

From: Mark Gerry <mark.gerry@jameshallam.co.uk>
Sent: 23 February 2026 09:20
To: Facilities (Liskeard Town Council) <facilities@liskeard.gov.uk>
Cc: Town Clerk (Liskeard Town Council) <townclerk@liskeard.gov.uk>; Jim Nicholson <Jim.Nicholson@jhrm.co.uk>
Subject: RE: Battery storage

Good morning Jacqui,

Hope you are well and had a good weekend.

Apologies for not getting back to you last week but I just wanted to catch up with Jim for his thoughts/update before replying and he had been visiting a client.

I have now caught up with Jim and I'm afraid nothing has changed from an insurance/risk management perspective since our previous advices - provided in January 2025.

Jim has kindly provided the attached Aviva guide to small battery storage systems, which places a big emphasis on fire risks and the need to do considerable work to protect lives and property starting with the best option of 10 metres from the main building - as we originally advised.

There are options such as a two-hour fire stop around the battery where basically b=means a concrete bunker.

Generally, this document echoes what we have previously advised.

Trust of some assistance.

Kind Regards

Mark

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insurance brokers



Mark Gerry
Divisional Manager - Corporate

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From: Facilities (Liskeard Town Council) <facilities@liskeard.gov.uk>

Sent: 19 February 2026 20:09

To: Mark Gerry <mark.gerry@jameshallam.co.uk>; Jim Nicholson <jimnicholson@worknest.com>

Cc: Town Clerk (Liskeard Town Council) <townclerk@liskeard.gov.uk>

Subject: FW: Battery storage

Hi Mark and Jim,

I wonder if you might be able to assist with this. You may recall we have a councillor who is particularly keen to pursue the idea of installing a battery bank in the Public Hall that would link to the 35kW PV on the roof. When discussed previously it was deemed as too high a fire risk – I've attached the old email correspondence. Is this still the position of our insurers? Has anything changed in light of recent government policy or technology that would have shifted their view?

Kind regards

Jacqui Orange

Facilities Manager

Liskeard Town Council

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From: R Dorling <r.dorling@liskeard.gov.uk>

Sent: 13 February 2026 15:33

To: Facilities (Liskeard Town Council) <facilities@liskeard.gov.uk>

Cc: D Braithwaite <d.braithwaite@liskeard.gov.uk>; Sylvia Berry <s.berry@liskeard.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: Battery storage

As the H&S Advisors and Insurance providers comments have influenced the decision it is important that they justify their position where it conflicts with Government advice. We should not follow objections to a project without having evidence for their findings.

2 examples have been given where a battery storage system has been considered safe and cost effective in a public building which is a strong indicator that they are wrong to advise against battery storage.

We should confirm that evidence based advice has been provided as there are strong indicators that the advice is incorrect.

RD

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Facilities (Liskeard Town Council) <facilities@liskeard.gov.uk>
Sent: Wednesday, February 11, 2026 9:44:52 am
To: R Dorling <r.dorling@liskeard.gov.uk>
Cc: D Braithwaite <d.braithwaite@liskeard.gov.uk>; Sylvia Berry <s.berry@liskeard.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Battery storage

Hi Richard,

Thanks for your email.

Following discussions with David and Sylvia, the battery bank project was added to the agenda for Facilities Committee meeting held on 20 January.

The proposal was discussed in some detail and while councillors were interested to hear about the installation at St Keyne Village Hall from Jane and the experience there, there was not sufficient support to take the project forward at the Public Hall (especially given the advice from our H&S advisor and insurers).

Coincidentally, I recently had a tour of St Mary's Church with the architect and contractors undertaking their refurbishment works. As part of the project, they have installed a substantial solar PV array on the roof linked to battery storage in the basement. I wasn't able to look at the installation at the time, as the basement was still a construction site, but it may be worthwhile contacting Mike Sturgess, their treasurer to find out how they handled the insurance side of things.

Jane has kindly offered to share the contact details of the Chairman at St Keyne Parish Council, should we want to talk to them about their project.

Kind regards

Jacqui Orange

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From: R Dorling <r.dorling@liskeard.gov.uk>

Sent: 11 February 2026 05:04

To: Facilities (Liskeard Town Council) <facilities@liskeard.gov.uk>; D Braithwaite <d.braithwaite@liskeard.gov.uk>; Sylvia Berry <s.berry@liskeard.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: Battery storage

Jaquie,

A month has passed and I have not received any response. Please provide an update.

RD

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

From: R Dorling <r.dorling@liskeard.gov.uk>

Sent: Monday, January 12, 2026 4:31:50 pm

To: Facilities (Liskeard Town Council) <facilities@liskeard.gov.uk>; D Braithwaite <d.braithwaite@liskeard.gov.uk>; Sylvia Berry <s.berry@liskeard.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: Battery storage

They need to justify their position as it goes against government guidance.

The building is not significantly different to other buildings other than being larger than most and this will not cause a battery to combust.

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Facilities (Liskeard Town Council) <facilities@liskeard.gov.uk>
Sent: Thursday, January 8, 2026 12:04:42 PM
To: R Dorling <r.dorling@liskeard.gov.uk>; D Braithwaite <d.braithwaite@liskeard.gov.uk>; Sylvia Berry <s.berry@liskeard.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Battery storage

Hi Richard,

Thanks for your email.

As things stand, the context of the building hasn't changed, and the advice we have had from the insurers and the fire risk assessor was based specifically on this building.

I'm not sure they would be able to comment on wider government policy or why battery systems are being encouraged more generally, that said, I am happy to go back to them to check that their advice still stands if that would be helpful.

Kind regards

Jacqui Orange

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From: R Dorling <r.dorling@liskeard.gov.uk>

Sent: 30 December 2025 05:23

To: Facilities (Liskeard Town Council) <facilities@liskeard.gov.uk>; D Braithwaite <d.braithwaite@liskeard.gov.uk>; Sylvia Berry <s.berry@liskeard.gov.uk>

Subject: Battery storage

Hi Jaquie,

On behalf of Facilities, could you ask the safety consultant and the insurers why the government of the day is encouraging homeowners to install battery systems when they believe the batteries are a fire risk?

KR,

RD

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