



North Kensington Community Energy

Annual Report 2022

During 2021, North Kensington Community Energy (NKCE) successfully delivered against its objectives of generating renewable energy and engaging with the local community.

1. Building our site pipeline

In 2022, we have continued growing and developing our site pipeline. The current sites where we are hoping to install solar panels are:

- Silchester Housing Estate (Shalfleet Dr, W10 6UD)
- Saint Charles Roman Catholic Primary School (St Charles Square, W10 6EB)
- Sion Manning Roman Catholic Secondary School/All Saints (St Charles Square, W10 6EL)
- Saint Quintin's Children Centre (90 Highlever Road London W10 6PN)

2. Generating renewable energy

During 2022, NKCE generated renewable electricity from phase 1 sites (Avondale Park Primary School, Thomas Jones Primary School and the Dalgarno Community Centre) and from the phase 2 site (Westway Sports Centre). NKCE generated 201,168 kWh of electricity in 2021, enough to power 80 average London homes for 1 year. This generation is higher than in 2022, and resulted in 38 tonnes avoided CO₂ emissions during the year.

The average yield across all 4 sites was 908 kWh/kW, compared to an original forecast of 840kWh/kW. The **on-site usage** of the renewable electricity was 92% at Avondale Park, 63% at Thomas Jones, 35% at Dalgarno, and 86% at Westway Sports Centre. Typically, higher on-site usage results in higher returns for NKCE.

3. Engaging with the local community

2022 was again an active year for the NKCE team, who ran and took part in workshops, local events, and education and training activities – and contributed to building a climate movement in North Kensington.

Local events and workshops

Our Community Lead Nasri Ismael and our group of volunteers have taken part in various community events throughout the year, spreading the word about NKCE and community energy at summer fairs and community meetings. Nasri has also delivered five energy support workshops. In the winter, the team worked on organising NKCE's third Greener Living Day event, promoting energy efficiency and community resilience, and funded by the Future Neighbourhoods Fund for Notting Dale. The event was a great success, with over 90 local residents participating and strong positive feedback received during the day.

As part of the Future Neighbourhoods programme, we also took part in its related events, building links with local groups and reaching out to more residents. We have been very pleased to welcome new volunteers joining the co-operative in 2022.

Silchester Housing Estate engagement

NKCE has been meeting and connecting with the Silchester Estate Residents' Association to raise awareness of the potential solar installation on the estate, open up collaboration opportunities and ensure the project best responds to the needs of residents. We also engaged with residents by organising a door-knocking day, and a solar panel making workshop at the Silchester Estate community room – which was very successful and appreciated by participants. Recognising the importance of the locality to NKCE's plans and to generate goodwill, most of the 2022 NKCE volunteer meetings have taken place at the Silchester housing estate community room.

Youth Training Programme

NKCE is working to provide young people in the borough with the tools they need to take part in the fast-growing green economy. In partnership with Repowering London, and with the support from the Future Neighbourhoods Fund for Notting Dale we delivered in 2022 our second Youth Training Programme. A group of 26 young people participated in the programme, learning about community energy, gaining practical job skills and qualifications to enter the green sector. Since the completion of the programme Repowering have kept in touch with some of the cohort – who have taken part in a focus group with Sustainability First, designed the illustration for one of Repowering's flyers and have offered to join NKCE at the Youth Action Alliance Festival.

4. Financial accounts and shareholder payments

The financial accounts which accompany this report show that:

- NKCE generated in 2022 a total income of £44,445, including £7,687 of income from the government's feed-in tariff, £3,218 from the export PPA, and the remaining £33,540 from the direct sale of electricity to the sites.
- The income less expenditure for the year is £21,356. In 2020 and 2021, NKCE accumulated losses of £17,130 due to various factors (the COVID-19 pandemic, the cost of developing the Westway Sports Centre share offer). This means that the retained income (i.e. after covering these costs) for 2022 is £4,226.
- The operating costs of £2,964 includes provisions set aside for inverter replacements and insurance costs.
- The management fees of £5,550 include Repowering London's service to maintain the assets, manage and administer the coop.
- Overall, the financial performance of NKCE is strong and in line with our forecasts.

In 2022, NKCE also donated £1,000 of its Community Fund to the Dalgarno Community Centre.

Due to the energy crisis NKE has exceeded forecasts and made an unexpected surplus this year. It is not expected that this will continue into the future as electricity prices come back down.

On review of the financial performance, the Directors propose:

- That an interest rate of 3% (£5,412) is paid to investors
- To repay 5% of members' share capital (£8,897) as per the share offer document.

The Directors would also like to allocate the surplus for the year as follows:

- £4900 towards the community fund so the total community fund would be £7500 (£2595 as per current accounts + the additional £4900). We are working on a establishing a grant application process and encouraging local organisations to apply.
- £10,000 towards the cost of our Community Engagement Lead, Nasri. We are seeking further match funding and this part-payment will be instrumental in achieving that. . Nasri's role was initially funded by a grant from the National Lottery Fund, match funded by RBKC covering her time for two years. This funding has come to an end. However, the contribution that Nasri makes to the NKCE is immense, and we would like to be able to continue to fund her role. If match-funded by RBKC, a £10,000 contribution would enable Nasri to continue to work for NKCE for another year (considering received salary, national insurance/pension contribution, Repowering London support and general expenses). We will actively be seeking further grant funding to support this, and if we can reduce the cost to NKCE to below £10,000, any surplus would be returned to the Community Fund.
- £3,000 towards inverter and equipment provisions making the total in 2022 to £4827.
- This would also leave an additional £3,500 going into reserves

A word from the Repowering London family of Co-ops

North Kensington Community Energy is proud to be part of the Repowering family of energy co-ops. To date, the Repowering co-op family has:

- Installed 707 kWp of solar panels on schools, community buildings, and Council homes
- Raised £768,661 of capital finance for rooftop solar installations, from more than 650 investor members
- Allocated £206,750 of Community Funds to benefit local causes
- Avoided more than 780 tonnes of carbon emissions so far
- Offered paid training opportunities for 149 young people

Activities delivered across the Repowering family in 2022 are summarised in the [2022 Impact Report](#). Highlights included:

- Supporting the first community energy project created in the City of London, [Aldgate Solar Power](#)
- Trialing innovative approaches to create smart local energy systems, monitor indoor air quality, and support retrofit in challenging contexts
- Working with local Community Leads to engage with new audiences, which earned us the Community Energy England [award for Community Engagement and Inclusion](#)
- Supporting young people through delivery of our [Youth Training Programme](#) and [ReCreate programme](#) in Kensington & Chelsea
- Reaching more than 5,100 people on community energy topics
- Using our expertise to advocate for community energy, strengthen the sector, and elevate the voices of those with lived experience of fuel poverty

This work is only possible with your support. Thank you for investing in our vision of community energy, and for being part of the change.

Any questions?

If you have any questions about this report and the accompanying accounts, please email info@repowering.org.uk.

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To calculate the tonnes of CO₂ saved from the electricity generated we have used Defra's carbon factors published in 2021. As a result, the carbon savings from the projects have reduced compared to the previous year as the UK electricity fuel mix is using less coal generation and more renewable electricity generation.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/greenhouse-gas-reporting-conversion-factors-2020>