

Overview

Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC) has a target to reduce carbon emissions by 10 per cent by 2017* to deliver improvements to its key public buildings. The project demonstrates the Council's commitment to energy efficiency and achieving value for money for the public sector.

BCC has used the National Re:fit Programme to deliver an ambitious programme for energy efficiency across its estates. This flagship project launches the delivery of the Buckinghamshire Energy Strategy. While the Council has already made strong progress towards its carbon targets, Re:fit has allowed it to achieve economies of scale and bring improved efficiency to its smallest buildings under a guaranteed savings programme.

The Council, supported by Local Partnerships, ran a mini-competition under the Re:fit programme and Engie was identified as preferred bidder in February 2015. Engie completed Investment Grade Proposals for the first phase of 18 selected buildings at the end of summer 2015.

Due to planned cuts to the solar PV subsidies, the Council fast-tracked plans for PV installations across a number of primary schools, secondary schools and corporate buildings. By installing measures in December 2015, the Council ensured that they qualified for Feed-in Tariff (FIT) income before the cuts took place.

Local Partnerships' team assisted throughout the process, providing a review of technical and commercial documentation to help gain approval to install the selected measures.

Project:	Solar PV Roof Installations	
Savings:	£26,936 annual cost savings	Around 362 tonnes of CO ₂ per annum saved
Value:	£280,191 investment of Solar PV works	Simple payback of 10.4 years
Timescale:	Installations completed in December 2015	



“Local Partnerships’ support has helped Buckinghamshire County Council to fast-track this project through the Re:fit programme. If the Council had not been part of Re:fit, it may have missed out on this income opportunity with the project becoming not cost justifiable.”

Rachel Toresen-Owuor, Energy Manager

*2011-12 baseline in the BCC Carbon Management Plan

Summary of Energy Conservation Measures (ECMs)

The Council's solar PV roof installations consisted of the following:

Solar PV

The roof-mounted solar PV solution involved 9 buildings. The overall system output is **118 kWp** which will provide 109,653kWh annual output. This solution also has a guaranteed annual saving of 258,545kWh.

The smallest system involved was 11kWp, producing 10,626kWh annually and utilising 50 per cent of the site's roof space.

The largest system was 20kWp, producing 17,820kWh annually and utilising 50 per cent of the site's roof space.

Energy efficiency and financial savings through Re:fit

Re:fit is a procurement framework and support service available to all public sector organisations in the UK. Since 2009 it has been helping organisations to deliver "spend-to-save" environmental retrofit projects that both improve their buildings and, importantly, make substantial guaranteed financial savings.

For further information

For more information about the National Re:fit Programme, contact robert.mckinnon@local.gov.uk or phone 07920 702 297.