



2022

IMPACT REPORT



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[I've gained] a feeling of pride that we have achieved so much. A feeling of hope from how many people support us and do want to make a difference to their communities if given the chance.

- Repowering London volunteer

CREATING LOCAL ENERGY

Who we are

Repowering London is a not-for-profit community energy development organisation that puts people at the heart of the energy system. We empower communities to plan, fund and build their low-carbon future.

Our mission

We give London's communities the power to create, control and benefit from renewable energy, and play an active part in the transition to a low-carbon society.



The story so far

To date, Repowering London has supported 8 community co-operatives across London to fund, install, and manage rooftop solar projects on social housing estates, schools, and community centres. Our projects generate renewable energy that delivers direct benefits for local people, including cost savings and community investment. They also generate the social energy that brings people together and creates opportunities for communities to flourish.

What we believe

- We believe that people should hold the power when it comes to generating, pricing and using energy.
- We believe that everyone should be able to afford the energy they need and use energy that doesn't harm the planet.
- We believe that coming together around creating local energy creates healthier and happier communities.



**707
kWp**

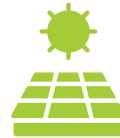
**of community-
owned rooftop solar
delivered across
London so far**

Where we are working



650+

local community investors



36 buildings

across London with rooftop solar panels installed

Our family of community energy co-operatives



Hackney
Banister House Solar



Lambeth
Brixton Energy Solar 1, 2 & 3



Kensington & Chelsea
North Kensington
Community Energy



Lambeth
Lambeth Community Solar



City of London
Aldgate Solar Power



Lambeth
Vauxhall Energy

2022 HEADLINES



Reached more than **5,100 people** on community energy topics



Winner, Community Energy England's **Community Engagement & Inclusion Award**

Read more about our inclusive engagement approach on page 14



28 young people completed our AQA-accredited Youth Training Programme in North Kensington

Read more on page 18



Rooftop solar pipeline of more than 1.1MWp developed, with projects to be installed in upcoming years

Read more on page 9



Hosted a visit from **senior Ofgem officials**, including the Chair and CEO

Read more on page 25



Launched a public **toolkit for retrofit** in blocks of flats, in partnership with the GLA and Future Climate

Read more on page 11

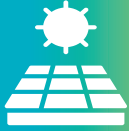


Trialed an innovative approach to **integrating indoor air quality and energy monitoring**

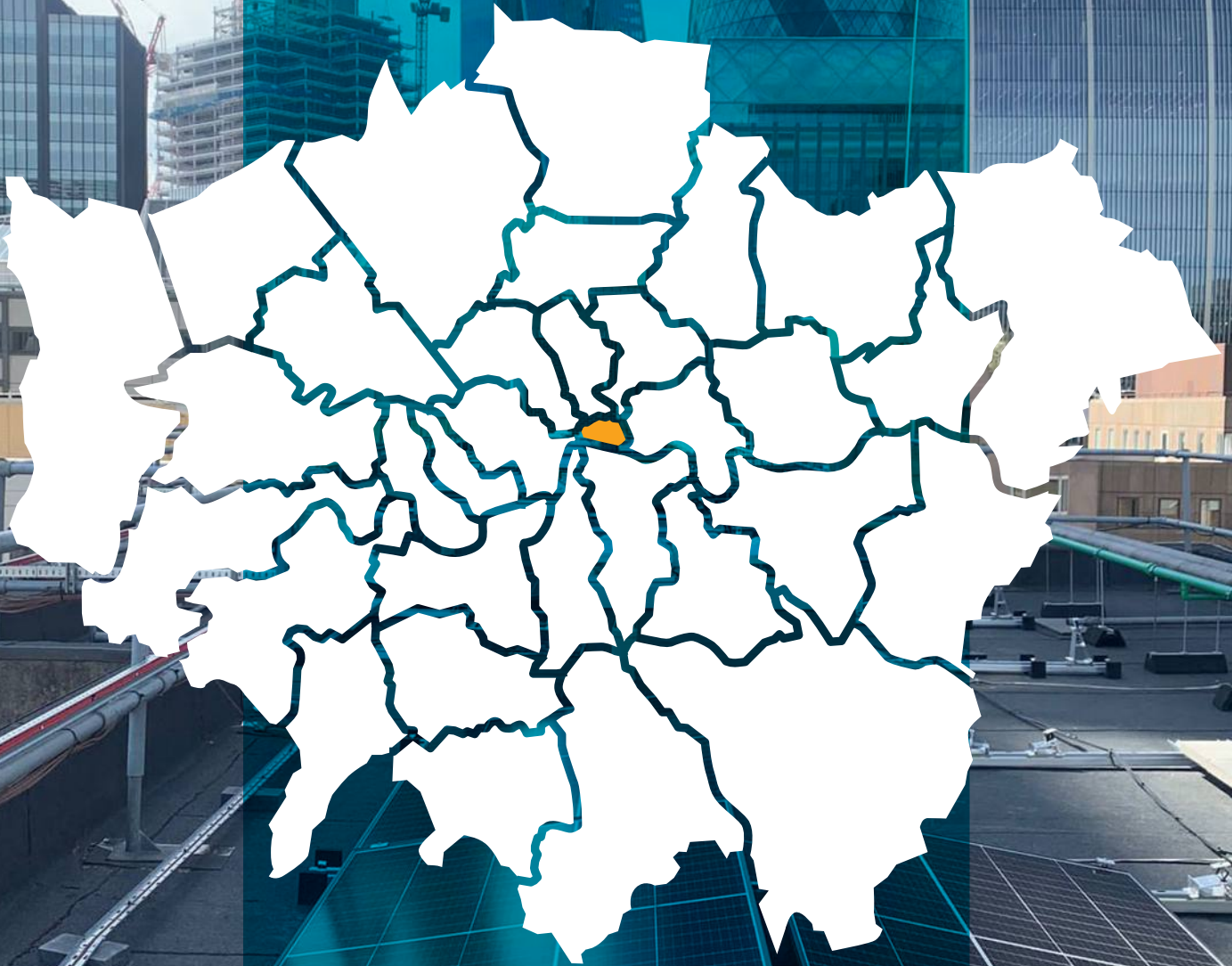
Read more on page 11



Ran or participated in **74 community engagement activities**



In 2022, Repowering London installed the first community energy project in the City of London, which also marked our first solar installation since the end of the Feed-in Tariff.



INTRODUCING

Aldgate Solar Power

Read more
on page 10

BUILDING OUR LOW-CARBON FUTURE



Rooftop solar

Building a pipeline

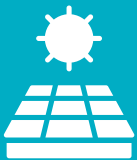
We are building a pipeline of new community-owned rooftop solar sites across London to help us achieve our goal of tripling London's community-owned solar capacity in the next five years.

In 2022, we completed feasibility studies for **16 new rooftop solar sites** across London, with a total capacity of **more than 1.1MWp**.



105 tonnes

of CO₂e emissions avoided across our projects this year



543 MWh

of renewable energy generated across our projects in 2022



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I joined Aldgate Solar Power because I know this is the future. The City is one of the more polluted places, and we need to have green energy around us. And this makes a better life for us, a healthy life!

– Middlesex Street Estate resident and Aldgate Solar Power member



Introducing Aldgate Solar Power

In April 2022 we supported our newest community energy co-operative, [Aldgate Solar Power](#), to install the first community energy project in the City of London. The rooftop solar installation on the Middlesex Street housing estate, in the heart of the City of London, has a total capacity of 37kWp.

We are also pleased to be celebrating the success of this project as Repowering London's first installation since the removal of the Feed-in Tariff.

The installation was partially financed by grant funding from the City of London Community Infrastructure Levy Neighbourhood Fund, the Mayor of London's London Community Energy Fund, and M.H. Goldsmith & Sons Limited.

A dedicated team of Aldgate Solar Power volunteers and directors developed and advertised their first community share offer to fund the remainder of the installation costs. They successfully reached their target of £11,300 within two weeks, raising share capital from 34 community investors.

Aldgate Solar Power investors are expected to receive a 3% annual return on their investment, and a Community Fund of £10,250 will be ring-fenced for local causes over the lifetime of the project.

Innovation & infrastructure



The future of urban energy

We are using our collective experience to explore innovative models for providing sustainable and affordable urban energy and driving London's transition to a fair and inclusive low-carbon society.

GreenSCIES

For the Green Smart Community Integrated Energy Systems (GreenSCIES) project, we worked with a consortium of partners to co-design a smart local energy system that reflects the priorities of residents in an Islington neighbourhood. We also presented community investment options for the scheme.

Home monitoring for well-being

We recruited 17 participants on local estates in Lambeth and installed indoor air quality and energy monitoring equipment in their homes to identify opportunities for improvement.

Low-carbon retrofit

Building on our expertise in developing low-carbon infrastructure projects and engaging communities, we are exploring community-led approaches to retrofitting homes, community buildings and the wider built environment for improved energy efficiency.

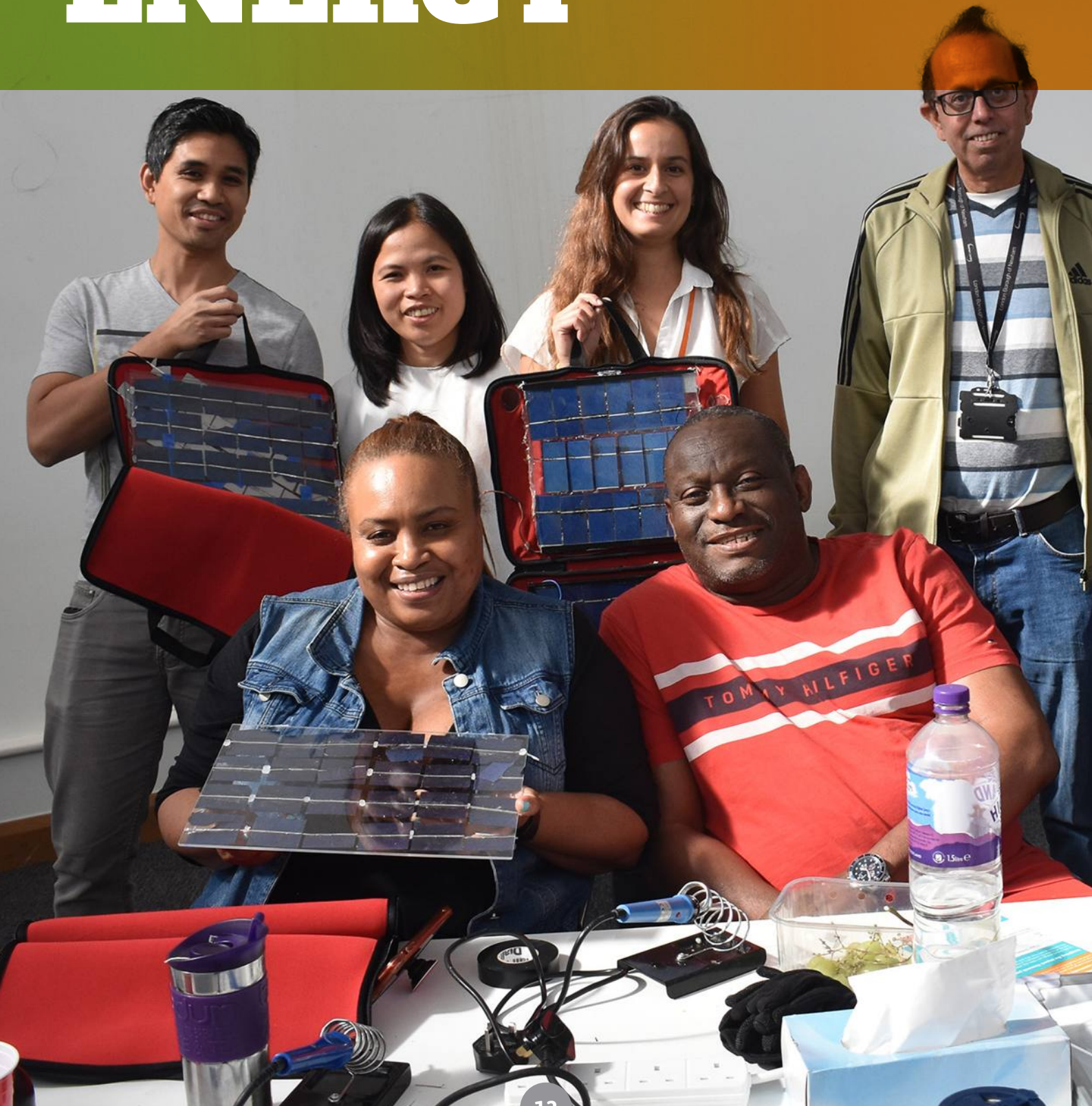
In 2022, we partnered with the Greater London Authority and Future Climate to develop a public toolkit for whole-building retrofit in private blocks of flats.

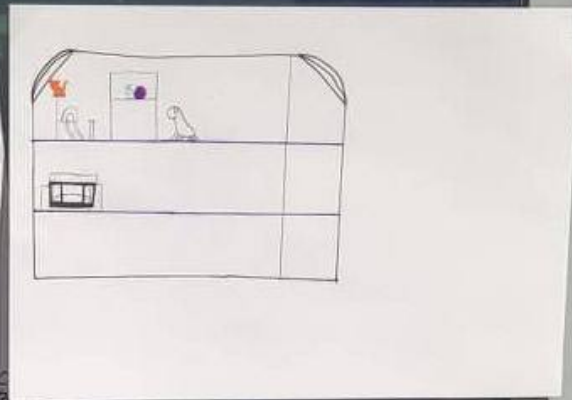
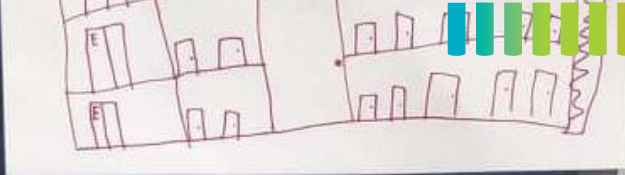
Our work found that private blocks of flats pose unique technical and legal barriers for retrofit. Whole-building retrofit also requires collaboration and consensus between residents, freeholders, and other stakeholders in a block of flats. Community energy expertise – in communication, engagement, governance, and financial mechanisms – can play an important role in overcoming these barriers.

The toolkit we've produced provides guidance and advice for stakeholders exploring the options for their homes and blocks.

We also co-hosted a toolkit launch event for more than 60 retrofit sector stakeholders in October 2022, and conducted retrofit feasibility studies across two pilot sites in South London.

GENERATING SOCIAL ENERGY





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It's been a wonderful experience. I have gained confidence and a new network of like-minded and enthusiastic people, which has been incredible.

– Repowering London volunteer

Engaging local communities

Our approach

Collaboration – We create grassroots engagement that drives change from the bottom up.

Empowerment – We create the conditions in which people can exercise agency within their community, their city, and in combatting the climate emergency.

Inclusion – We actively seek to involve the widest range of participants in our mission.

Engagement activities

We facilitate and support community engagement activities ranging from awareness raising and consultation to co-design, movement building, and co-operative empowerment.

In 2022, our team delivered or took part in 74 community engagement activities, including:

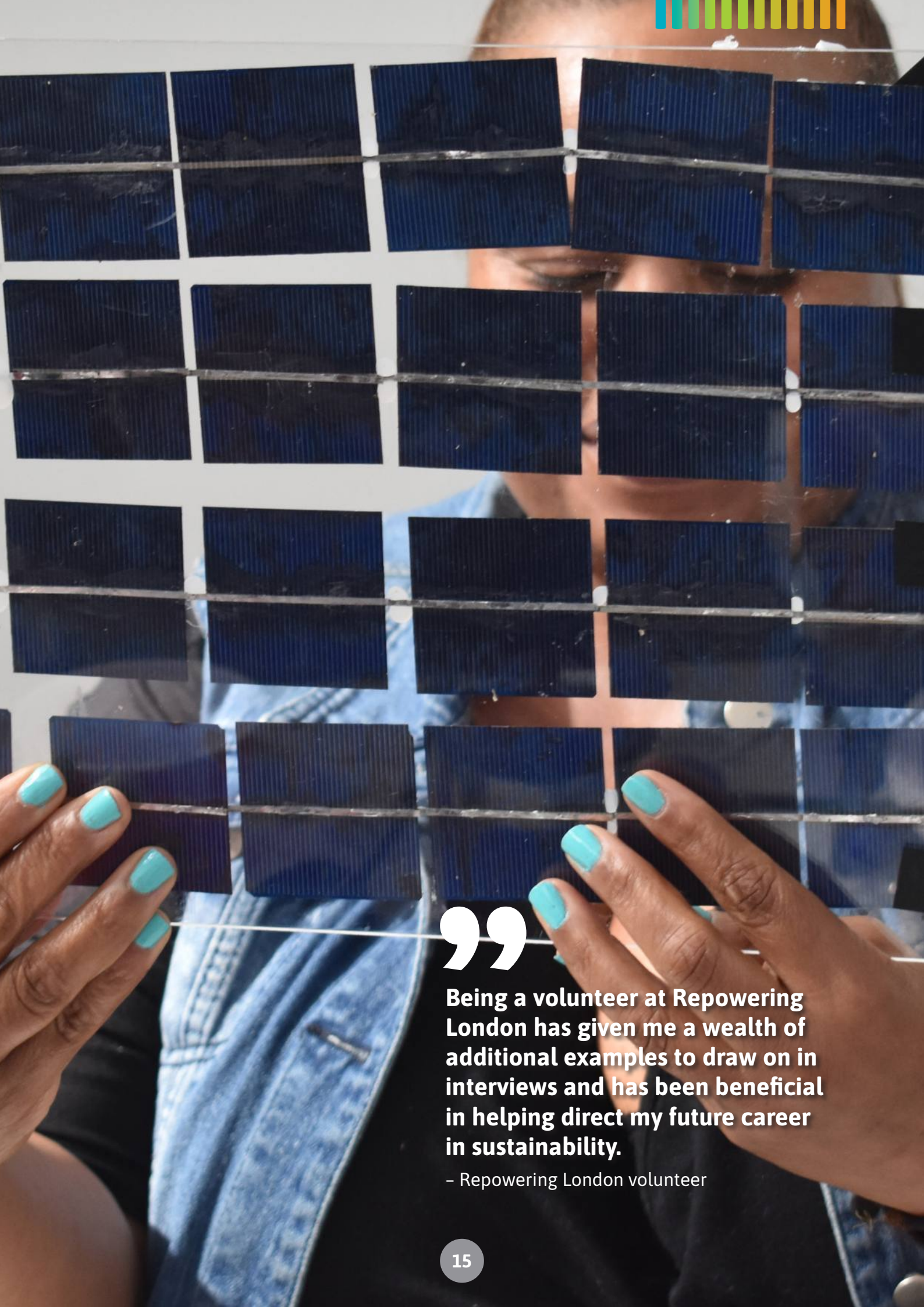
- 7 energy advice workshops
- 4 public solar panel making workshops, plus 2 'train the trainers' workshops with co-op volunteers
- 3 school workshops or assemblies on climate change and renewable energy
- 2 film screening events
- A Repowering London Family Party for volunteers, directors, and partners across all of our co-operatives and projects

We also conducted 7 focus groups or feedback sessions across 4 projects in 2022, gathering information on stakeholder perspectives and priorities to inform our work.



1,600+

**people were reached
through our engagement
activities in 2022**



”

Being a volunteer at Repowering London has given me a wealth of additional examples to draw on in interviews and has been beneficial in helping direct my future career in sustainability.

– Repowering London volunteer

Our members & volunteers

Mentoring and upskilling

We supported more than **60 co-operative volunteers and directors** across **8 co-operatives** this year.

Our volunteers and directors received mentoring and training opportunities to develop a variety of new skills:

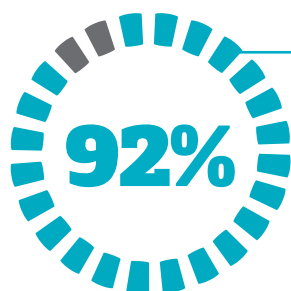
- **Co-operative governance**, including holding Annual General Meetings
- **Rooftop spotting** for local solar sites
- Developing and promoting a successful **community share offer**

Community capacity-building

A survey of members and volunteers supported across our projects reported increased **knowledge, experience, and confidence** thanks to their involvement with Repowering London.



of respondents agreed that volunteering their time for Repowering London had helped them to **gain employment**, or to progress or **change their career**.



of respondents agreed that they had built knowledge and experience in **community organising and engagement**.

Community Leads



Winner of the Community Engagement and Inclusion Award, Community Energy England Awards 2022



In 2022, we employed part-time Community Leads to build engagement across three of our growing co-operatives – Aldgate Solar Power, Lambeth Community Solar, and North Kensington Community Energy.

The Community Leads have brought new energy to these co-operatives and have successfully:

- Built networks with local organisations such as faith groups and food hubs
- Recruited new volunteers and co-operative directors
- Shared energy advice and resources with local residents at community events and centres, including street parties, festivals, and libraries

”

Most of the time it means going somewhere, community mapping, and getting around to other organisations. And if there is a community event, I am there holding my literature!

– Nasri Ismael, Community Lead for North Kensington Community Energy, describing her local community engagement work



Community Energy Awards 2022, Winner

Community Engagement
And Inclusion Award

Repowering London



Education & training

Youth Training Programme

In autumn 2022, Repowering London delivered 10 weeks of paid [youth training](#) in North Kensington as part of Notting Dale Future Neighbourhoods 2030.

Participants aged 16–19 were recruited with the help of the local co-operative, North Kensington Community Energy, and each of them received up to 40 hours of training and work experience paid at the London Living Wage.

The course introduced participants to low-carbon technologies and community energy, with core modules including renewable energy, energy efficiency, business models, social media, community engagement, and power and privilege.

Building confidence

Personal changes that participants reported over the course of the programme included “becoming more confident” and “being more sociable”.

All of the participants reported improved confidence working in their community and securing work in the environmental sector, with more than two-thirds of participants reporting “good improvement” or “major improvement” in these areas.



28 young people participated



723 hours of training paid at the London Living Wage



22 work experience placements completed



Total of 44 AQA certificates awarded, across all participants



10 core modules on topics related to community energy



Youth Training Programme outcomes

Inspiration, connection & empowerment

Percentage of participants who agreed or strongly agreed with the statement **BEFORE** the programme

Percentage of participants who agreed or strongly agreed with the statement **AFTER** the programme

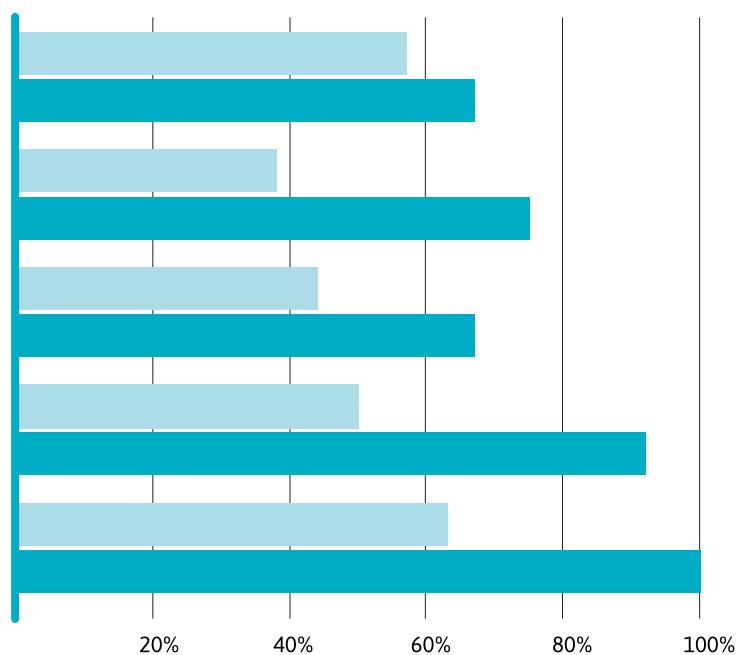
"I feel inspired by those around me"

"I feel I can influence decisions in my local community"

"Most days I feel a sense of accomplishment from what I do"

"I have been feeling useful"

"I feel confident assessing information and making decisions"





”

Because of Repowering London, I've now developed the skills to be able to go into the world and have open conversations about sustainability and renewable energy sources... I feel I have the knowledge to really be able to communicate what I feel and what I think, and make a difference in the world today.

– Youth Training Programme participant



”

I love these sessions... they are the highlight of my week.

It makes me feel very hopeful about the future.

– Year 5 students



ReCreate programme

In winter 2022, we delivered our drama-based programme, **ReCreate**, for Year 5 students at Bousfield Primary School. The 5-week programme teaches young children about the local and global effects of climate change in an age-appropriate, sensitive and fun way.

We know young people often feel a sense of disempowerment when it comes to the climate crisis. By introducing students to technological and social solutions, and giving them opportunities to learn by doing and discussing, we help them to feel positive about the future and encourage them to create positive change.



Our ripple effect

Participants in our projects – whether local residents, young people, volunteers, or directors – **build awareness and skills** that they take with them into their personal lives and communities, beyond their involvement with Repowering London. Our work creates wider ripples when these participants change their behaviour, share their knowledge, or build new relationships with their neighbours.



A survey of our members and volunteers also found that involvement with Repowering London was linked to **personal behaviour changes**. Among respondents who had not taken common **energy efficiency actions** before they got involved with our projects, a majority went on to take some or all of the actions below after getting involved.

Switched to a green or renewable energy supplier

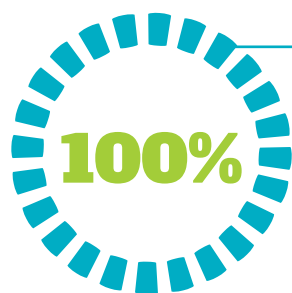
55%

Switched to LED lighting

56%

Reduced energy consumption

64%



of young people who participated in our Youth Training Programme in autumn 2022 said that they had **shared something they learned on the course with a friend or family member**.

As one participant told us: “I’ve been more interested in the energy used at home [and] **able to help my mother and brother understand** too.”

Our projects also build community connections that can extend beyond the life of the project itself. As one participant in an energy innovation pilot project told us: “Usually on council estates it’s difficult to know your neighbours, so it is **great to be involved in community projects and meet familiar faces**.”

TEDx London

Hello
you

BEYOND
BORDERS



ADVOCACY & INFLUENCE

Championing community energy

3,500+

people heard directly about our
community energy work in 2022

Sharing the story with wider audiences

We've shared the story of community energy and the benefits it creates for local communities with thousands of people through talks, articles, and media appearances, including:

- A [TEDx London talk](#) by our Interim CEO, Felix Wight, which has been viewed more than 2,400 times on YouTube
- Appearing on [ITV News](#), reaching a broadcast audience of approximately 50,000 people
- Profiles in industry news outlet [Energy Monitor](#) and two Co-operatives UK [case studies](#)



Strengthening the sector

We regularly share our expertise and experiences with other organisations to build capacity across the climate, co-operative, built environment, and policy sectors. Repowering London team members presented our work as an invited speaker or panellist at 21 events in 2022. This included presentations at:

- Right to Energy Forum Europe
- Co-operatives UK Co-op Congress
- Confederation of Co-operative Housing Annual Conference
- 4 London Climate Action Week Events
- Cooperatives Europe Conference on Young People and the Future of Cooperation in Europe



CO-OP CONGRESS



Elevating the voices of lived experience

Repowering London regularly engages with influential stakeholders to elevate the voices of those with lived experience of fuel poverty.

In autumn 2022, we facilitated a workshop that brought together senior Ofgem officials and Lambeth residents. All parties came away with new knowledge and motivations.

Community participants reported feeling respected, valued, and relieved to share their stories. Ofgem participants reported that hearing directly from people brought complexity and detail to high-level statistics and figures.

We also share learnings from across our projects to advocate for the perspectives and approaches of people who have experienced fuel poverty.

We contributed to 18 research projects or public consultations over the course of the year, including responding to Ofgem's Winter Action Letter, Lambeth Council's Adult Safeguarding consultation, and Lambeth Council's Air Quality Action Plan.



THANK YOU!

Repowering London's work is made possible by the support and commitment of our funders, partners, and volunteers. Your contributions are helping us to build a clean, fair energy future for all Londoners.



SUPPORTED BY
MAYOR OF LONDON



Supported by
Impact on Urban Health



Repowering London has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 101026972.