

From: DfI SPPS Team <SPPSTeam@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk>
Sent: 11 December 2025 14:14
To: DfI SPPS Team
Subject: PUBLICATION OF A POLICY REVISION TO THE STRATEGIC PLANNING POLICY STATEMENT ON THE SUBJECT OF RENEWABLE AND LOW CARBON ENERGY

Dear Stakeholder,

PUBLICATION OF A POLICY REVISION TO THE STRATEGIC PLANNING POLICY STATEMENT ON THE SUBJECT OF RENEWABLE AND LOW CARBON ENERGY

On the 11 December 2025, the Minister for Infrastructure, Liz Kimmins MLA, published a policy revision to the Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS), marking the conclusion of a focused review of the former SPPS (2015) on the subject of renewable and low carbon energy.

The new policy, agreed by the Executive Committee, is contained in the SPPS, Edition 2, and set out at pages 86 - 91. Consequently, the former subject policy titled "Renewable Energy" ceases to have effect from the date of this publication and the SPPS (2015) is hereby revoked. All other policy provisions within the former SPPS are unchanged, except for some technical changes, such as amendments to the contents page, paragraph numbers, and factual clarifications, where relevant.

Planning Policy Statement 18: Renewable Energy (August 2009) is now cancelled. Its provisions shall cease to have effect and shall not be considered material from the date of this publication. However, the guidance contained in Best Practice Guidance to PPS 18 - Renewable Energy will continue to have effect (where relevant) unless and until such guidance is updated, revised or replaced by new Departmental guidance on this planning issue.

The provisions of the SPPS, Edition 2 take immediate effect and must be taken into account in the preparation of Local Development Plans and are also a material consideration to all decisions on individual planning applications and appeals.

The SPPS, Edition 2 can be accessed following this link:

<https://www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/publications/strategic-planning-policy-statement>

DfI Regional Planning Policy & Casework Directorate

