Solar PV

What to Expect?

What materials are used?

Before the installation day, scaffolding will be erected on your property.

The solar PV systems consist of:

- Solar Panels
- Inverter – this converts the DC electricity generated by the panels into AC electricity for your home
- Mounting system – this secures your panels to the roof
- Monitoring system – This helps you track the performance of your solar panels.

Why am I having this done?

We are working with your housing association to support their decarbonisation goals. This means updating homes with more energy-efficient products. This process is called Retrofit.

What is Solar PV?

Solar panels, or photovoltaics (PV) absorb the solar energy from the sun via individual PV cells. These cells are made up of layers of semi-conducting material called silicon. Energised by the sun, these cells produce an electrical charge, so the stronger the sunshine, the more electricity is generated. However, these cells do not always need direct sunlight to work, they can even work on cloudy days.

This electrical charge creates a direct current (DC) of electricity and passes through the solar inverter to turn it into alternating current (AC) electricity so you can run your household appliances.

What are the benefits?

Solar electricity is a clean, renewable energy source. As sunlight is free, the electricity generated from your solar panels will significantly reduce your energy bills.

Gas Supply Capping

Sometimes we may need to cap off your gas supply if the boiler flue is in close proximity to our engineers carrying out work.

If you have a flue at the same elevation as where scaffolding will be erected or removed, we will have to cap off your gas supply. We may also need to do this again if you're having solar panels fitted and the engineers are working close to this

Is it quite disruptive?

The solar panel installation process may at times be noisy due to the drilling, but it shouldn't make any mess and will have minimal disruption.

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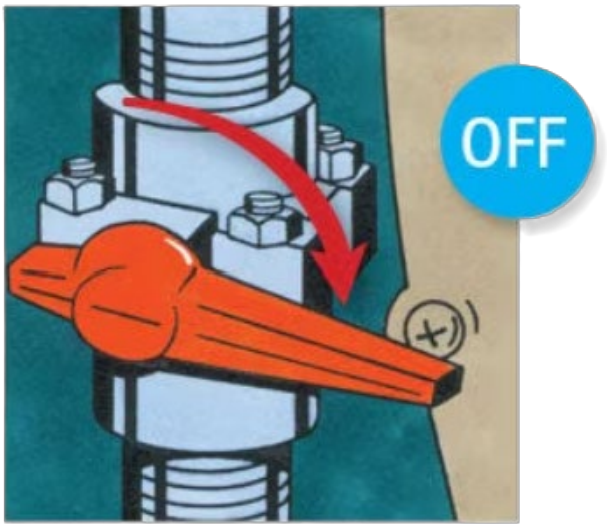
Gas Supply Capping



Why is this necessary?

Safety! When our engineers are carrying out work near a flue, we want to remove any risks to your equipment and our engineers. This is incredibly important. We will always test the boiler when we put the gas back on, to ensure nothing has been affected by our works

Do the engineers need to come inside to cap off my gas?

If your gas meter is located inside the property, then yes, we will need access to it to cap the supply off. We will always need access to the property to reinstate the gas supply, as we must test the boiler post works to ensure safety and continued operation

How long will my gas be off for?

Your gas supply will be turned off the same day as any works (I.E Scaffolding / Solar panel installations), this will be done prior to any works commencing. Your supply will then be uncapped after the works are complete. For scaffolding, this can take around 1-3 Hours, for Solar PV, this can be around 6 hours.

What do I need to do to get my gas put back on?

Nothing, we will leave you contact information in case of emergencies, but our engineers will always re-attend the same day to put you back on supply. We will never leave you without gas for longer than is necessary. Please be patient; it takes around 30 minutes to do this, as we will need to test your boiler.

How do I know if my gas will be affected?

We will identify this ahead of time and will inform you when we book in your scaffolding or solar if you will be affected.

My flue is on the same elevation as work, but it has a cage around it. Will I be affected?

In short, no. As the flue already has protection, it is safe for us to work near it without risk.

What is the installation process?

Step 1 – Assessment

Your property will have undergone a retrofit assessment. This allows the team to come and see your property so they can design your specific Solar PV system.

Step 2 – PIBI & Installation booked

Following your Retrofit Assessment, you will also need a Pre-Installation Building Inspection (PIBI). Once this is completed, an installation date will be agreed upon at your convenience.

Step 3 – On the day: The Mounting System

The installers will be working on your roof either at the front or the back or maybe both. They will start by fixing the mounting system to the roof.

Step 4 – On the day: Attach the panels

The panels will then be securely fixed to mounting brackets using clamps.

Step 5 – On the day: Connecting the panels

The panels will be connected in a series depending on the system design.

Step 5 – On the day: Installing the inverter

The inverter will be mounted near the main electrical panel or fuse box and connected to the solar panels.

Step 7 – On the day: Connecting to the electrical system

The electrician will then connect the inverter to your property's electrical system.

Step 8 – On the day: Installing the monitoring system

The final stage will be the set-up of the monitoring system to track the performance of your solar panels. They will also take you through app or online portal depending on the solar panel system.

How do I care for my Solar PV ?

Solar panels require very low maintenance. Keeping the inverter area clear is important to allow good airflow and easy access if maintenance is needed.
Avoid touching the panels or inverter. The solar PV system is designed to operate automatically. There's no need to adjust the panels or touch the inverter.
The solar panels are designed to withstand various weather conditions, and it is good to get into the habit of checking your panels after storms or high winds to make sure the roof is free from debris.

Handover Pack

You will be given a full product specification guide upon completion, showing how to use and maintain your new energy-efficient products, and contact details if you have any issues.