expected to utilise low profile, former industrial brownfield sites that have existing infrastructure.
- B. Proposals for data or energy storage should demonstrate they have considered opportunities available for the reuse of heat they generate by contributing to heat networks where possible.
- C. Opportunities for micro data storage to be located adjacent to public facilities and buildings, particularly in town centres, in order to facilitate heat sharing, will be welcomed.
- D. Proposals for Data and Energy storage must not constrain the early development of key strategic employment and housing sites.
- E. Applications for data or energy storage should make use of existing power infrastructure. Due to the low direct economic benefits of data or energy storage use, proposals will be expected to make Section 106 contributions towards academia and skills organisations.

Places for Everyone Links

JP-J2

Relevant Strategic Objectives

SO4

- 5.36. Data centres house IT infrastructure (computer servers, storage systems, and networking equipment) for building, running, and delivering digital applications and services, and for storing and managing the data associated with those applications and services.
- 5.37. Whilst direct employment benefits from data centres are relatively low and at similar levels to warehousing, the skills levels of data centre employees are at a significantly higher level.



- 5.38. Prime strategic employment land with good motorway access should not be used for data centres or energy storage proposals. These uses should be directed to less desirable brownfield sites so as not to restrict other development opportunities. The function of a data centre requires a low profile and restricted access.
- 5.39. However, given the scale of investment for larger data centres, it is understandable for them to be perceived as flagship investments.
- 5.40. Proposals for new Data Storage facilities will be required to undertake early engagement with Electricity North West to ensure that their power requirements can be met and with United Utilities in relation to water cooling needs.

Consultation Question 5-8

Do you support Policy EJ6? Are there any changes required which would improve the policy? Please provide any supporting evidence which you think is relevant.