



Frequently Asked Questions

By Dave Green

While talking to people at the climate advice stand and during visits with the infrared camera, several questions keep coming up.

Here are two of the most frequently asked questions – and our answers.

Remember: If you have questions and can't find answers on our web site, send us an e-mail. Our address is martleshamclimateaction@btinternet.com.

I don't have a south facing roof. Is it worth getting solar panels?

Yes! If you have an East/West roof you should get around 80% compared to South facing (with the same number of panels on each roof) and maybe more if you can squeeze more panels on them compared to the South facing roof.

With the high cost of energy, the payback would still be only a few years and you'll save roughly 1 tonne of CO2 emissions per year of around 10 tonnes per annum that the average UK resident is responsible for.

Always get 3 or more quotes even if you are thinking of using the council 'Solar Together' scheme where they seek the lowest bidder. Not all companies bid.

What is a reasonable price to pay for battery storage?

Look at the cost per useable kWh. Energy storage is measured in 'kilowatt-hours' (kWh for short) where 1 kWh = one unit of electricity.

You are charged per kWh. Some battery quotes use a headline kWh capacity, but the useable capacity may be 10-20% less.

Currently, a rough price guide for a battery is around £1000 per kWh.

The best size depends on factors like your typical home consumption, whether you want to 'load shift' by filling the battery up with cheaper night rate electricity and the size of your solar array.

Look at the handy guide called 'PV considerations' written by one of our residents at:

<https://martleshamclimateaction.onesuffolk.net/documents/>