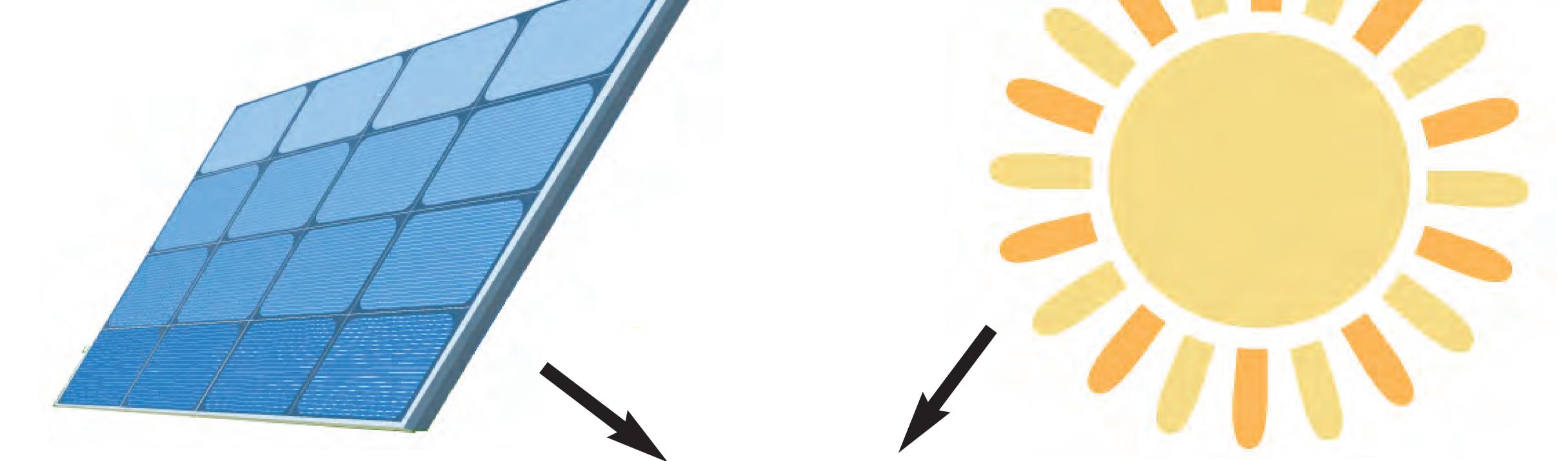


# PAY LESS FOR YOUR

# NO-COST SOLAR PV

With energy prices rising it makes sense to look at cheaper electricity suppliers. At Brighton Energy Coop (BEC) we partner with roof owners to host solar panels and reduce your electricity bills by up to 50%. There is no cost on your part: we cover all financial, technical, insurance and maintenance issues.

### START SAVING UP TO 50% ON YOUR ELECTRICITY BILL



Free solar panels installed by Brighton Energy Coop



Low-cost solar electricity supplied Low-cost solar electricity supplie directly to your building, saving up to 50% of your bill.



Brighton Energy Coop sends excess electricity into the National Grid

### **BRIGHTON ENERGY CO-OPERATIVE**

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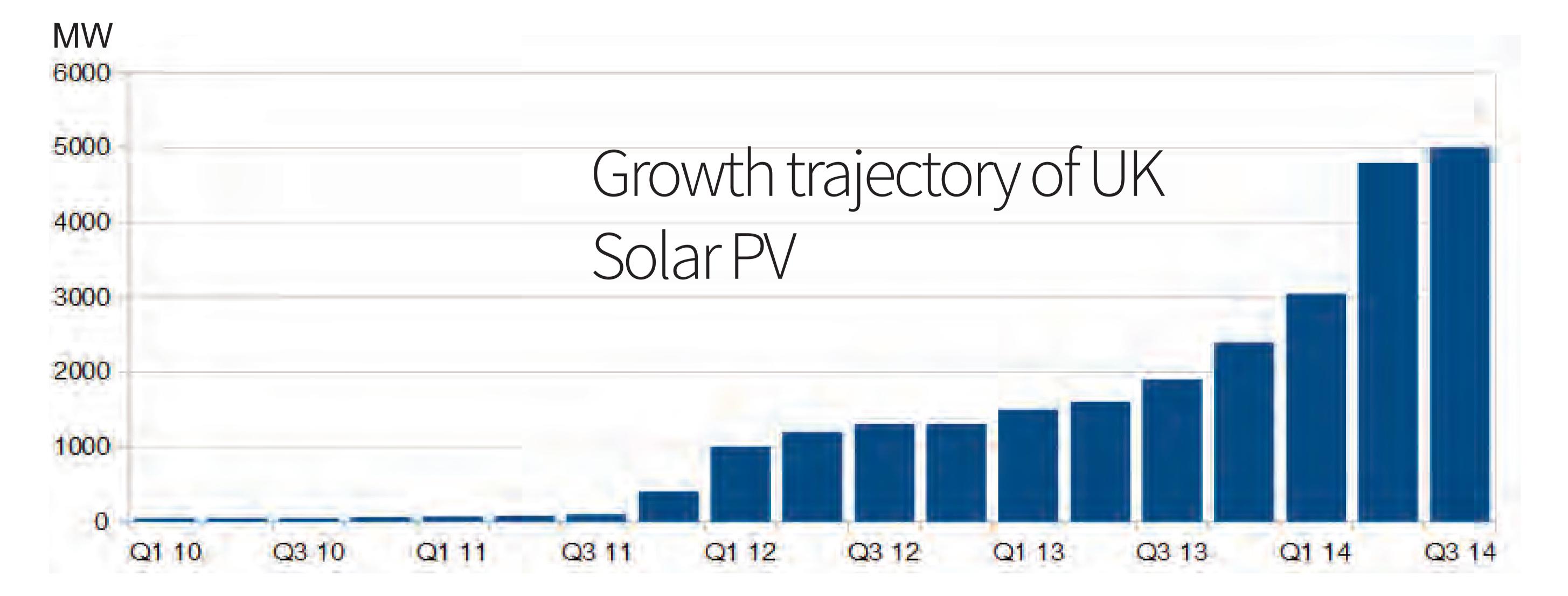
# BRIGHTON ENERGY

### BENEFITS TO YOU

Brighton Energy Coop offers you substantial electricity savings without having to pay for your own solar kit. Our solar panels can save you thousands of pounds on your electricity bill for decades to come – and it won't cost you a penny.

Based in Brighton, we own nearly £700,000 of new solar PV installations. We are funded by the local community and have widespread support around the country. Hundreds of people have invested in us: our membership ranges from professionals to students, from retirees to vicars. For our next project we already have £100,000 pledged from

#### enthusiastic community investors.



### **ABOUT** BRIGHTON ENERGY COOP

Brighton Energy Coop raises money by selling shares in the co-op; members receive a 5% return as well as a 30% tax break on the amount invested.

#### **BEC** milestones:

**2011** - Raised £18,000 from six Brighton investors to develop concept.

2012 - 150 people invest £240,000; BEC installs 1st solar

## A Pioneer in a Growing Sector

Since our inception in 2011 BEC's innovative business model has been the subject of intense interest. Two Ministers have visited our solar sites - the Prime Minister even mentioned us in the Houses of Parliament in 2014.

We have long-term solar projects in place with big organisations such as Shoreham Port, and a history of on-time dividend and debt payments. Chairman Will Cottrell won the Community Energy Fundraiser of the year award in 2014; he and co-director Damian Tow are both community energy mentors for Cooperatives UK.

project across three sites.

**2013** - Added a further £225,000 of solar to our renewables portfolio.

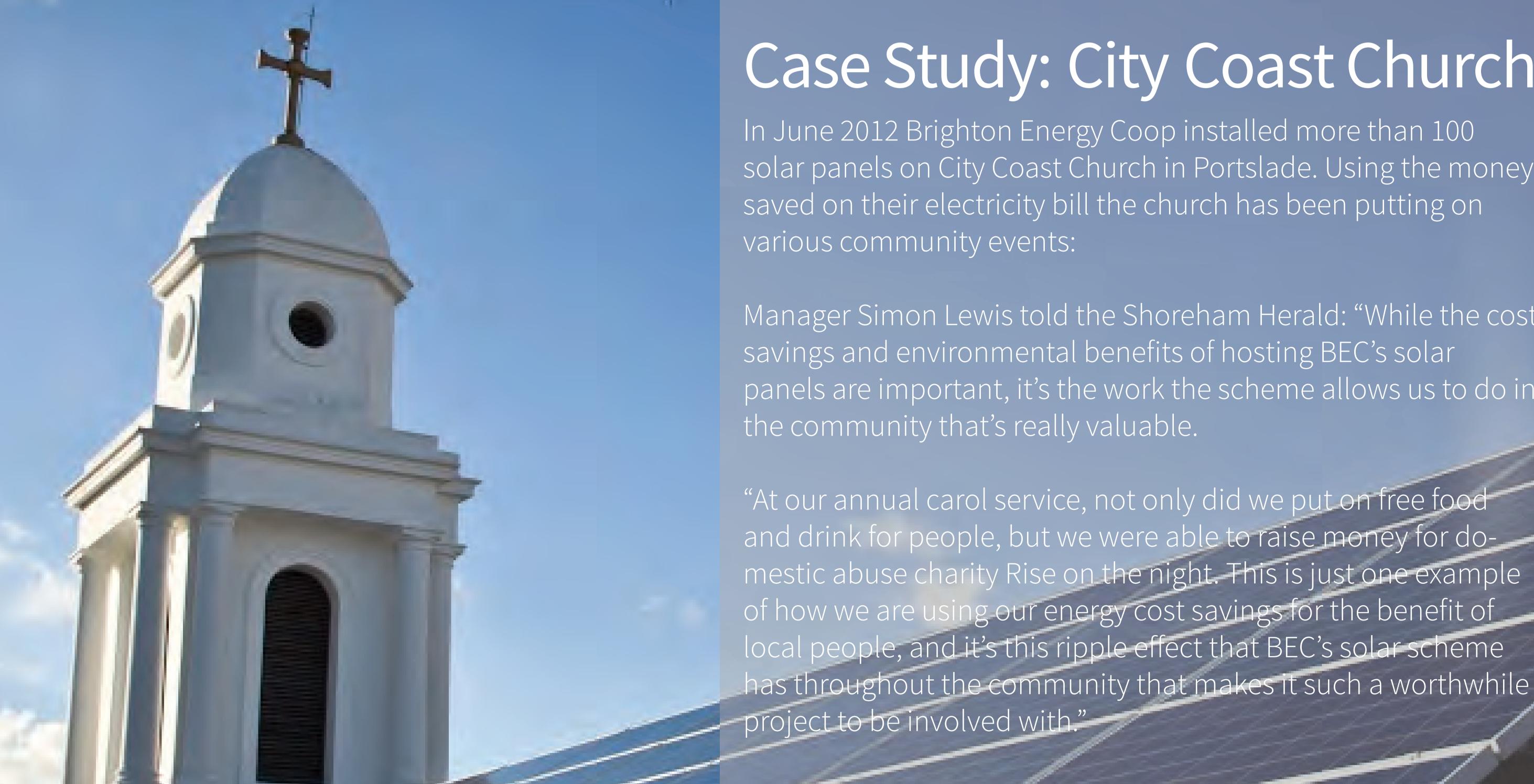
**2014** – Amidst two ministerial visits we raised a further £220,000 for a new solar array at Shoreham Port.

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### IN 2014 OUR SOLAR LANDLORDS **REDUCED THEIR ELECTRICITY** SPEND BY AN AVERAGE OF 50%



Some of the organisations that we currently work with in the Brighton area include Shoreham Port, St George's Church and City Coast Church. Shoreham Port were so keen on working with us that - a year later - they commissioned two more PV systems to supply them with more cheap electricity. In 2015 we will be increasing our solar generation substantially with several new sites coming on board.



### Case Study: City Coast Church

solar panels on City Coast Church in Portslade. Using the money

Manager Simon Lewis told the Shoreham Herald: "While the cost panels are important, it's the work the scheme allows us to do in

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What roof space is required?

Roofs need to be flat, or south, east or west-facing, and unshaded.

Studies in the US have shown that solar PV can increase the resale value of residential properties. While there are no similar studies in the UK, we believe potential purchasers see reduced

### What will be the impact on the roof?

During construction our contractors hold full insurance to cover any adverse impacts to our solar buildings. Our panels and equipment are also fully insured for the lifetime of the project.

#### electricity bills as a positive factor.

### Will it cost us anything?

No. BEC covers the cost of all structural surveys, planning issues, installation, operation and maintenance.

### **Do solar panels affect resale value?**

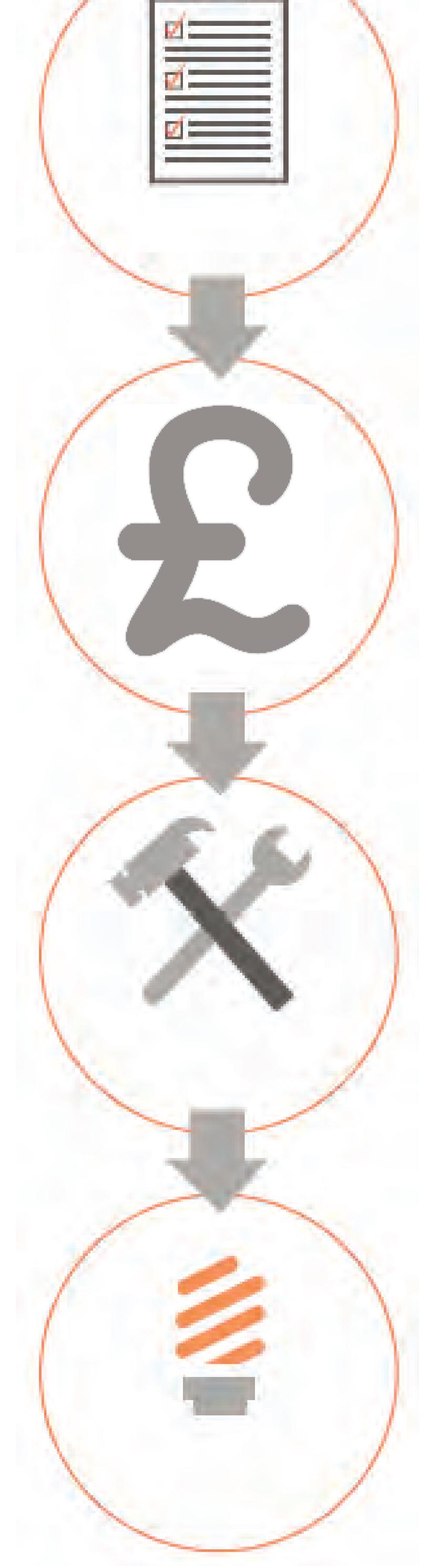
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### HOW IT WORKS

We lease roofspaces and then install community-funded solar panels. We sell the electricity that we generate to you at a discounted rate. There are no costs: we cover all technical, insurance and maintenance issues.





#### **Step 1: Site survey and lease agreement**

BEC surveys each site and works out solar potential. We then discuss with you how much you can save from one of our PV systems.

#### **Step 2: Lease agreement**

BEC enters into an agreement with you to lease the roof space.

### **Step 3: Funding**

BEC regularly funds new solar PV installations via community share offers. In the last 4 years we've raised nearly £700,000 for new solar PV; at the time of going to press we have nearly £100,000 of investment pledged for new projects.

#### **Step 4: Installation**

Installation usually takes 2-3 weeks. There is minimal disruption for your building.

### **Step 5: Ongoing**

You'll start seeing a reduction on your electricity bill within 3 months.

### **Step 6: Operation and Maintenance**

Electricity generated is used to dramatically reduce your electricity bills. Bi-annual electrical checks and cleaning are also carried out and we keep a close eye on our online montoring to record electricity generated and used.

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## OUR COMMITMENT TO YOUR ROOF

Your roof is a great resource for both electricity and cost savings, but it is also of course an integral part of your building. Hence we always commission, at no cost to you, a full structural survey prior to installation. We also carry out regular maintenance and hold full insurance and warranty protection.

### Our installers

We use a variety of installer partners for our projects; all are certified by the Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) and regulated by government-approved bodies. This means that the quality of our installers, their workmanship and competence is overseen by a Code of Practice approved by the Trading Standards Institute.

### Structural Survey

To ensure that there is no doubt over roof integrity, we commission an independent structural surveyor to assess your roof. A typical PV installation weighs around 0.15kg per square metre: that's considerably lighter than a heavy snowfall and should be well within your roof's loading capacity.

### Regular Maintenance



We also carry out regular maintenance, checking the roof every 6 months, giving you complete peace of mind. Our panels form a protective barrier for your roof and provide an extra layer of protection. However, should you need to do work to your roof, individual panels can be moved temporarily to allow access to the affected area.

### Insurance

The well-being of your roof is insured via our £10,000,000 public liability insurance, which covers any damage to your building arising from negligence on our part. We also have comprehensive maintenance schedule with our installers to prevent any impact on your roof. They hold similar public liability insurances.

Warranties

### Components

All the products we use satisfy rigorous and established international standards, from panels and fixings, right down to the final grid connection.

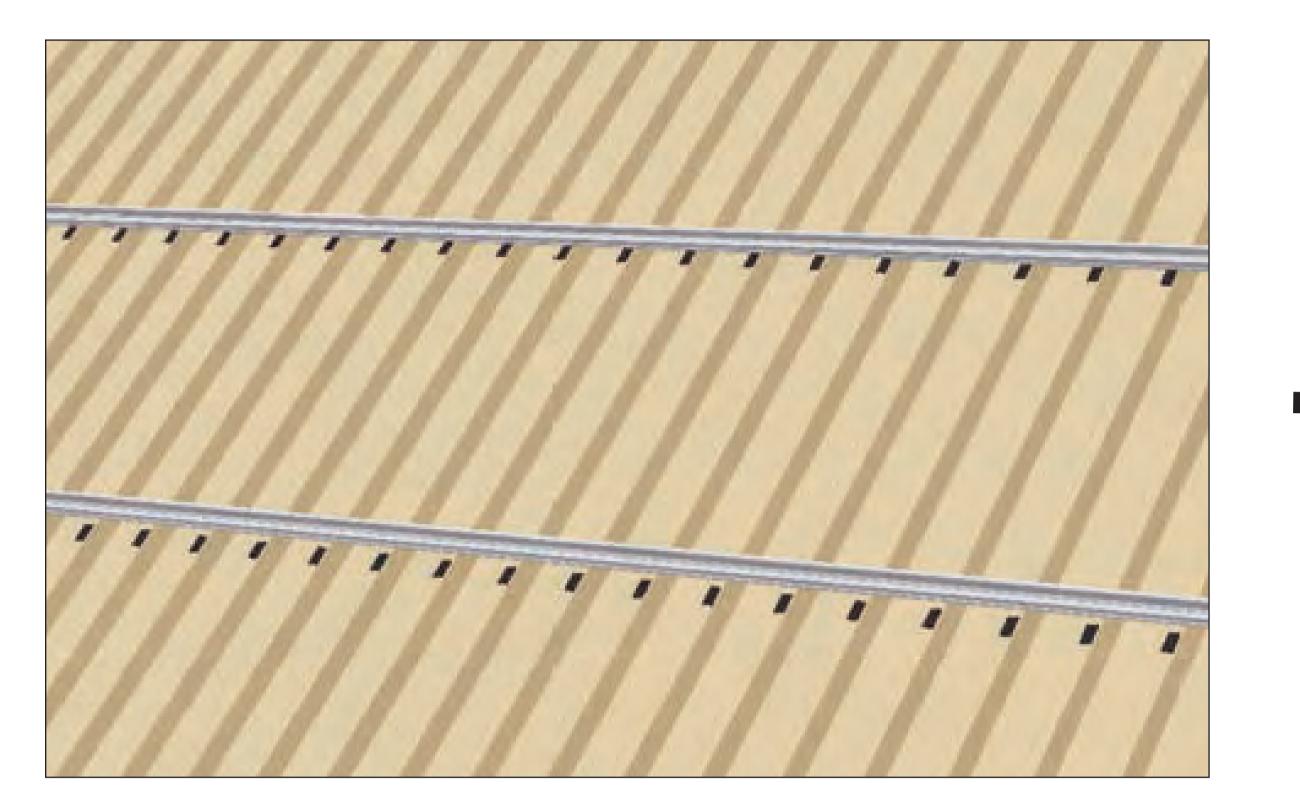
For the components of our systems, our solar panels, inverters and framing systems hold manufacturer's warranties for the 20year lifetime of each project; additionally our solar PV systems hold a 5-year works guarantee from our installers.

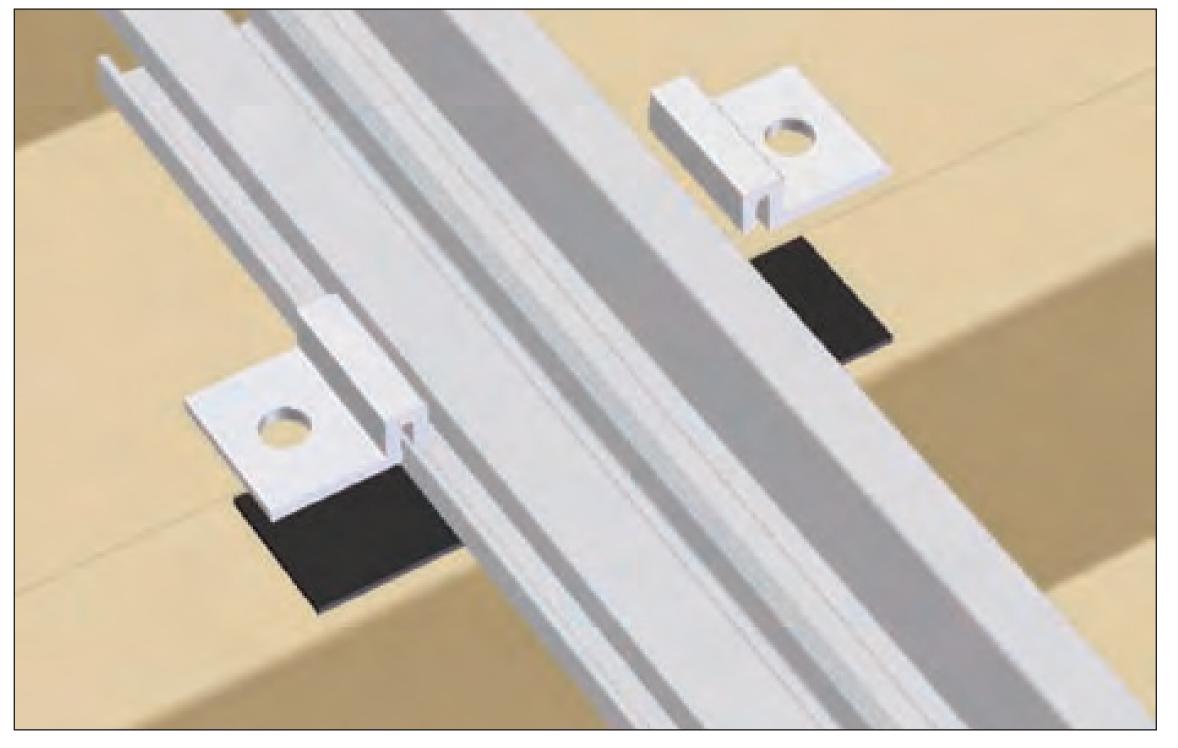
We have experience of installing solar PV on a wide variety of roofs. But we are never complacent. All our works are fully guaranteed and insured, stringently monitored and adhere to the highest safety standards.

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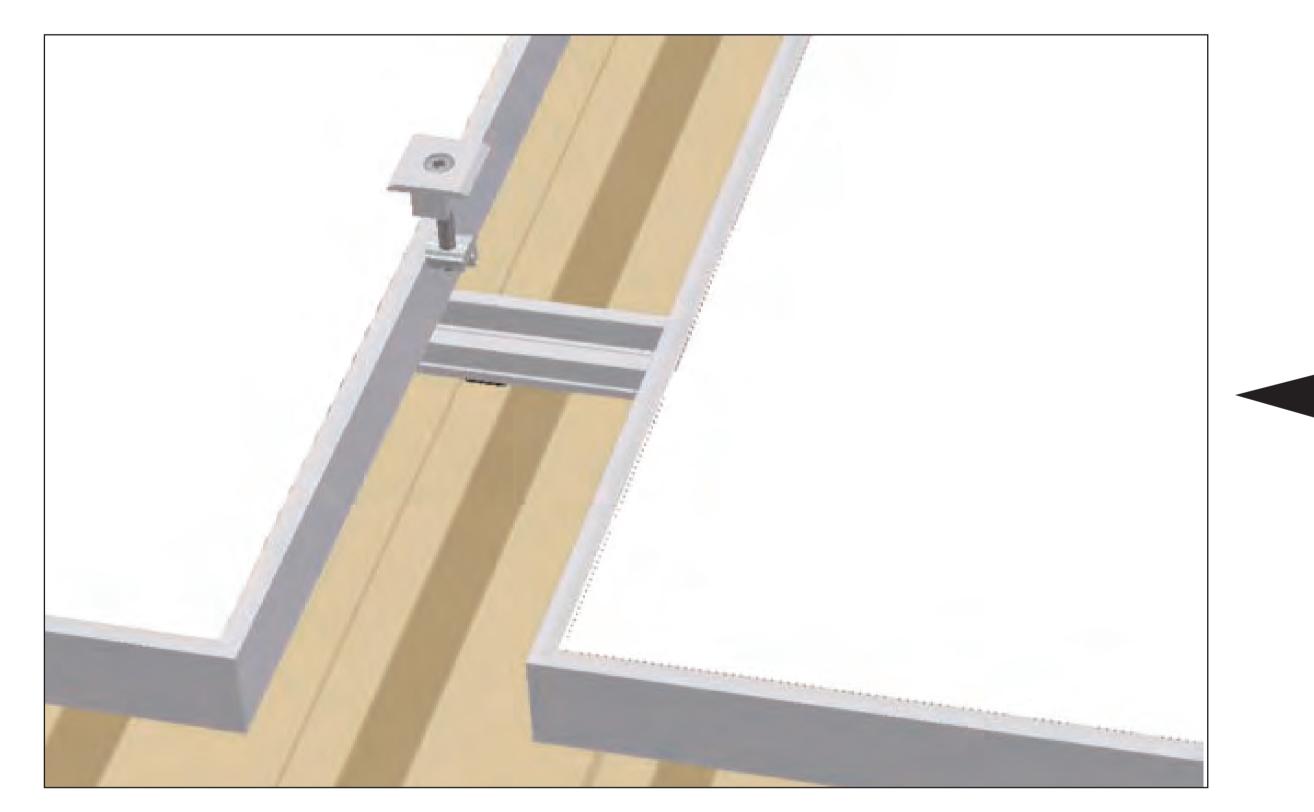
### INSIDE A BEC SOLAR INSTALL

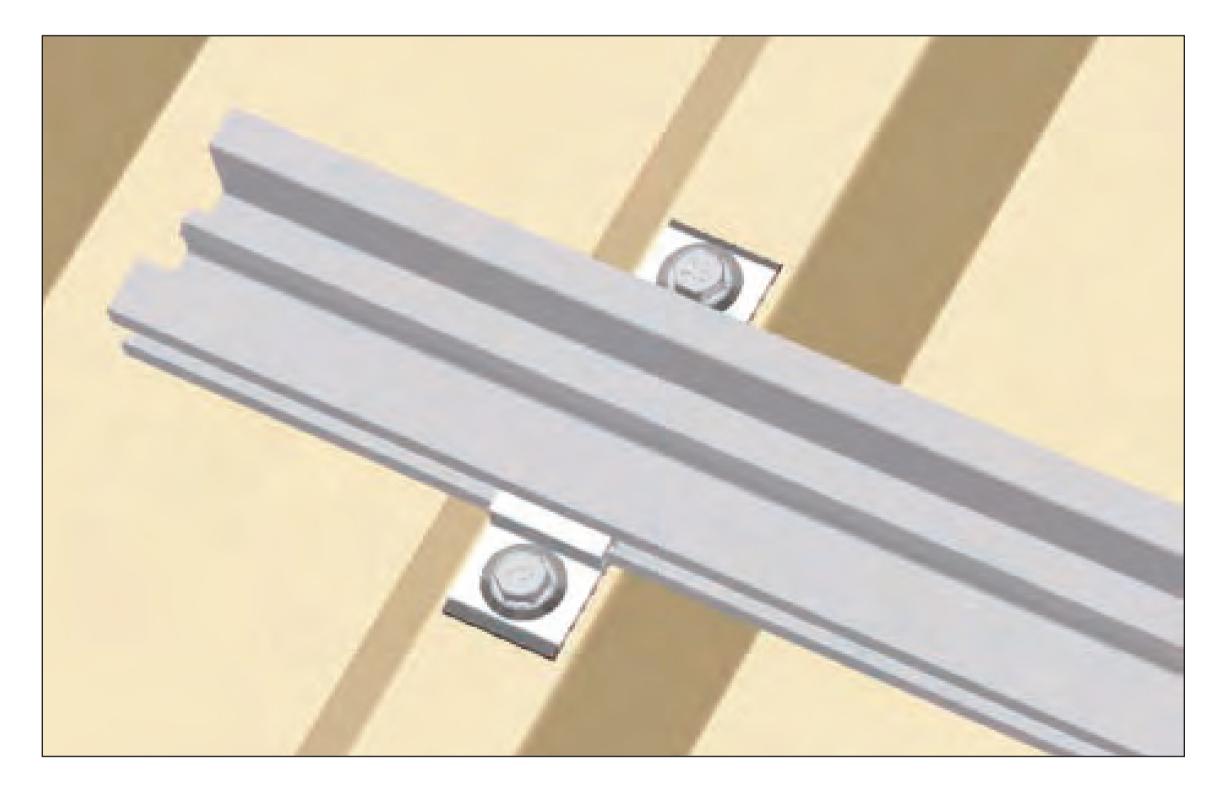




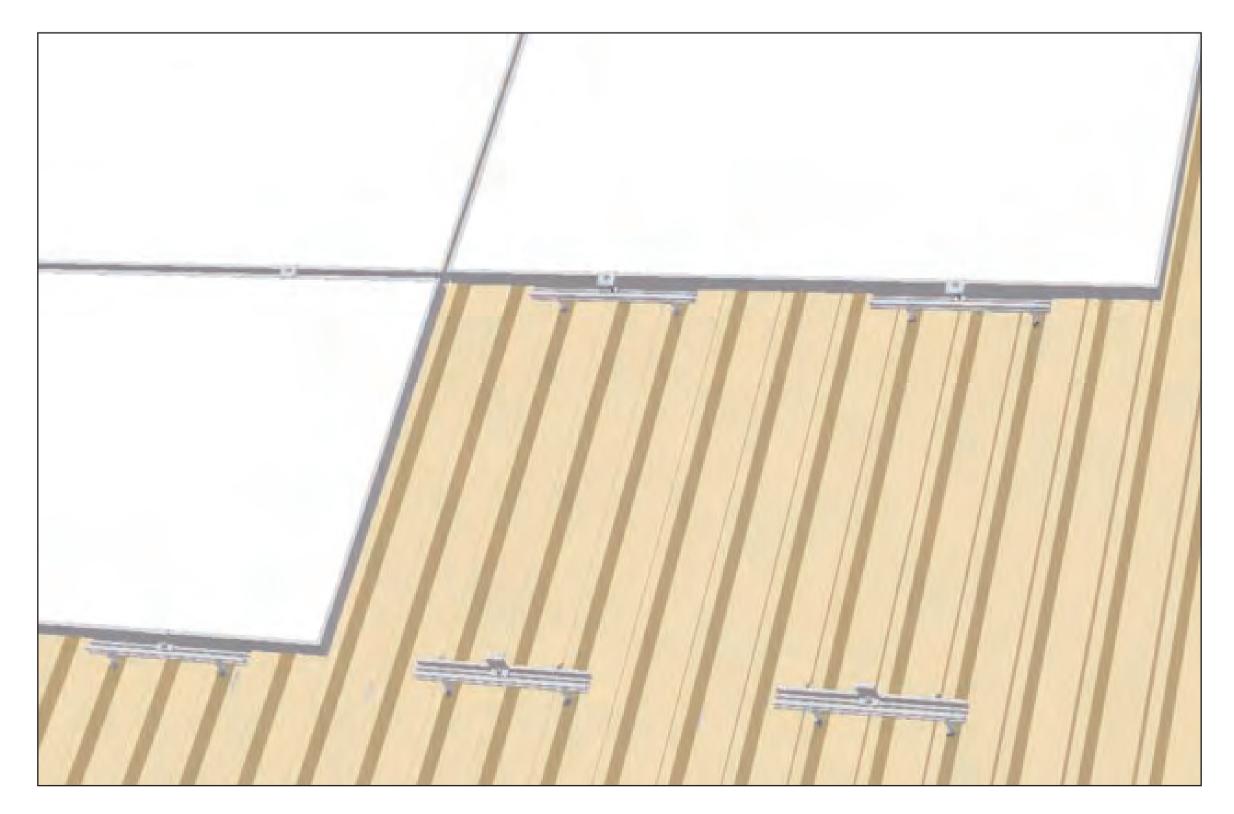
**Step 1:** Before any works are carried out we commission a structural survey to assess your roof's loading capacity. Once complete, framing systems can be laid out across the roof.

**Step 2:** Fixing clips are attached to the frames. Frames are made from light aluminium, and are guaranteed for 20 years.





**Step 4:** Solar panels are then bolted onto the frame. A typical PV system weighs 0.15kg per square metre, considerably less than your roof's capacity to carry snow.



#### Step 3: Watertight bolts seal the frames and roof.

Get in touch now to find out how we can help you cut your electricity bills

### DON'T FORGET: YOUR ROOF IS A RESOURCE!

**Step 5:** More frames are added, and more PV panels tiled across the roof

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