



2023 Annual Report

Prepared by Repowering London and
NKCE board of Directors
Presented at the NKCE AGM (covering
the year 2023)
6/11/2024



Contents

1. Executive Summary.....	1
2. Generating renewable energy.....	2
3. Financial accounts and shareholder payments.....	3
4. Building our site pipeline	6
5. Engaging with the local community and political advocacy	7
6. Community Fund distributions	9
7. The Repowering London family of Co-ops.....	10
8. Any questions?	11

1. Executive Summary

The objects of the Society shall be to carry on any business for the benefit of the community by the installation of community-owned solar panels, the promotion of awareness of environmental and related issues and support for educational initiatives related to renewable energy.

During 2023, North Kensington Community Energy (NKCE) successfully delivered against its objectives.

Generation, income and community fund

- NKCE's installations generated 174,565 kWh of renewable energy
- This generated £35,299 income in 2023
- The operating and management costs for NKCE were £9,286
- We paid our community investors (our members) £15,574 in interest and capital repayments.
- NKCE's annual profit/surplus was £12,360
- £11,000 of this has been spent via or allocated to the Community Fund
- The balance of the Community Fund was £18,588 at the end of 2023.

Pipeline development

- We tried to progress sites which feasibility studies were completed for in 2022/early 2023.
- We applied for funding to conduct further feasibility studies on other sites in the borough.

Engaging with the local community

With the support of Repowering London, namely our Community Lead Nasri, the NKCE volunteers:

- Held two very successful engagement activities
- Jointly contributed over 200 volunteer hours
- Welcomed 4 new £1 members



- Hosted visits from groups of politicians at our Westway Centre installation
- Worked with our members to design our Community Fund spending priorities

2. Generating renewable energy

During 2023 NKCE generated 174,565 kWh across all its solar PV installations.

Table 1: NKCE Generation 2023

	Year of install	Capacity (kWp)	Generation (kWh)	Yield (kWh/kWp)	London homes equivalent**	CO2e Emissions Avoided (tonnes)*
Avondale Park Primary School	2019	13.86	11764	849	4.4	2.4
Thomas Jones Primary School	2019	30	23558	785	8.7	4.9
Dalgarno Community Centre	2019	43	37077	862	13.7	7.7
Westway Sports Centre	2020	138	102165	740	37.8	21.2

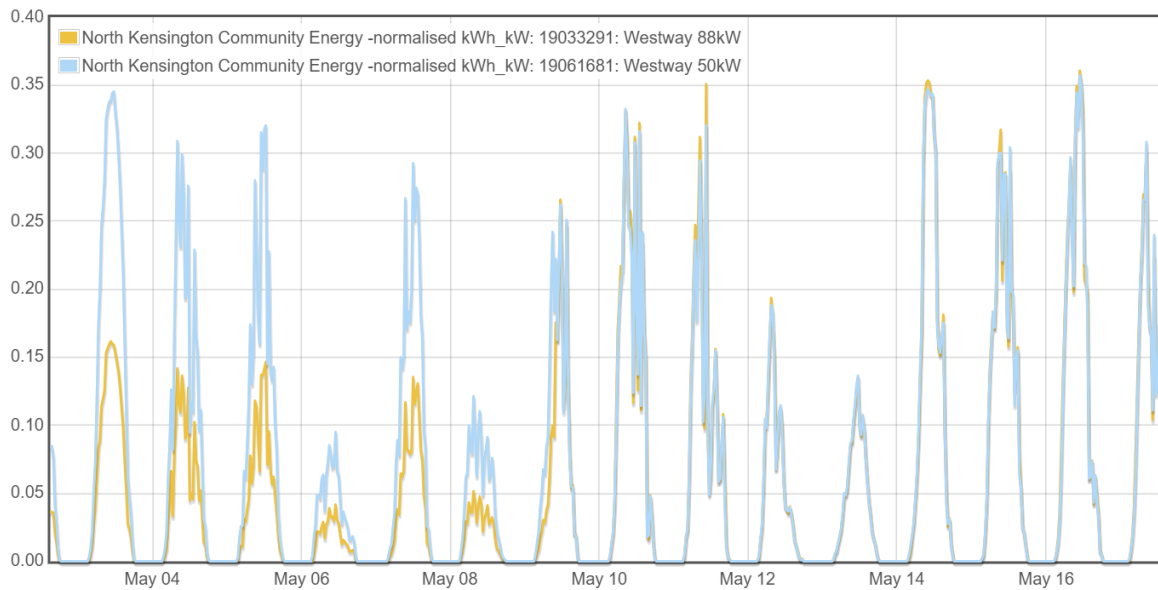
Parameter	Value	Unit	Source	Date Accessed
**Average London Home Electricity Consumption (kWh)	2700	kWh	www.ofgem.gov.uk/average-gas-and-electricity-usage	04/06/2024
*Carbon	0.207074	kg CO2e/kWh	www.gov.uk/government/publications/greenhouse-gas-reporting-conversion-factors-2023	04/06/2024

Table 2: NKCE historical annual generation

Site	2020		2021		2022		2023	
	Generation (kWh)	Yield (kWh / kWp)	Generation (kWh)	Yield (kWh / kWp)	Generation (kWh)	Yield (kWh / kWp)	Generation (kWh)	Yield (kWh / kWp)
Avondale Park Primary School	13313	961	11512	831	12969	936	11764	849
Thomas Jones Primary School	21666	722	22916	764	25929	864	23558	785
Dalgarno Community Centre	41092	956	36268	843	40075	932	37077	862
Westway Sports Centre			101763	737	122195	885	102165	740
Total Generation	78092		172459		201168		174565	



Graph 1: Normalised Yield at the West Way Centre, May 4th – May 16th 2023



The larger of our installations at the Westway Centre was showing reduced yields (shown by the lower orange curve). The inverter here was replaced in May 2023, after which the yield returned to expected levels, roughly matching the second, smaller array at the sports centre.

3. Financial accounts and shareholder payments

The accounts are available in the package of documents for the AGM. Overall, the financial performance of NKCE is strong and in line with (and in 2023 exceeded) forecasts. This is in part due to energy prices remaining high following Russia’s invasion of Ukraine. As prices are declining, we would not expect to outperform forecasts significantly in 2024.

- NKCE generated in 2023 a total income of £35,299, from:
 - Sale of electricity directly to our sites: £23,610
 - Sale of electricity to the grid: £3,951
 - Feed-in-Tariff: £7,738
- This was down from £44,445 in 2022, largely due to change in electricity prices
- We paid our community investors (our members) £15,574 through
 - Interest payments: £4,736
 - Capital repayments: £10,838
- The operating costs include:
 - Repairs and maintenance (provision and actual spending) £3,736. This is a reduction from £4,137 in 2022.
 - Management fees: £5,550
- The surplus income in 2023 was £12,360
- £1,000 was spent from the Community Fund and a provision of £10,000 was made for the fund from the surplus income.
- The Community Fund stood at £18,588 at the end of 2023.



Table 3: NKCE site income 2023

Site	Onsite usage (%)	Income from sale of electricity to site	Income from sale of electricity to grid *	Income from Feed In Tariff	Total income	Savings to the site
Avondale Park Primary School	99.8%	£3,917	NA	£1,178	£5,095	£435.22
Thomas Jones Primary School	83.5%	£2,246	NA	£2,334	£4,580	£249.56
Dalgarno Community Centre	54.9%	£1,923	£2,200	£2,268	£6,393	£213.78
Westway Sports Centre	96.7%	£15,523	£1,751	£1,960	£19,236	£1,724.89
Total Income		£23,610	£3,951	£7,738	£35,299	£2,623.33

*also known as Income generated via Export Power Purchase Agreement

Table 4: Income generation over time

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total
Income	£8,028	£3,638	£26,565*	£44,445	£35,299	£91,410

*Partly 2020 generation and partly insurance pay out

Table 5: Notes on out-goings

Amount	Heading	Notes
£3,736	Operating costs	The operating costs includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1,827 provision for repairs and maintenance • £725 spent on repairs and maintenance. • £1,419 Insurance • £490 monitoring and metering costs
£5,550	Management fees	The management fees include Repowering London’s service to maintain the assets, manage and administer the coop.
£11,000	Community Fund	Transferred 10K to the community fund and £1000 was disbursed to Dalgarno Centre for energy efficiency measures
£0	Employment	£0 additional was contributed to hiring a Community Lead. The £10,000 contribution made in 2022 has been matched with external funds to provide employment over 2 years.
£15,574	Shareholders	Interest and capital



PROPOSAL: Overall, the financial performance of NKCE is strong and in line with (and this year exceeded) forecasts. On reviewing the financial performance, the Directors propose:

- That an interest rate of 3% is paid to investors
- To repay 5% of their share capital to members as per share offer document Members share capital is to be repaid for the year
- To allocate £10,000 to the Community Fund from the surplus

The draft accounts incorporate this proposal to show the expected result, should members agree with this proposal.



4. Building our site pipeline

In 2023, we have continued investigating the potential of our site pipeline. The current sites we are hoping to install solar panels at are:

- **Silchester Housing Estate, Shalfleet Dr, W10 6UD (51.25 kWp)**
Repowering London completed a feasibility study for the viability of solar PV over four blocks of flats on Darfield Way, Silchester Estate in December 2022. We have secured £50,000 from the GLA's Future Neighbourhoods scheme to launch an Energy Local Club that will facilitate residents purchasing the solar energy and enable them to benefit from discounted tariffs. The council told us in February 2023 that we are unable to proceed with installation until they have completed a satisfactory fire safety report. This report is not yet forthcoming.
- **Saint Charles Roman Catholic Primary School (60.40 kWp) and All Saints Catholic College (100.86 kWp) St Charles Square, W10 6EL**
Repowering London completed feasibility studies for the viability of solar PV on the schools in December 2022. Since the feasibility studies have been completed showing both of these sites as viable, the Council has launched a retrofit programme at the sites. Installations need to be aligned with this programme as they impact available roof space. The changes will have a positive impact on the financial viability due to the electrification of heat at the school. We are unable to proceed until we have engagement from the Council and the Roman Catholic Diocese about the decided programme/approach.
- **Saint Quintin's Children Centre, 90 Highlever Road London W10 6PN (50.82 kWp)**
The final feasibility study for this was submitted to RBKC council in February 2023. We are awaiting updated information from the Council on electricity usage (to update our financial model) and to reassess the viability with an updated quote (which was originally issued in March 2021).

In 2023 we also prepared an application to the Community Energy Fund (run by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero) to fund feasibility studies on more locations in the borough. The application, which was successful and awarded in 2024, included:

- St Thomas CE Primary School W10 5EF
- Bousfield Primary School SW5 0DJ
- Council Offices, 37 Pembroke Road W8 6PW
- RBKC Depot, 37 Pembroke Road W8 6PW Council
- RBKC Kensington Town Hall W8 7NX
- Lancaster Youth Hub W11 1QS.

The aim of the application is to achieve 500 kWp of investment-ready sites in the Borough, which is double the generation capacity of our current installations. The more sites we install, the more we are able to share the benefits of the renewables revolution. Given the constraints of the borough, where (as an urbanised inner-city area) North Kensington alone cannot support the demand for new solar, we included locations across the whole borough to find suitable sites. Inequality in North Kensington can be better addressed by considering the wider RBKC geography.

PROPOSAL: In keeping with this, we propose discussion at the AGM about what steps could be taken to better represent our wider geographical reach, including whether to reframe



North Kensington Community Energy as **Kensington and Chelsea Community Energy / Kensington Community Energy**.

5. Engaging with the local community and political advocacy

2023 was again an active year for the NKCE team, who ran and took part in workshops, local events, and political advocacy activities – and contributed to building a climate movement in North Kensington.



Local Community Artist, Emily Fuller, working with children at the Greener Living Day on a collage of their vision for a greener borough

Local events and workshops

Our Community Lead Nasri Ismael and 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.

- **January 2023** In January, NKCE organised its third Greener Living Day at Nourish Hub (funded by the Future Neighbourhoods Fund for Notting Dale) which was a huge success in terms of audience and movement building. We welcomed 95 people (70 adults / 15 young people).
October 2023 NKCE also secured funding from the K+C Foundation to run a Creative Energy Club at Silchester estate in October, to create sun printing art, learn about community solar and share energy tips. We welcomed 20 people (10 adults / 10 young people).
- **Energy Efficiency Workshops** Our Community Lead held two energy efficiency workshops for local residents.
- **New volunteers** We have been very pleased to welcome new volunteers join the co-operative in 2023. Most of our volunteer meetings have taken place at the Silchester estate community room. We have held 19 volunteer meetings with a total of 137 attendees (some repeat), totalling 205.5 hours of volunteer time at meetings deciding the direction of the co-operative.



Left to right: Neil Grant (NKCE Director), Afsheen Kabir Rashid (Repowering London CEO), Lord Callanan, Nasri Ismael (NKCE Community Lead), Elizabeth Campbell (Leader of Kensington and Chelsea Council)

- **Engaged with membership community to design the community fund** by surveying our members on their priorities for spending which was then reflected in the Community Fund application process that was launched in October 2023. We drew on the expertise and insights of Repowering London and our invaluable membership based to design the application. We received ~10 applications by the end of the year, ready for assessment and distribution in 2024.
- **Political advocacy** NKCE has been advocating to grow the community energy sector in England. We welcomes a visit from **Lord Callanan**, Minister for Energy Efficiency and Green Finance, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (11th October 2023). Members of the Council (Elizabeth Campbell, Leader of the Council; Johnny Thalassites Lead member for Finance, Customer Services, Net Zero Council; Cllr Emma Will, lead member for Property, Parks and Leisure; and Cllr Sof McVeigh; Lead member for Housing Management, Housing Safety, and Building New Homes) also attended.



6. Community Fund distributions

NKCE has launched an exciting campaign to distribute its Community Fund to local groups. During 2023 we:

- Agreed at the AGM held in June to distribute £6-9k via the fund
- We conducted a member questionnaire to define our funding priorities
- Drew on the expertise and input of our members and Repowering London to launch an application portal
- Portal is live at [NKCE Community Fund Applications \(google.com\)](https://www.google.com/search?q=NKCE+Community+Fund+Applications&rlz=C3131C1_691425699_1000000000_1711262121)
- Volunteers designed our leaflet for distribution, including working with youth trainees from Repowering London's recent cohort on the graphic design
- Received ~10 applications for funding by end 2023.

The co-op aims to fulfil its target of allocating 6-9K in community fund via microgrants in 2024 (a figure agreed in 2023 AGM). At the time of writing (mid 2024), good progress (£3,500) has been made towards this which will be reported at the 2024 AGM.

Community Funding Available: Unlock the Power of Change

Community
North Kensington Community Energy is now accepting funding applications for community-driven projects. We have a community fund to support projects with grants of up to £500, and we invite all local organizations dedicated to improving our community's well-being to apply!

Together
We want to empower initiatives that address pressing needs and enhance the life of local residents. Together, we can make our community stronger, greener and more resilient!

Funding

Scan the QR code or click [here](#) to access our application form!

Join Us!
Join hands with us to make a real impact on our neighbourhood.

northkencommunityenergy@gmail.com www.repowering.org.uk/NKCE



7. The Repowering London family of Co-ops

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

- Installed 840 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
- Generated more than 3,454MW of electricity and avoided more than 905 tonnes of carbon emissions so far
- Offered paid training opportunities for 155 young people
-

Activities delivered across the Repowering London family in 2023 will be summarised in our 2023 Impact Report, to be published soon on the [Repowering London website](#). Highlights from the year included:

- Formally establishing two new local co-ops, in Newham and Hammersmith & Fulham
- Installing 133kWp of [new rooftop solar capacity in Newham](#), on local libraries
- Pioneering a new £1.5 million fast-track financing pathway for community energy, [Repowering Finance](#)
- Delivering the first cohort of our bespoke education-to-work programme, [Voyage to Repower](#)
- Expanding our inclusive engagement toolkit, with the delivery of [Creative Energy Clubs](#) and the [Summer School of Power and Organising](#)
- Building our retrofit team and offer, launching the Future Fit Homes project in partnership with SELCE
- Running or participating in 53 community engagement events, and directly engaging with more than 1,650 Londoners about community energy topics

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.



8. Any questions?

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

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Mark Thomlinson
Neil Grant
Toby Laurent Belson
Phillip Kane

Directors, North Kensington Community Energy Limited



NKCE Volunteers at celebrating at the Greener Living Day