



Welcome to the Big Green Envelope – Autumn 2023 Edition

The BGE is a pack filled with details of **local sustainable /environmental information, new services and funding** available to schools and community groups in Sefton. ***Please note: Sefton Council is not responsible for the content of any information included that comes from an external organisation***

If you do not deal with such issues, please pass the information on to the person within your organisation who does.

Please share/display the enclosed information so as many people as possible are aware of all the services and facilities available to them.

This information is also available online via: <https://www.southportecocentre.com/community>

Thank you for your support.

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Information for Schools & Community Groups

Contained within this section is (click on the link to go to the relevant information):

- [A selection of funding opportunities](#) for both schools and community groups in relation to environmental projects – do you have an idea but need some funding to get your project off the ground? This may help you out!
- [Information on the Council's work on the Climate Emergency](#) including consultation feedback and actions taken as well as headlines from the Climate Annual Report

FUNDING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL/SUSTAINABLE PROJECTS

1. Free Trees for Schools and Communities - Woodland Trust

The Woodlands Trust is giving away hundreds of thousands of trees to schools and communities. They are currently taking applications for trees to be delivered in March 2024.

Who can apply? Schools across the UK, plus nurseries, colleges, universities and outdoor learning centres. All kinds of different groups such as: teacher associations, sports clubs, parish councils, socials, guides and many more. – deadline Jan 2024 or when packs run out.

Contacts: <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/planet/trees/schools-and-communities/>

2. Sustainable Drainage Systems in Schools (SUDS) - DEF

The DEF are interested in working with delivery partners to reduce the risk of surface water flooding to schools. In addition to reducing surface water flood risk to schools this could also reduce the strain on local drainage. The DEF will consider contribution towards large, medium and small Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS) projects and is interested in delivering incremental improvements in surface water flooding risk reduction/absorption across the estate. The main SUDS Scheme types we will be considering are:

- Small schemes that have minimal design/engineering e.g. small planters, small rain gardens, tree pits.
- Medium schemes e.g. medium sized planters, medium sized rain gardens.
- Large schemes that require significant design and engineering e.g. swales, re-landscaping and green solar roofs.

Who can apply? All state-funded schools in England (Primary and Secondary Schools), and DEF funded sixth forms who are typically part of a Secondary School. Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) Water Company (WC) Non-Profit Organisation – deadline Friday 10th October 2023.

Climate Microsite and Newsletter

You said, we did!

Last summer, the Council ran a public climate consultation where we gathered residents' views and opinions on the climate emergency and the Council's work.

A key takeaway was the desire for more information sharing on what the Council is doing.

In response to this feedback we have created a climate microsite [Climate Emergency](#) (defon.gov.uk) and our first climate-specific email newsletter.

You can sign up to the quarterly newsletter by clicking on the link below.

[Get in touch](#) (info@defon.gov.uk)



Climate Annual Report 2022-23

The Council have shared the latest annual report for 2022-23 which highlights the progress made towards our ambitious net zero 2030 target.

The document reports that:

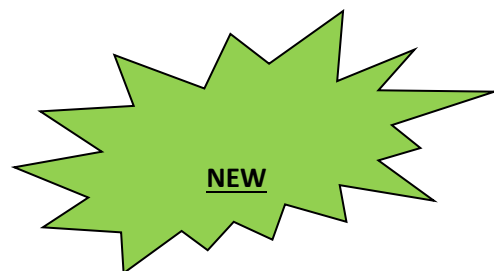
- Emissions have reduced by 748 tonnes (7%) in the last year.
- Since 2019, there has been a 2,636 tonne reduction in emissions, which is a 18% decrease.
- As of April 2023, all electricity used by the Council is now generated from 100% renewable sources.
- 3,000 school children received climate related education from the teaching team at the Eco Centre in Southport.

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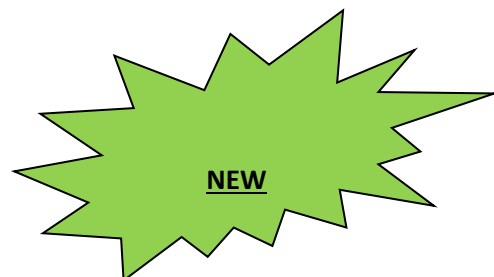


Who can apply? Schools across the UK, plus nurseries, colleges, universities and outdoor learning centres. All kinds of different groups such as resident associations, sports clubs, parish councils, scouts, guides and many more. – **deadline Jan 2024 or when packs run out.**

Contacts: <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/schools-and-communities/>

2. Sustainable Drainage Systems in Schools (SUDS) – DfE

The DfE are interested in working with delivery partners to reduce the risk of surface water flooding to schools. In addition to reducing surface water flood risk to schools this could also reduce the strain on local drainage. The DfE will consider contribution towards large, medium and small Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) projects and is interested in delivering incremental improvements in surface water flooding risk reduction / adaption across the estate. The main SuDS Scheme types we will be considering are:



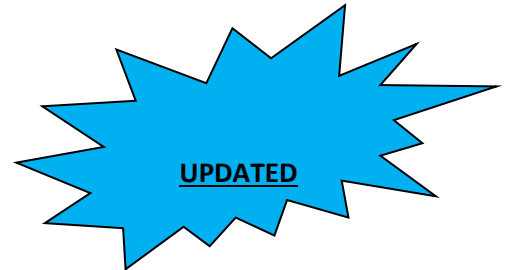
- Small schemes that have minimal design/engineering e.g. small planters, small rain gardens, and tree pits.
- Medium schemes e.g. medium sized planters, medium sized rain gardens.
- Large schemes that require significant design and engineering e.g. swales, re-landscaping and green solar roofs.

Who can apply? All state-funded schools in England (Primary and Secondary Schools, and DfE funded sixth forms who are typically part of a Secondary School). Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA). Water Company (WC). Non-Profit Organisation. – **deadline Friday 13th October 2023.**

Contacts: <https://www.find-government-grants.service.gov.uk/grants/sustainable-drainage-systems-suds-in-schools-202425-1#summary>

3. Sea-changers Main Grants Fund

Marine conservation charities and not for profit organisations (including schools) based and working in the UK can apply for grants of up to £2,500 towards projects and research that address the root causes of marine conservation threats and challenges in the UK, and increase the number of people taking action for marine conservation. The funding, which is being made available through the Sea-Changers Main Grants programme, seeks to support creative and innovative approaches which have lasting benefits and outcomes. Sea-Changers is particularly interested in grassroots projects which galvanise community action and in projects which increase the number of people taking action for marine conservation.

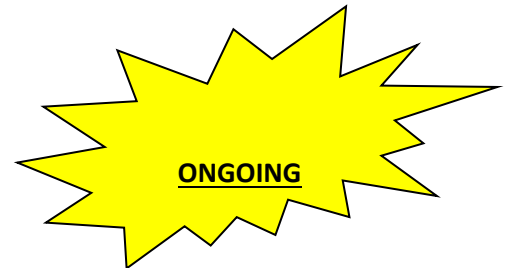


Who can apply? UK-based charities and not-for-profit organisations (including schools) carrying out marine conservation related activities – **deadline 31st March 2024**

Contacts: <https://www.sea-changers.org.uk/grants>

4. Tesco Community Grants

The Tesco Community Grant Scheme is open to charities and community organisations to apply for a grant of up to £1,500. Every three months, three local good causes are selected to be in the blue token customer vote in Tesco stores throughout the UK. Priority will be given to projects that provide food and support to young people.

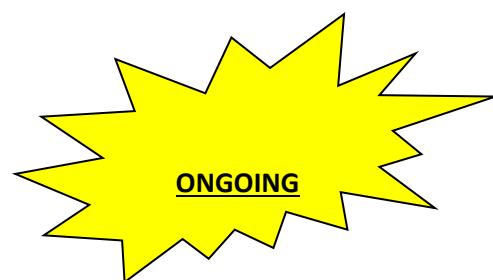


Who can apply? voluntary or community organisations (including registered charities/companies), schools, health bodies (e.g. Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), NHS Hospital Trust, Foundation Trust), Parish/Town Councils, local authorities and social housing providers – funding is on-going.

Contacts: <https://tescocommunitygrants.org.uk/>

5. Nineveh Charitable Trust

Grants available for a broad range of projects and activities that promote a better understanding of the environment and countryside, whilst facilitating improved access, education and research. Whilst the Trust does not specify a minimum or maximum grant amount that can be applied for, an analysis of previous grants would suggest a maximum of £5,000 per year for up to three years.

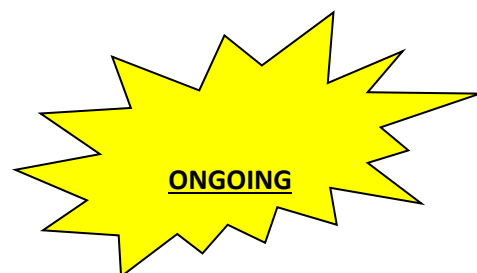


Who can apply? UK based not for profit organisations and schools – **deadline Ongoing.**

Contacts: <https://www.ninevehtrust.org.uk/>

6. Garfield Weston Foundation

The Garfield Weston Foundation is a grant-giving charity for UK registered charities. The Foundation will also consider applications from a limited number of exempt organisations - churches, educational establishments, hospitals and housing corporations. Recent funding has supported projects in the following categories: Arts, Community, Education, Welfare, Medical, Religion, Youth and Environment.



Who can apply? UK registered charities. The Foundation will also consider applications from a limited number of exempt organisations - churches, educational establishments, hospitals and housing corporations – **deadline ongoing**

Contacts: <http://www.garfieldweston.org/#>

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[Get in touch \(umbraco.io\)](#)



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The document reports that:

- **Emissions have reduced by 748 tonnes (7%)** in the last year.
- Since 2019, there has been a **2,036 tonne reduction** in emissions, which is a **18% decrease**.
- As of April 2023, all electricity used by the Council is now generated from **100% renewable sources**.

- **3,000 school children** received climate related education from the teaching team at the Eco Centre in Southport.
- Over **200 homes** in the borough had energy-saving solar panels and battery storage installed, thanks to the Liverpool City Region's Solar Together project.
- Several domestic retrofit programmes were delivered across the region which **increased the energy efficiency** of local homes and helped residents **save money** on heating bills.

You can read the full annual report by clicking on the link below.

<https://stage-sefseven.euwest01.umbraco.io/media/7447/climate-emergency-annual-report-2022-23.pdf>


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Information for All Schools

Contained within this section is (click on the link to go to the relevant information):

- [Eco-Savers Newsletter](#): All your news from the Schools' Eco-Savers programme – want to save energy/water and money as well as learn more about Climate Change and the Environment? Take a look at this. Also features news on the Eco-Savers League for schools.



Sefton Schools Eco-Savers News

Welcome to the next edition of our Eco-Savers newsletter for schools in Sefton. This issue covers the Eco-Savers League Table and an update, dates for your diary, Utility Dashboards, a top tip for your school. Switch off Footprint 2023 & information about how to contact us.

Eco-Savers League Table

Check out your school's latest position, if you haven't received an update (via e-mail) please contact us.


High School (Top 4)

- Crosby High
- Merefield School
- Greenbank High School
- Range Academy


Primary League (Top 4)

- Ursuline Primary School
- Our Lady Star of the Sea
- St John Bosco Primary School
- Linaker Primary School

2022/23 Eco Savers League!



Final Table 2022/23



This league was recently relaunched and rebranded to become the **Eco Savers League!** This meant that all schools needed to re-register for the league and so far 43 of you have done so! Thank you!

We will shortly be asking all schools to either register or update their details for the 2023/24 league so watch out for this information! Last year the 2022/23 league took into account work done up to August 2023. Well done to Ursuline (Primary League) and Crosby High (Secondary League) who topped these tables at the end of that period. Certificates will be on their way to those in the final top 3!

We will be looking at various ways we can provide extra bonuses to schools during the 2023/24 competition so keep your eyes peeled!

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Sefton Schools Eco-Savers News

Welcome to the next edition of our Eco-Savers newsletter for schools in Sefton. This issue covers the Eco-Savers League Table and an update, dates for your diary, Utility Dashboards, a top tip for your school, Switch off Fortnight 2023 & information about how to contact us.

Eco-Savers League Table

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- Range Academy

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2022/23 Eco Savers League!

The Eco Savers League Table

Green Stars have been awarded based on the Eco Savers League Table questionnaires sent back by schools which takes into account the following broad topic areas:

- Energy
- Water
- Outdoor Environment
- Waste
- Travel
- Community

The tables are ranked according to number of green stars, carbon emissions per pupil and the energy efficiency building rating (which can be found on your Display Energy Certificate)

★ High School League ★

Position	School Name	Green Stars	CO2 emissions per pupil 2019/20 (tonnes)	Track to offset carbon per pupil	Energy Efficiency Building Rating 2019
1 (H)	Crosby High School (Secondary)	28	0.58	27	C
2 (H)	Merefield Special School (Secondary)	25	2.22	52	D
3 (H)	Greenbank High School	18	0.35	16	C
4 (H)	Range High School	14	0.70	14	C
5 (H)	Redgate High School	8	0.44	20	D
6 (H)	Cherwell High & Sports	6.5	0.31	14	C
7 (H)	Parish High School	6	0.52	28	C
8 (H)	Our Lady Star of the Sea School	4	0.35	16	D
9 (H)	Hillside High School	3	0.64	25	C
10 (H)	Liberal High School	Awaiting information	0.17	9	C
11 (H)	Marine Catholic High	Awaiting information	0.41	19	D
12 (H)	Stanley High School	Awaiting information	0.40	22	C
13 (H)	Holy Family High School	Awaiting information	0.69	22	D
14 (H)	Christ the King High School	Awaiting information	0.58	26	C
15 (H)	St Michael's Catholic High School	Awaiting information	0.61	28	C
16 (H)	Sains High School	Awaiting information	0.70	32	C
17 (H)	Sacred Heart Catholic College (Senior School)	Awaiting information	0.72	33	B
18 (H)	Magdalen High School	Awaiting information	0.75	34	D

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Dates for your Diaries

Over the next few months there are some important dates for us to take note of (Oct – Dec):

Oct – International Walk to School Month – Take action on air pollution & walk to school!

Mon 30th Nov – Fri 12th Dec – COP28 Climate Change Conference – what can you do to tackle Climate Change?

25th Nov 3rd Dec – National Tree Week – Celebrate & plant a tree to reduce climate change impact!



Switch Off Fortnight - Nov 2023

Once more alongside the Eco-Centre in Southport and to coincide with the Eco-schools campaign run nationally, we will be encouraging schools to take part in Switch off Fortnight!

This year it takes place between 13th and 24th November. Schools who sign up to the Eco Centre website can download some specially designed posters once more to support their campaign.

The specially designed posters are available here: [RESOURCES | southportecocentre](https://www.eco-centre.co.uk/resources)



Utility Dashboards

Schools will be being provided with regular Utility Dashboards to show how well energy and water is being managed on site. We are working hard to support as many schools as possible in the face of increased costs that have impacted on us all.

Information can also be found via Systemlink for all schools on the Council's energy contracts. We have training available for anyone who needs more support to use this portal. You can access the portal by heading to

<https://energymanagerlive.com/> Any questions? Please get in touch using the contact details below!



Top Tip!

Dim it!

Do you have dimmers on your lights? If so use them to reduce the amount of energy being used as appropriate!

Contact Information

Energy & Environmental Management Team

Corporate Support
Magdalen House
30 Trinity Road
Bootle, L20 3NJ

Tel: 0151 934 4743

E-mail: Anne-Marie.Clegg@sefton.gov.uk



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Information for Secondary Schools Only

Contained within this section is (click on the link to go to the relevant information):

- [Conservation Crew RSPB](#) Join the Conservation Crew Campaign, run by the RSPB in Marshside, aimed at 13 to 18 year olds! If you enjoy being outdoors, meeting new people and hands on conservation work, then this role could be the perfect opportunity for you!



Join RSPB Marshside's Practical Conservation Crew

Who?

The Conservation Crew programme is aimed at **13 to 18** year olds



When?
Sessions on the First Sunday of every month



What?

- Hedge laying
- Bird surveys
- Cutting and clearing vegetation
- Creating and maintaining visitor infrastructure
- Using and maintain tools
- Following Health and Safety protocols

If you enjoy being outdoors, meeting new people and hands on conservation work, then this role could be the perfect opportunity for you. Working alongside experienced staff and volunteers who will guide and teach you the importance of our work and how we all can make a difference to wildlife and people.

You will be part of Marshside and Hesleth Out Marsh, RSPB Conservation Crew with like minded, enthusiastic and passionate individuals who share a love for wildlife. The Conservation Crew makes a positive difference to wildlife on the RSPB National Nature Reserve

Find out more:

Search—RSPB Volunteer—Marshside—Conservation Crew

Email Group Leader: Chester.Smith@rspb.org.uk

Scan QR Code 



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Conservation Crew

Join RSPB Marshside's Practical Conservation Crew

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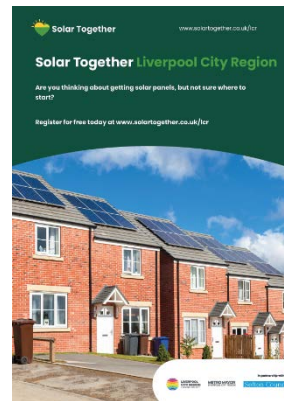
Information for Householders (Community groups & schools to share with residents/contacts)

Contained within this section is (click on the link to go to the relevant information):

- [Smart Meters for Households:](#) Information on how to get hold of a smart meter to keep a check on your energy use!
- [Solar Together Project:](#) Information on how residents in the Liverpool City Region can get Solar Panels installed via a group auction to gain the best deal.

A smart meter can help you take control of your energy bills

See what you're spending at a glance – and work out where you could reduce your energy use



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A smart meter can help you take control of your energy bills

See what you're spending at a glance – and work out where you could reduce your energy use



With energy costs rising, more and more people are finding it harder to manage their household bills. A smart meter can help you keep an eye on how much gas and electricity you or your family are using, and how much it's costing.

That means you can plan ahead, with a better idea of how much your energy bill will be. It could also help you make small changes around the home to use less energy, which could save you money too.

Smart meters record how much gas or electricity you use – just like the meters you already have in your home. But smart meters also come with an in-home display, sometimes called an IHD. This shows you at a glance how much gas and electricity you're using and how much you're spending.



Smart meters are currently being rolled out across the country. Already, more than half of people in the UK have a smart meter in their home. Here are just a few of the reasons why:

- smart meters can help you keep a closer eye on how much energy you're using and how much you're spending
- you can see where you might be able to save energy, for example by turning the heating down when you don't need it or switching the TV off at the wall
- you'll get more accurate bills based on the energy you've actually used, not an estimate

““ The cost of living is shooting up, and being able to afford the bills right now is hard. We've taken some small steps to try to reduce our spending [...] like requesting a smart meter from our energy supplier.

The in-home display is really useful in showing me exactly how much I am spending. Even if we can't save much right now, we can still keep an eye on the costs which is a big help.”

Sarah, Essex

How a smart meter works



1. The smart meter records your energy use, as you use it



2. The in-home display shows how much energy you're using and what you've spent



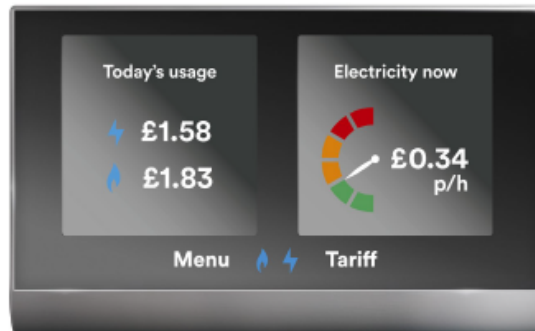
3. The smart meter automatically sends readings to your energy supplier



4. You get a bill based on the amount of energy you used

Understanding your in-home display

This picture shows a typical in-home display. Some may look different to this, but they all work in the same way.



In-home display and figures are for illustrative purposes only

The in-home display shows you:

- your gas and electricity costs
- how much you're spending on gas and electricity each day, week and month

With some in-home displays, you can set spending goals. This could help you to make changes and cut your spending on energy if you want to. Some can also show you whether you're using a small or a large amount of gas and electricity.

If you only have a smart meter for gas, your in-home display will only show you how much gas you use. If you only have a smart meter for electricity, your in-home display will only show you how much electricity you use.

Accessible in-home displays

An accessible in-home display, sometimes called an AIHD, has larger buttons and can read information out loud. This could be helpful if you are:

- blind or partially sighted
- have difficulties using your hands or wrists, or
- have difficulties with memory loss

Your energy supplier can give you more information about accessible in-home displays.



Accessible in-home display and figures are for illustrative purposes only

Getting your smart meter installed

Smart meters are installed by gas and electricity companies. They replace your old energy meters, and do it all safely and securely. There is no extra cost to you.

Here's how it works:

1. Contact your energy supplier to arrange a time and date for the smart meter to be installed
2. The person installing your meter will turn up and show you their ID at the arranged time. If they don't show you ID, you can ask to see it
3. They will disconnect the existing meter and replace it with a smart meter
4. Once the smart meter is working, the person installing the meter will show you how to use the in-home display

If your gas and electricity meters are being replaced at the same time, it will take around two hours. If it's just one meter, it could be quicker.

Important

- you will need to be at home when the smart meters are installed
- your energy supply will be turned off for a short time while the smart meter is being installed. If you need energy to help you with a health condition, please let your energy supplier know when you arrange the appointment

Some homes can't get a smart meter yet, but will be able to get one before the end of the rollout. Your energy supplier can tell you if you can have one. They can also tell you how soon you can get one installed.

The facts about smart meters

It's easier with a smart meter

You can see how much energy you're using and how much you're spending on gas and electricity just by looking at the in-home display. The person installing your meter or meters will show you how to use it, and do so in a clear and accurate way. They should also leave you with a simple guide.

Your information will be safe and secure

The only people who can see your information are you and your energy supplier. And the only information that gets sent to energy suppliers is how much energy you use and when you use it. They can't see how you're using that energy, or when the washing machine is on!

You can still have a smart meter if you rent your home

If your gas and electricity bills are addressed to you and you pay them, you can choose to have a smart meter installed by your energy supplier. You should tell your landlord before you get one, as there may be rules in your tenancy agreement about how energy is supplied to the property, including the type of meter that can be installed. If you don't pay your energy bills, you can ask your landlord to get a smart meter installed for you.

You can have a smart meter if you are a prepay customer

If you're on a prepay meter, you can still get a smart meter. There are lots of benefits to doing so. Your in-home display will show you when you need to top up your credit. And you can top up in different ways, such as going in a shop or using your mobile phone. It's also really simple to top-up online.

If you'd like a smart meter, here's what to do next

Your energy supplier will be able to tell you whether you can have a smart meter and if so, when it can be installed. There are lots of different ways to get in touch with them. You'll find all the contact details on your energy bill.

Take control of your energy bills with a smart meter



Material accurate as of February 2023

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www.solartogether.co.uk/lcr

Solar Together **Liverpool City Region**

Are you thinking about getting solar panels, but not sure where to start?

Register for free today at www.solartogether.co.uk/lcr



METRO MAYOR
LIVERPOOL CITY REGION

In partnership with

Sefton Council 

HOW DOES IT WORK?



Registration

Register today! There's no obligation and the more people that register, the better the deal for each household.



Auction

Approved solar installers will bid for the work in a reverse 'auction'. The most competitive offer from these pre-vetted installers wins the auction.



Personal recommendation

You will be emailed a personal recommendation based on your registration details. This includes your costs and the specifications of your installation.



You decide

The decision is then yours as to whether you want to accept your recommendation. There is no obligation to continue. You will have up to four weeks to decide.



Installation

If you accept, the winning installer will contact you to survey your roof and set an installation date. All installations are planned to be completed six months after accepting.

Questions?

Visit - www.solartogether.co.uk/lcr

Email us - lcr@solartogether.co.uk

Call us - 0800 014 8851 (Mon-Fri, 8am-5.30pm)



Save more as a group



Get clear information



High quality installation



Insurance-backed warranties

[CLICK HERE TO GO BACK TO INFORMATION FOR HOUSEHOLDERS](#)