

Solar PV Panels

What are they and how do they work?

Solar PV (photovoltaic) panels are a renewable energy technology that generate electricity from the sun. The panels are fixed to the roof of a property, and are most efficient when south-facing.



Benefits

- Direct savings to electricity bills - less dependency on energy companies.
- Can still generate electricity on a cloudy day!
- Possibility to claim the Smart Export Guarantee (SEG) to sell excess electricity back to the National Grid.
- Increased Energy Performance Rating and potential boost to property market value.
- Reduction of fossil-fuel based energy consumption and CO₂ emissions.
- Low maintenance requirements.
- Life-span of approximately 20-25 years.

Things to consider

- Optimal on a south-facing roof.
- May not be a permitted development on a listed building. Could require planning permission in a conservation area – check with your Local Authority.
- Will need freeholder permission if property is shared ownership.
- Often not feasible for installation to be funded on blocks of flats or maisonettes.
- The ownership of the panels is transferred upon sale of the property to the new buyer.
- Arrays with an inverter larger than 3.6kW will require a DNO application – this can take 8-12 weeks for approval.
- The inverter is likely to need replacing within the lifespan of the panels (approx. £800).

Funding Expectations with Action Surrey

Funded: Surveys, panels and mounting equipment, labour costs, electrical commissioning, inverters, scaffolding. Lodgement with Trustmark and MCS.

Action Surrey can provide a confirmation of ownership letter to the resident to enable application for the Smart Export Guarantee.

Not funded: Battery storage, hot water diverters (e.g. Eddi), bird protection netting. Specific models as requested by the customer will not necessarily be funded due to availability of supply and timescale of funding. Additional requirements should be discussed with installer.

Supported by:



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