



# Time To Shine





## **About Us**

As an established trade association working for and representing the entire solar and energy storage value chain, Solar Energy UK represents a thriving memberled community of over 240 businesses and associates, including installers, manufacturers, distributors, large-scale developers, investors, and law firms.

Our underlying ethos has remained the same since our foundation in 1978 – to be a powerful voice for our members by catalysing their collective strengths to build a clean energy system for everyone's benefit.

Our mission is to empower the UK solar transformation. Together with our members, we are paving the way for solar to deliver 40GW by 2030 by enabling a bigger and better solar industry.

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Published in the United Kingdom by Solar Trade Association, Chapter House, 22 Chapter St, London, SWIP 4NP

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## The year ahead Chris Hewett, Chief Executive

2021 may be seen as a turning point in the fight against climate change. Whilst the COP26 Summit in Glasgow did not make enough progress, it was attended by a business and energy industry more focused on delivering net-zero carbon emissions than ever before.

Indeed, it has been a year when the true potential of renewable energy, and solar energy in the UK, has started to be realised. Our industry has moved away from its early stage, where direct Government support helped bring the technology to the mainstream. In the UK and across the world, solar is now demonstrating significant growth with no subsidy despite the pandemic's impacts.

In 2020 we thought solar was on the cusp of something big. In 2021, we saw it happening.

There is a pipeline of 37GW of utility-scale projects and another 20GW for utility-scale battery storage. 2021 also saw the highest solar rooftop deployment since 2015. Electric vehicles are now close to 20% of the market for new cars. These numbers are nothing short of astounding.

In June this year, we published Lighting the Way, our scenarios for 2030 and proposals for policy change to deliver a trebling of solar capacity to 40GW in that period.

Since then, we have seen positive policy moves on:

- CfD auctions,
- planning for utility-scale solar & storage
- exemption of rooftop solar from business rates
- better building regulations for new homes in England and
- some grant support for the public sector and social housing for solar PV, solar heat and energy storage

These policy changes will help us get closer to the 2030 target, but more needs to be

done. There will be many challenges, from network constraints to planning objections and concerns about the global supply chain.

This annual impact report shows what we have done to support the solar energy industry to grow and flourish. Helping us do so is our growing membership of 260 companies, an increase of over 20% in the year, to whom we are very grateful.

Looking into 2022, we plan to demonstrate the economic benefits of solar energy in jobs, investment and the value of the property that integrates solar and energy storage technologies. We will be scaling up work to show how solar parks support nature recovery and prevent climate change.

We will be working more closely with our two new strategic partners. We now offer an Affiliate Membership to all MCS Certified Installers of solar technologies, enabling us to support the industry beyond our direct membership. We are also embarking on a ten-year partnership with Solar & Storage Live, the premier national exhibition and conference for our industry.

In our most recent industry survey, 4 out of 10 companies said they could not be more confident about their business prospects than they are now. We share this confidence, which can only be good for the climate and the economy.

## Our 2021 in numbers

**256** members up by 26 in 2021













## 2021's highlights

#### **Solar Media** partnership established

We launched a partnership with Solar Media Ltd. to provide market intelligence on the UK solar power revolution. Including quarterly and annual market updates for new solar PV capacity added in the UK, providing a much-needed data source for Solar Energy UK members, Solar Media Ltd.'s online audience, and other vital stakeholders tracking industry growth trends.

#### **Major new** workstream **launches:** Responsible **Sourcing Task** Group

UK solar energy industry members back the development of a supply-chain transparency protocol in response to concerns around forced labour, condemning any human rights abuses occurring anywhere in the global solar energy supply chain.

#### **Commercial rooftop PV cost analysis** published

We analysed the costs of commercial-scale rooftops, and the research indicated that the installation costs for commercial rooftops may have fallen by a third or more since 2017. The size of the global solar pipeline suggested that prices will continue to decline, although many factors could affect these in the short and medium-term.

#### JANUARY

## **FEBRUARY**

#### **UK solar industry** body adopts a new name

After 41 years, the Solar Trade Association officially rebrands as Solar Energy UK. The new name and brand reflect a step-change in the association's strategic approach and how the industry has become an established player in the UK energy sector. We've grown as a trade association, with the ambition to lead the solar and energy storage industries into a brighter subsidy-free era.

#### **Climate Coalition** states support of 40GW by 2030.

A letter, penned by The Climate Coglition with recommendations to Prime Minister Boris Johnson ahead of COP26, was sent. The letter urged the UK to "get its own house in order", focusing on getting net-zero done, bringing it forward to 2030 and triple renewable generation.

#### 175MW of new PV deployed in the first quarter of 2021

MARCH

New figures released by Solar Energy UK and Solar Media Ltd. showed 175 MW of photovoltaic solar capacity was installed across the UK from January – to March 2021. This significant growth over the winter period brings the UK's total installed PV capacity to more than 14 GW, generating enough electricity to power over 3 million homes.

#### **"Solar Energy: Route to Net Zero**" launches

**APRIL** 

Solar energy in the UK is a story of success, resilience, and pioneering innovation. To recognise and explore this further, we partnered with ITN Productions to produce a news programme that showcases the industry and tells the story of solar energy in the UK. In the lead up to COP26, the programme explored multiple market angles and their impact on the race to net zero, biodiversity, and the sustainability agenda.

#### New allies in net zero

MAY

In May, we joined voices with Britain's wind and nuclear industry bodies calling for urgent action to build new wind, nuclear and solar capacity and a binding target of 100% grid decarbonisation by 2035. An essential step to hitting the Government's new target of a 78% reduction in emission by 2035 and net zero by 2050.

#### **Solar Skills London** launches

In partnership with the Mayor of London, we launched a grant scheme to support solar businesses in London, to provide training for employees as part of their professional development.

### JUNE

## Lighting the Way report launched

'Lighting the way: Making net zero a reality with solar' was published as a comprehensive report on how that ambition should shape Government policy to treble solar energy capacity across the residential, commercial and utility-scale markets by the end of the decade.

## 2021's highlights

continued

#### **Solar thermal sales** increased

Solar thermal can help the UK with decarbonisation by supporting low carbon heat methods. In 2021, the number of solar thermal installations increased considerably, accounting for 60% of all low-carbon heat measures installed under the Green Homes Grant (GHG) government incentive scheme and 15% of total installations before the scheme was closed in March 2021.

#### JULY

#### **5GW announced** for Pot 1 Technologies in CfD

The Department for Business, Energy & Industry Strategy released budget for the fourth Allocation Round for Pot 1: £10m (in 2011/12 prices) for projects for which the relevant Delivery Year is 2023/24 or 2024/25-applying a capacity cap5 of 5GW for solar to this pot.

## **135 MW of new UK solar capacity**

installed in Q2

AUGUST

135MW of solar PV was deployed from April – June 2021 – more than double the deployment compared with the same period in 2020, when there was significant disruption due to the Spring 2020 lockdown imposed in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. In total, during the first half of 2021, 310MW of solar was deployed - a 165% year-on-year increase.

#### 2021 MCS-accredited deployment exceeds total 2020 deployment

**SEPTEMBER** 

The latest MCS figures show continued, and very positive growth in the sub-50kW PV market - 141MW of MCSaccredited capacity was installed up to and including the end of August 2021, which is already more than the 138MW previously installed in the whole of 2020.

#### **Onsite solar and** storage exempted from business rates

Solar Energy UK welcomes The Treasury announced rate exemptions for onsite solar and storage coming into effect from 2023 - a change we've called for since 2017.

The decision to exempt onsite solar and storage assets from business rates where the electricity consumed primarily onsite is a major victory for commercial solar and storage and everyone who has worked so hard to make this happen over the past five years.

#### The 'Value of Solar **Property' report** launched

Our ground-breaking report demonstrates for the first time that properties with a solar system installed command a higher sale price. The research also provides detailed estimates of solar properties' running cost savings - particularly relevant given the national debate around energy prices.

#### COP26

We were joined by the Global Solar Council to deliver 'Lighting Up COP26' – a two day event in Glasgow for the UN Climate Conference, bringing together global and UK Leaders and key stakeholders to discuss the industry's most pressing issues, innovations, and next steps to deliver Solar's contribution to the UK government target of a zerocarbon electricity system.

## **OCTOBER**

#### SES's 'Scotland's Fair Share' policy document launched

Solar Energy Scotland released an action plan to deliver Scotland's fair share of solar, revealing how Scotland can support thousands of new jobs and low-cost energy from solar power. The document outlines key policy recommendations the Scottish Government should adopt to help solar energy deliver its potential and stimulate investment.

#### 97MW of solar PV deployed in Q3 on homes and businesses around the country

Record-breaking growth in rooftop solar capacity of 97 MW was deployed on rooftops around the UK in the third quarter of 2021 - representing more than 90% of the total solar PV deployment of 107 MW for the quarter.

#### Solar & Storage Live

As now an official partner of Solar and Storage Live for the next ten years, the 2021 edition celebrated in Birmingham brought together hundreds of exhibitors from across the globe, featuring new ways of thinking and novel partnerships to generate solutions to help power the energy transition. At the event, we proudly launched 'How Solar Energy Can Deliver for Climate and Communities', a practical guide for Local Authorities looking to procure solar power during a lively panel discussion with the report's contributors.

The event was also the perfect opportunity to officially launch the 'Affiliate Membership' in partnership with MCS Certified, open to all solar MCS installers.

## **NOVEMBER**

#### **Solar Quality**

In partnership with Solar Power Europe, this year's digital conference was an absolute success for the sixth vear in a row, with 900+ people registered and delegates attending. An insightful overview of what had happened over the last year in solar quality management took place, sharing the latest best practice and exploring challenges in the solar industry.

#### DECEMBER

#### **Rooftop O&M Guidelines V2.0** launched

Our Rooftop O&M Working Group produced this industry best practice manual to provide helpful guidelines for the operation and maintenance of rooftop solar photovoltaic systems.

#### **First Commercial Rooftop Working** Group

The launch of this new working group intends to bring together leading owners and managers of large scale solar assets, focusing on optimising the commercial development and profitability of UK solar farms

## **Working group activity**

Our working groups bring together our members, the UK's leading specialists across the industry, to examine critical issues, make valuable connections, share best practice and work together to influence government policy.

## **Rooftop Working Group**

The Rooftop Working Group looked at a broad range of domestic and commercial issues in 2021. Members contributed to Solar Energy UK's rooftop cost analysis and discussed commodity and supply chain issues in detail.



The Working Group also had extensive discussions on insurance industry perceptions of PV risk and is now providing feedback on documents intended to inform how the insurance sector assesses solar systems. This is particularly relevant given the significant growth expected in rooftop markets for the foreseeable future. For example, commercial market intelligence firms are projecting that there may be as much as 500MW of commercialscale rooftop solar deployed around the UK in 2023, driven by onsite solar's sustainability and business benefits.

With new Solar Energy UK staff capacity, in 2022, there will be a dedicated Working Group for the residential and rooftop sectors.

## **Rooftop O & M**

The Rooftop O&M Working Group aims to ensure rooftop solar system operation and maintenance standards across the industry. The major achievement of the group in 2021 was the publication of the 2nd edition of Solar Energy UK's best practice guidelines - providing information across various issues on ensuring solar PV systems are maintained safely and effectively. The guidelines launched at Solar Quality include new sections on cybersecurity, floating solar and drones, and updates and revisions on monitoring and other topics. Solar Energy UK is engaging with other trade bodies on key aspects of safe maintenance – such as working at height – and will update the guidance further as necessary.



## **New Build**

The New Build Working Group focuses on solar systems installed as part of new property developments. In 2021 they focused on engaging with the construction industry as it prepares to implement the Future Homes Standard, which will increase the number of new homes in England and Wales built with solar included – including establishing a relationship with construction sector trade bodies representing homebuilders.

Our research published in October on the 'Value of Solar Property' supports this. We have carried out detailed engagement with groups such as the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors on our findings to have the evidence formally recognised in, for example, home valuation techniques. In 2022, we intend to produce a specific version of the Value of Solar Property report, going into more detail about the benefits of solar for home builders looking to improve the energy performance of their developments.

## **Utility-Scale Commercial WG**

We have seen significant progress on many of the priority work areas of this group over the year. Including planning reforms, improving the design and engagement with the Contracts for Difference Scheme to support solar projects, and influencing the outcomes of various network charging reforms. The efforts and the engagement of the members of this group are reflected in the revised Renewable Energy National Policy Statement, for example. This WG has also been a forum for a range of excellent external speakers and provided Solar Energy UK members with an opportunity to engage directly with decision-makers across government, including Ofgem, BEIS, DEFRA, LCCC, and beyond.

## **Utility-Scale Technical WG**

With the expanded remit of this working group now encompassing technical asset management and O&M, this group has been core to advancing the collective learning and adoption of cutting edge asset management techniques. It has also provided a forum for members to address specific challenges in day-to-day asset management. Support the development of best practices in the digitalisation of PV assets, and engage directly with experts and academics at the forefront of PV research in the UK, including the SuperSolar HUB, Energy Systems Catapult, and the Knowledge Transfer Network.

"2021 has been another busy and exciting year for the UK solar industry. We are now well into the 'post subsidy' era, with much of the UK pipeline sized to the 49.9MW sweet spot, often with battery storage provisions and built for a 40-year life. Throughout 2021, this Working Group has focused its efforts on improving quality assurance, increasing the use of technology, and driving best practices into the industry. This group has been a hub for the industry to learn from experience and improve our collective response to specific challenges, such as the early life component failures we are now seeing in the ageing UK asset fleet."

Will Hitchcock - Working Group Chair, Founder and CEO, Above Surveying



## **Utility-Scale Storage WG**

This year, Solar Energy UK has continued to work closely with RenewableUK, in part through our joint Utility-Scale Storage Working Group. This group has focused on addressing the remaining barriers and promoting the policy reforms needed to accelerate the growth of the UK energy storage market. This group has hosted a range of expert speakers who have showcased how to optimise revenues and maximise the performance of storage assets in the current market. It has also provided a forum for mem



of storage assets in the current market. It has also provided a forum for members to engage directly with decision-makers at Ofgem and BEIS to support the complete system flexibility needed to deliver the energy transition.

## **Residential Energy Storage**

The Residential Energy Storage Working Group aims to grow the residential storage market by supporting different business models, ensuring a responsible sector, and increasing connections with the broader smart power industry.

In 2021, The group looked at a wide range of subjects relating to the future of battery storage policy, grid and connection requirements, and combating the industry's skills shortage. The working group members also fed into energy storage training material and provided input on the sector's needs as part of Solar Energy UK's Solar Skills: London project. The group also looked at supply chain issues and discussed responsible sourcing in the energy storage sector. Lastly, they also addressed concerns around witness testing requirements in Scotland.

In 2022, Solar Energy UK will continue to highlight the role batteries can play in supporting the deployment of other low carbon technologies.



## Scotland

This year, Solar Energy Scotland published their flagship policy document calling on the Scottish Government to set a minimum solar deployment target of 4GW by 2030, which members have heavily supported. The guidance outlined key recommendations the Scottish Government should adopt to help solar energy deliver its potential.

The group has also seen a renewed focus on advocacy over the last year, bringing in a shortterm consultant to support and develop relationships with the Scottish Government, Civil Servants and Key Stakeholders to drive key policy changes.

The continued support of members has also seen this group secure a dedicated full-time Scotland Policy Analyst, which will continue to drive the group forward in the new year.

"Until now, solar has largely been overlooked and suffered unconscious bias due to the way people view the weather in Scotland! Maybe it was COP26 in Glasgow or just the reward of 7 years of hard lobbying and a well-written policy document, but for the first time, the Scottish parliament will debate the role of solar in Scotland following a motion being brought forward by MSP Fergus Ewing, a former Energy Minister and Cabinet Secretary for the Rural Economy at Holyrood who is fully backing our research that shows that an **ambitious Scottish Government could deliver 6GW of solar in Scotland by 2030.**" Thomas McMillan, Solar Energy Scotland

## **Natural Capital**

This year, the group has been developing a natural capital best practice guidance, with significant progress and writing now underway. At the start of Q4, the group decided to delay the publication's launch to late Q1 2022 to incorporate specialist expertise from wider industries (soils & hydrology).

In 2021, they also developed a methodology to create a standardised approach to ecological monitoring on solar farms. This complimentary work will encourage the mass collection of empirical data to highlight the positive relationship between solar and biodiversity, hopefully rolling out on solar farms in Q2 2022. And the group has also seen the introduction of a vice-chair, Belinda Howell, Natural Power.

The Natural Capital group's work continues with Key Stakeholders and Local Authorities to achieve greater awareness and understanding of solar farms' opportunities for natural capital and increased biodiversity.

"It has been a pleasure to work with like-minded individuals from different professional backgrounds to work on the Natural Capital best practice guide. The guide will assist in bringing biodiversity value to our solar sites from the initial stages of planning through to decommissioning. It will guide the way that we build solar for the future." Sulwen Vaughan, Next Energy



## **Solar Heat**

In the first part of the year, the group engaged with the Green Homes Grant policymakers. The scheme saw solar thermal installations account for 60% of all low carbon heat measures installed, more than any other low carbon technology. In 2021 the group also secured funding to generate original evidence on the role of solar and storage technologies in decarbonising the provision of heat in the UK. After years as chair of the group, Dr Richard Hall (Energy Transitions/Department for International Trade) stepped down. The new chair will be announced in the new year. The group would like to thank Richard for his time and commitment.

"This year, the Solar Heat group members focused on delivering deployment under the Green Homes Grant (GHG) and modernising the solar heat sector. Solar thermal has been the most popular low carbon heat technology under the GHG, and as a result, 2021 solar thermal sales will be almost double last year's sales. On sector modernisation, the revised MCS Solar Thermal Standard will see increased harmonisation of the solar-related MCS standards and the group's promotion of the solar-related power-to-heat products has resulted in considerable state and private investment being allocated to the sector." Richard Hall, Department for International Trade.

## **Local Authorities**

This year the group produced and launched guidance that outlines procurement methods for solar deployment for Local Authority assets. The step-by-step guidance produced jointly with members outlines three procurement processes sequentially from a user's perspective to support local authorities in making informed decisions on solar installations. The group continues to engage with Local Authorities and Key Stakeholders.



The group continued to support the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, which has seen multiple solar projects receive funding across the country.

This year, we have seen Matt Sandell, GRIDSERVE, step down from the Local Authority working group chair. The group would like to thank Matt for his time and commitment to the group over the last few years. The group has seen John Taylor; Greater SouthEast Energy Hub takes up the chair position.

"It has been really encouraging to see the members of this group pool together their expertise in producing the procurement guide for local authorities. They represent the best of the sector and I'm sure in the coming year councils across the UK will continue to grow in confidence in all aspects of solar delivery, on the back of this group's efforts." John Taylor, Greater SouthEast Energy Hub

## Webinars

Solar Energy UK delivered a series of highly interactive webinars throughout the year, each providing members with critical market updates and insights. Our webinars examined the most pressing issues for our industry and served as an open forum for members to share views and exchange ideas.

Members tuned in as we launched two ground-breaking reports: The Value of Solar Property and Lighting the Way provided guidance on responsible sourcing and discussed our key takeaways from COP26. Our roster of leading industry voices offered insight on a broad range of topics, including 'The Future of Solar Heat' and 'Planning for larger-scale projects.'

The webinars served as a platform for the Solar Energy UK policy team to update members on the current policy environment. Additionally, Solar Media delivered an in-depth analysis of the state of the market quarterly.





## **Deployment stats**

Growth in post-subsidy UK solar markets continues to grow, with at least 630MW of solar systems installed across all market segments in the 12 months to October 2021.



Utility-scale deployment contracted in 2021 because of supply chain issues but is expected to pick up again in 2022. The pipeline remains very strong, with 37GW of projects in different stages of development. Meanwhile, the rooftop sector has seen record growth, with, for example, 104MW of commercial-scale solar projects installed from April – September 2021, a record for the industry.

The outlook across the industry remains very positive, with Solar Energy UK members reporting buoyant client interest. The first Contract for Difference auction for which solar has been eligible since 2014, launched in December 2021, and major successes in reforming rooftop policy – such as forthcoming changes in non-domestic rates – may increase commercial and industrial-scale deployment. The residential sector has also seen almost unbroken growth since the end of the Feed-in Tariff, while new building regulations mean this is expected to continue and increase.



## **Reaching the target**

Our analysis shows that, under the right circumstances, the UK can achieve 40GW of solar PV capacity by 2030. This is what the Climate Change Committee has said is necessary to keep on track with the UK's net zero commitments. Since we published the report, there have been many key policy changes that we have pressed for, along with underlying solid growth from the sector. We estimate that puts us on track to achieve over 30GW by 2030, but a higher level of policy ambition is still needed to ensure our 40GW target.







AI BOOST

**Optimal Electricity Cost & Active Safety** 

Active Arcing Protection Smart String ESS with Energy Optimizer 2x POWER Battery Ready One-Fits-All Solution

## Research

Throughout 2021, Solar Energy UK's core research programme remained constant and robust, with quarterly reports being produced, industry guidance and briefings, giving place as well place opportunities for networking and engagement activity with our members via industry events, media partnerships, sponsoring agreements and a broader digital outreach with our audiences.

**Lighting the Way to Net Zero:** 'Making net zero a reality with solar energy' addresses the barriers in the UK to achieving its full renewable energy potential.





**Value of Solar Property:** 'The financial benefits of a solar powered future' includes statistical analysis of more than five million property transactions across the UK.

**Local Authority Procurement Guide:** The report set out guidance for 'How Solar can deliver for climate & communities', by providing recommendations for solar procurement methods at the local level.





**Scotland's Fair Share:** 'Solar's role in achieving net-zero in Scotland' addresses the policy commitments around solar required for the country to deliver net zero by 2045.

**Smart Solar Homes:** 'The journey to net zero' report demonstrates the numerous consumer and system wide benefits of reducing energy poverty, cutting carbon and supporting the power system.



## **New Partnerships**

In 2021, we were delighted to have collaborated with various organisations and solar industry bodies to extend our reach across the sector. Our partnerships allowed access to more knowledge, skills, and contacts within the business, policy, and media space and ultimately bolstered our influence as a UK leading trade association. As a result, we're proud to have teamed up with the following.

## MCS



Solar Energy UK has partnered with MCS to offer affiliate membership to all solar MCS installers, who will now have access to our regular newsletters, monthly webinars and policy briefings. Expanding our offer contributes to the next phase of our journey of building a clean energy system for everyone's benefit.

## Solar Media



We're proud to have launched a partnership with Solar Media to provide market intelligence on the UK solar power revolution. Including quarterly and annual market updates for new solar PV capacity added in the UK, providing a much-needed data source for Solar Energy UK members, Solar Media's online audience, and other vital stakeholders tracking industry growth trends.

## Terrapin

#### TERRAPINN

Solar Energy UK is now officially partnered with Terrapin for the next 10 years to jointly deliver Solar Storage Live and bring together over 200 exhibitors to provide highlevel conferences and strategic networking opportunities.

## Greater London Authority

SUPPORTED BY MAYOR OF LONDON

As an organisation, we're delighted to have partnered with the Mayor of London to launch our joint scheme: Solar Skills London. This project directly responded to the need, identified by our members, for more skilled electrical workers to join the solar industry. This initiative will continue in 2022 to provide training and support for people who want to pursue a career in the solar industry.

## **Events**

2021 has been a great year for solar; but for us, it has been an opportunity to bring our members back together face-to-face across various events for the first time in 2 years after the COVID-19 breakout.

## **Lighting Up COP26**



This year, to celebrate COP26, we partnered with the Global Solar Council to deliver a 2-day event in Glasgow, bringing global and UK industry leaders and key stakeholders. The aim - to discuss the industry's most pressing issues, innovations, and next steps to deliver Solar's contribution to the UK government target of a zerocarbon electricity system. Sponsored by RES Group and Mott MacDonald, Day 1 and 2 hold discussion panels among an engaged on-site audience and a live audience via YouTube during the first day.

We were honoured by the Climate Change Committee's chair Lord Deben's participation during the event. He called on the solar sector to change its narrative and focused instead on the technicalities, on telling the story of solar and showing how it fits into people's lives. Lighting Up COP26 closed with an evening drinks reception with almost 100+ attendees, who networked and engaged one-on-one with industry experts and peers.

"The next step for solar is to get people to love it, in a way you only do if you have a better story". - Lord Deben, Climate Change Committee's Chair.



Lighting Up COP26 3-4 November 2021







## Solar and Storage Live 2021

As now an official partner of Solar and Storage Live for the next ten years, the 2021 edition celebrated in Birmingham brought together hundreds of exhibitors from across the globe, featuring new ways of thinking and novel partnerships to generate solutions to help power the energy transition.

For Solar Energy UK, it was the perfect opportunity to display the organisation's rebrand. Our very own first event stand was set up, highlighting our forward-looking mission to treble UK solar capacity in a decade, targeting 40GW by 2030.

Having a completely branded bespoke stand as a key exhibitor, highlighting our core marketing messages, has allowed us to reaffirm our position as the leading solar and energy storage association in the UK. It has increased our brand awareness and recognition while attracting new members to the association - raising our profile amongst key stakeholders.

It has also given us the perfect opportunity to display our most relevant research and branded merchandise to promote our brand, utilising eco-friendly and reusable materials.





## **Solar Quality 2021**

The 2021 digital conference in partnership with Solar Power Europe was an absolute success for the sixth year in a row, with 900+ people registered and delegates attending.

The event brought together experts from O&M, Asset Management and EPC to advance the long-term quality of Europe's solar power assets. It also gave attendees an annual overview of what happened over in solar quality management, sharing the latest best practice and exploring challenges in the solar industry.





## **Our members' achievements**

#### Lifetime achievement award

George Goudsmit, Managing Director AES Solar received this prestigious award for more than 30 years of dedication and service to the UK solar sector.



#### OBE

Our board member, Syed Vigar Ahmed has been awarded an OBE for services to Community Energy and Decarbonisation.

## Contractor of the year

Photon Energy has installed over 45MW of solar PV that will generate an estimated 38GWh of clean electricity each year which equates to powering 10,000 homes in the last 12 years.

## Commercial solar / storage project of the year

**Evo Energy** has been commended for installing 1.2MW at Stourton Park & Ride, including Solar CarPorts, Smart HV/LV infrastructure, Battery Energy Storage, and an Electric Vehicle charging facility.

#### Solar and storage product innovation

Lightsource-Labs was recognised for an excellent year of delivering innovation in cutting edge home energy management systems.

### **EV Infrastructure project** of the year

**Evo Energy** delivered the HyperHubs project which spread across two sites in York providing road users with access to high-speed electric vehicle charging hubs supporting the next generation of EVs.

### **Operations and** management award

**RES** was awarded this prize for its exemplary management of assets in 2021 including Octopus Renewables, Blackrock, TRIG and Low Carbon.

## **Our members' views**

Our members agree that we are the **MUST-JOIN** trade association for solar energy for a consecutive year.

## This year our members gave us top marks for

Providing business critical information in a timely manner Responding swiftly and appropriately to new matters arising Representing your business concerns to government and regulators

### What our members value most





INVERTERS / CHARGERS / BATTERIES / CAR CHARGING

#### X-ESS G4 ALL-IN-ONE

30 minute install 1 hour battery charae Wide temperature tolerance Scalable solution Harvest more energy with 150% oversized capability

#### **EV SMART CHARGER**

**PEN** integrated OCCP optional Integrated WiFi CT for load balance included Remote maintenance







of our members would recommend membership to other companies.



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## Meet the team

As the leading specialist association for solar and energy storage in the UK, we want our members to feel proud. Our purpose is to catalyse the collective strengths of our members to build a clean energy system for everyone's benefit.

To do this, we've built an inclusive and diverse team to drive business results with highly strategic and insightful input. Without this, the invaluable work carried out in 2021 would not have been possible.

**Existing staff** 



**Chris Hewett Chief Executive Officer** 



**Kevin McCann Policy Manager** 



**Cherry Parker Head of Business Development** and Marketing



**Kara Davies Residential Policy Analyst** 



**Cameron Witten** Head of Policy



**Rachel Haves Policy Analyst** 







**David Arent Executive Assistant** 



**Sabine McGinley** Communications and Media Officer



Sturge Mazzocchi **Business Development Manager** 





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Floorplans, heat pump selection



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## **New starters**



Veronica Maaoia **Communications Manager** 

#### **Acknowledgements**

We want to thank those who worked and supported us in 2021 and wish them the best on their new career paths.



Jack Dobson-Smith **Communications Manager** 



**Ben Milne Policy Research Assistant** 







# Thank you to all members who continue to choose us throughout the year and a warm welcome to those who joined us in 2021.

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