

Press Release

26 January 2016

London's greenest university goes even greener.

London Metropolitan University is investing over £75,000 to install energy generating solar panels on the roof of its superlab in Islington.

In the last year London Met has been heralded as the city's greenest university, winning Best Energy Management Project at the Public Sector Sustainability Awards, and was named "best in England" for carbon emission reduction. Now, it is investing £78,150 to install solar panels on the roof of our £30 million Science Centre.

The installation of the 221 solar panels, expected to be finished later this month, will produce almost 58,000 kWh energy each year, enough to supply 14 homes with electricity. It will also save London Met £12,633 annually.

Rachel Ward, Sustainability Manager, says, "We are really excited to install the University's first renewable energy source which will help us further reduce our carbon emissions and improve our sustainability credentials even more.

"We hope staff and students will be interested in the amount of energy we generate and we are installing a display screen in reception so everyone will be able to see how much energy we generate even on cloudy days!"

The solar panels are being installed as part of the national RE:FIT scheme which was introduced by Boris Johnson, Mayor of London, to provide a model for public institutions wishing to improve the energy performance of their buildings, achieve financial cost savings and reduce their CO₂ footprint.

The scheme aims to reduce carbon emissions across London, to reduce energy consumption rates and to reduce energy bills. It has set a target to reduce London's CO₂ emissions by 60% of 1990 levels by 2025.

This project reaffirms London Met's commitment to sustainability.

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About London Metropolitan University

London Met has been providing education to people from all backgrounds since 1848, with the creation of the Metropolitan Evening Classes for Working Men.

Four faculties teach cutting-edge, relevant courses across the arts, sciences, business, law and humanities. Accelerator – London Met’s specialist business incubator – helps graduates get their enterprises up and running and was named among the Top Five ‘Most Active’ accelerators in Europe in 2015, highlighting its contribution to London’s booming start-up industry.

London Met is home to world-leading academics who regularly give expert comment to the media. The University scored well in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework, being ranked 4th in the country for Area Studies and performing strongly in Education and Social Studies.

The University is strongly focused on employability. In 2015, London Met recorded its highest ever graduate employment score, with 91.1% of all 2013/14 graduates in work or further study six months after graduation.

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