

CASE STUDY

Energy Saving in Comrie

SOLAR PV – Community Scheme



Background

Mr Robertson recently moved into his detached home in Comrie, he was interested in Solar PV to provide electricity for his home. After learning about the Comrie Development Trust Community Solar Scheme from the previous owner, he decided to arrange a visit from the CDT Energy Advisor.

Making the Change

The Energy Advisor initially surveyed the property's suitability; assessing the direction of the roof, shading and area. The loft was checked for access and space for an inverter. The cupboard containing junction box and meters was also checked for the addition of new meters, including a credit meter.

The property was found to be suitable for a 3.75 kW system, which requires 15 panels. The Sun Tech solar panels are supplied and installed by Planet Heat, who deliver CDT's community solar scheme. The property required planning permission due to being in the conservation zone of the village but as it is not facing the street, this was quite straight forward and only took a couple of weeks. Planet Heat helped with the planning permission.

Mr Robertson has found a Bluetooth solar display very useful as it shows exactly what electricity is being produced in real time. He can choose to run appliances like his washing machine at times of high electricity production. And he is learning how to manage demand and supply. It has been a very good summer for solar and the panels have produced more energy than the household has consumed.

Costs and Savings

Cost of Panels	£5, 680 inc VAT and installation (cost is now £5,500)
Feed in Tariff	15.44p/kWh (this is now 14.9p/kWh)
Estimated output	3028 kWh per annum
Actual output	1303.78 kWh in 4 months over summer
% of total electricity needs from solar	Approximately 70% Providing 6 months of free electricity over the summer months.
Payback period	8 years
Carbon savings	1.421 tonnes/year

For further information please contact local energy advisor Naomi Clarke 07999585732

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Registered office – 32- 34 Drummond Street, Comrie, Perthshire, PH6 2DW



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