

## The Sun Shines on Wyboston Lakes

Wyboston Lakes has its fingers crossed that the sun will keep shining following the installation of 80 new slim-line solar panels on the roof of the Knowledge Centre. This investment is the next stage of the company's policy to reduce the carbon footprint of the whole site.

The installation uses a new design of solar panel that integrates into the roof of the Knowledge Centre. Unlike standard panels that are bolted to the roof, these new style panels replace the original tiles, so no holes have to be drilled into the tiles and the



roofline remains flush and watertight. As well as being more aesthetically pleasing it means there is no additional load on the roof, so they can be fitted without any modification to the roof structure.

Each solar panel generates up to 600 kWhs of clean electricity each year, which means the Knowledge Centre will produce 48,000 kWh saving over 26 tonnes of Carbon Dioxide annually. As solar panels have a lifespan of around 50 years, it means 2.4 million kWhs will be generated, saving over 1300 tonnes of the greenhouse gas.

Wyboston Lakes' property manager David Wheeler commented, "These new solar panels



will generate about 10% of the power requirements of the Knowledge Centre, but we haven't just installed them for financial reasons. Wyboston Lakes' vision is to realise the potential for renewable energy throughout the site with a view to substantially reducing our carbon footprint. We have many buildings which have the potential for siting solar panels

so we shall review this installation after 6 months with a view to further investment and reducing our carbon footprint even further .”

The electricity produced by solar panels is clean with no harmful elements released into the environment. They produce electricity constantly throughout the year, do not deplete any natural resources such as coal, oil or wood, and are significantly safer than nuclear energy generation.

Brian Payton, director of business development for Wyboston Lakes commented: “We are finding that more and more companies are environmentally conscious and specifically ask about our green policies when booking meetings and conferences. Similarly the tenants in our serviced offices want to know we are taking every opportunity to help them to reduce their own carbon footprint. We have already installed recharging points for electric vehicles on the site, and these solar panels are the latest investment so Wyboston Lakes’ can play its part in reducing our dependence on fossil fuels and minimising our carbon footprint.”

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**Editors Notes**

High res images available on request

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