



who has got energy for life?

name

Chris

occupation

Policy Officer

organisation

CTC

www.ctc.org.uk

introducing Chris

Chris joined CTC two years ago from DEFRA's sustainable energy policy unit, his role in the CTC is to develop the organisation's policies for improving infrastructure and facilities for cyclists. The organisation started over 130 years ago as the Cycle Touring Club and is now the largest of its kind in the UK, with over 60,000 members.

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“In the beginning the CTC was very much a recreational club with a bit of campaigning to improve road conditions for our members. It is only in recent years **through discussion with our members that we have begun to draw out the environmental issues.**”

“We have calculated that **the biggest opportunities for cycling to save CO2 is from reducing the length of peoples daily journeys by car**” for example their commute to work or their trips to the supermarket. “By working with groups such as Friends of the Earth and Carfree UK, CTC are involved with the spatial planning of new and existing developments so that the car simply isn't needed.” Subsequently a pilot is running across England to make 18 towns and cities cycling towns.

“**Our members have a broad range of interests** and we try to represent them all fairly. Some are interested in cycling, cars, motorbikes and flying places as well as those that just cycle to get to work or to the shops along with those that have a particular interest in the wider environment.”

“In 2006 we moved to this new building, the CTC allocated a budget to address the buildings sustainability. We also **took a number of steps with the specification of the building to minimise our energy use.** For example we have omitted air conditioning and we are using high efficiency lighting. From our budget **we were able to include a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) system on our roof which was the best solution for us** to generate our own green energy.”

“**There have been no problems with the PV it is very trouble free,** although our electricity usage has increased with the office growing I would say **the system generates 10 to 15% of our electricity.** It is just a pity it isn't a bit more visible to our neighbours as it looks very pretty and is **a clear statement of CTCs concern for sustainability.**”

“We have kept all our members in touch with what we have done and **we have received very good feedback** on what we have achieved to date.”

“From our experience I would suggest it is **best to fit a system like this during the build so that you can include the scheme in the planning process** from the start rather than retrospectively fitting.”

“the biggest opportunities for cycling to save CO2 is from reducing the length of peoples daily journeys by car”

CTC

In 2006 CTC moved to their new offices and took the opportunity to improve the sustainability of their new home. They allocated a budget to improve the building's sustainability and also took a number of steps with the specification to reduce the buildings demand for energy.

Consequently they omitted air conditioning and used highly efficient lighting, from their sustainability budget they were able to include a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) system on the roof. The system is fitted over the roof tiles and made from very efficient panels which means they take-up relatively little space to generate the electricity, with an area of just 28sqm they are able to generate between 10 and 15% of the offices electricity.



solar photovoltaic solutions

Retrofit over tiled roof

area (sqm)

32

size (kW)

4

project details

Customer

CTC (formerly Cycle Touring Club)

Type of building

Office

Date completed

2006

Location

Guildford

carbon saved / energy generated

Annual carbon saving

1.5 tonnes

Lifetime carbon saving

52.1 tonnes

Annual energy generated

3460 kWh

For further information on other innovative ways of incorporating renewable energy in your building see our Solution Sheets.