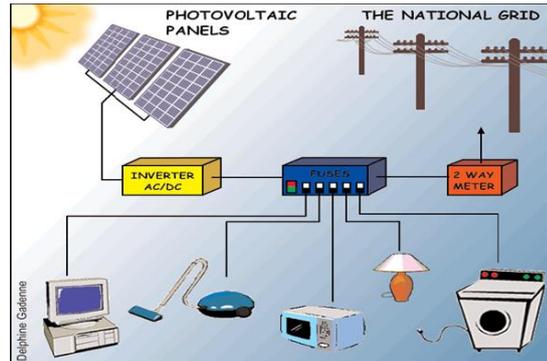




Solar PV Systems

How do they work?

Solar PV Panels create electricity from sunlight which can be used for domestic consumption, fed into an immersion heater for hot water or used to charge an electric vehicle. It can also be stored in a battery for later use (evening/night-time consumption). They work best in direct sunlight but also generate power from general daylight so are effective even in places like Manchester!



Why could they be good for your home?

Once the investment has been made, the Solar PV is a source of free energy, requiring little or no maintenance. This will undoubtedly reduce your electric (and gas) bills and help to reduce your carbon footprint.

Any electricity generated that is not used by the household will be exported back to the Grid and you will be given a credit for this by your electricity supplier, suppliers vary on their generosity on this credit so some research is needed.

If energy prices continue to escalate then you will be protected by reducing your electricity consumption. If you include a battery, you will also continue to have power during a power cut.

What's the catch?

Although the savings start from Day 1, the payback for the original investment is usually at least 8-10 years, although this is improving as Solar PV systems become more efficient. On the plus side, if you purchase the PV Panels it will be an asset to your home. A PV system will normally last 25-30 years, maybe longer.

Subsidies in the form of feed-in tariffs were withdrawn by the Government in 2019, so there are no grants currently available for these installations.

How do I start?

Here's a couple of links to let you estimate the benefits and suitability of your home:

[Solar Energy Calculator | Energy Saving Trust](#); [Solar panels: are they worth it? - MoneySavingExpert](#)

We can put you in touch with local residents who have recently installed systems for you to talk to. Please email us at: info@lowcarbonlymm.org.uk

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