

“Saving £1k a month in electricity bills & payback <3 years”

40% grant = mortgage-free finance + energy independence + clean energy for our tenants



## MAXIMISE YOUR SOLAR ARRAY

Landlords, Tannery Studios run commercial offices, studios and event space in Send, Surrey. This is their solar investment story and learnings.

### Challenge 1: Getting bank permission

Successful application for a 40% grant was a game changer; we could finance the solar panels out of cash flow and avoided the bank veto of ‘fettering discretion’.

We were given a grant and bought 152 solar panels from the Community Solar Accelerator (CSA) grant managed by Brighton Energy Collectiv.

### Challenge 2: Filling the whole roof

The installer followed outdated MCS guidance and didn't install panels within 1.5m of the roof edge. Luckily, we were able to look up government guidance directly and didn't need specialist skills. We signed a waiver of responsibility to reassure planning wasn't required and made sure we got an extra 12.4 kW or 32 panels while the scaffolding was up.



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## Challenge 3: Function over form

The electricians installing were not very keen to install the extra panels 'Landscape' instead of 'Portrait' for aesthetic reasons. We had to stress we were more interested in the energy saving than how the roof looked.

## Challenge 4: Hooking it up

Knowing which Mpan to connect to and obtaining the sell back to the grid permissions (G99 connection), albeit we are using 100% of what is generated.

## Solar Installation Success!

In total, we installed 78 kW of Solar Panel capacity (186 Trina Solar 420W panels).

Solar panels have given us an immediate payback of less electricity cost - we are already saving over £1,000 per month on electricity bills.

We estimate the payback to be less than 3 years on our current fixed tariff, but once our tariff changes, payback will probably be closer to two and a half years (with the 40% grant included).