

POLICY NF12: Dark skies

Development proposals must take account of the existing dark skies in Newton Flotman parish (figure 36) and limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light. Street lighting will not be permitted on any new development, unless it is proven necessary for security or safety. Any necessary lighting must be designed to minimise the impact on dark skies by, for example, minimal light spillage, use of downlighting, movement sensitive lighting and restricting hours of lighting. Lighting likely to cause disturbance or risk to wildlife will not be supported.

Development proposals should demonstrate compliance with best practice guidance for avoiding artificial lighting impacts on bats.¹² Where lighting cannot be avoided altogether in proposals then it must be designed to avoid light spill onto wildlife roosts, foraging habitat, and commuting routes for bats, birds, and other species. (page 65)