

# Annual Report 2021

This is the annual report for Lambeth Community Solar for the period 1st January to 31st December 2021. LCS was formally registered in 2018 (Registration no. 7797). Our mission is to lead Lambeth towards a green, sustainable, and inclusive future by installing community-owned solar panels on the roof of its schools and community buildings.

After a quiet year in 2020 – the COVID-19 crisis paused our engagement activities and led us to focus on building our site pipeline – we re-started our engagement activities and outreach in 2021, with the support of our LCS Community Champion and growing team of volunteers. This report outlines our work and impact throughout the year.

#### Building our site pipeline

In 2021, we have been making connections and building relationships with several sites across Lambeth and received funding from the London Community Energy Fund to explore opportunities for solar panel installations. The promising sites currently in our pipeline include:

- Myatt's Field Park Depot
- Marcus Lipton
- Mylands Paints
- St Judes Primary School

#### Generating renewable energy

In 2021, the average yield was 825kWh/kW across Elmgreen and Norwood, with Elmgreen having a slightly lower yield. This is within the top 10% of the sites that Repowering manages. On-site usage was above forecast at 99%.

Ofgem have now registered both Elmgreen (71094) and Norwood (71093) so Good Energy have processed the first FiT payments. However, they are not able to pay for the generation prior to the FiT application date (Nov 2020). The FiT application was delayed by additional information required from the installers, as well as additional EPC requirements, and delays caused by the Repowering London team working reduced hours during Covid. Following the directors' meeting in March, LCS will use part of the £15,000 carbon offset grant from Lambeth to meet this shortfall. Both Norwood and Elmgreen have been slow to provide updated tariff information, meaning that we have had to invoice using outdated tariffs. This is provided for in the PPA agreement but means that some additional income will come through in 2022 when a correction is made when the new tariffs are provided.

#### Community involvement

The LCS team was involved in several activities and projects in 2021, after a quiet year in 2020. In April, we held an online learning workshop on "Understanding your co-op's finances", which

was led by LCS Director Chris and had a dozen of attendees. In September, the LCS Community Champion Chloe organised a solar panel making workshop at the Remakery to engage Lambeth residents. 10 adults attended, and the feedback received was positive and constructive – Repowering is using it to improve the workshop.

Throughout the year, LCS volunteers met on a monthly basis to discuss plans and ideas on how the co-op can contribute to a greener and fairer Lambeth in 2021-22, as well as priorities and activities for the years to come. The group agreed to focus on building the pipeline of sites for the co-op and has been working on roof spotting and reaching out to site owners. This has been very successful, and our pipeline of sites is expanding.

The group has grown with the support of the LCS Community Champion Chloe, who recruited 4 new volunteers across the summer. Repowering met with Directors quarterly to update them on LCS' finances and discuss the long-term vision and strategy of the co-op.

### Financial accounts

The accounts for the financial period  $1^{st}$  January to  $31^{st}$  December 2021 which accompany this report show that:

- In 2021, we generated a total income of £17,466, which is £4,401 higher than in 2020
- Our expenses for the year are of £16,647
- We have therefore made a profit of £819
- The Directors are proposing to pay £4,010 to shareholders as return on investment (representing a 3% return on investment), and to set aside £200 for the Community Fund.

#### **Our partner Repowering London**

Lambeth Community Solar is proud to be part of the Repowering family of energy co-ops. The Repowering co-ops have collectively:

- Raised £710,000 to install 707 kWp of solar panels on schools and community buildings
- Generated 654 MWh of electricity annually
- Saved 139 tonnes of Greenhouse gases from being emitted in the atmosphere annually
- Allocated £196,500 for Community Funds to benefit local causes
- Provided employment to three locally rooted community champions in Lambeth, Kensington & Chelsea and Aldgate
- Supported an empowered a network of 30 volunteers and 677 investor members
- Participated in two local electricity supply trials developing new and more democratic ways to deliver renewable electricity locally
- Distributed £5,000 of community funds to local groups to provide essential supplies of food and fuel vouchers to support residents through the pandemic

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 <u>info@repowering.org.uk</u>.

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Directors, Lambeth Community Solar Limited