

“The payback will be 3-4 years or less.”



Grant-supported LEDs +
Electric Boiler + Heat Pump +
Solar Panels = Gas Free + Free
Clean Energy + Storage



AFFORDABLE ENERGY RESILIENCE

Camberley-based Switchfoot Accounting are an accounting, tax and lifestyle planning micro-business. Together with sister company Switchfoot Wealth they are on a mission to change financial services and make it sustainable first.

The Challenge:

We purchased a building that had not been occupied for a number of years. We were concerned about the carbon footprint, electricity costs of running a large building, and rising prices. The two businesses occupy 2000SFT + over 2 floors with a flat roof, old buzzing lights, gas boiler, and air con.

Barriers to Taking Action

- Knowing what to tackle first
- Funding the project
- Where to find trustworthy suppliers

“We want to be a force for good in our client’s lives so they can go on to be a force for good in the world.”
Rebecca, Switchfoot Accounting



STEPS TO A SOLUTION

1 Energy audit (grant funded) to highlight the priority areas to improve the efficiency of the building. It confirmed we had enough insulation and instead focused on the key areas of heating, cooling, and lighting.

2 Applied to LoCase - they helped us complete the grant application and were really helpful.

3 Installed recommended measures:

- Replaced the lighting with LEDs (no more buzzing)
- Removed the gas boiler and had gas removed from the premises
- Installed an electric boiler
- Replaced the air conditioning units (illegal gases) with an air-source heat pump (HVAC system) for heating and cooling
- Installed solar panels (3-phase 7kW) on the flat roof and added 10kW batteries to store unused power and offer power during power cuts.

4 Rewarded - 8 months of free electricity!

We haven't paid Octopus Energy anything since March and are in Credit. With luck, we won't have anything to pay for our electricity energy until November.



✓ **Increased the value of the business**

✓ **Increased the value of the building**

✓ **Ahead of the changes in legislation and commercial property EPC rating requirements.**

"Solar panels are an incredible visual signal of climate action and we believe they subtly encourage action from others in your community."

How does it stack up?

The panels & batteries, after grants and tax relief, **costs approx. £6,700**. We have generated 2023 5,482 kWh since January (07/09/2023).

If we used every unit at 35p we would **save £1,919** (8m generation).

The payback would be 3-4 years, if we used every kWh and prices stayed at 35p. It will be less, as we suspect we will generate another 2,000 kWh for the remaining 4 months of the year.