Salix Finance helps HEIs to stay on the right track to sustainability

Queen Mary University - Lessons in energy efficiency

Salix has been working with Universities since 2006, currently offering finance on behalf of the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and previously through the joint-funded Revolving Green Fund Scheme with the former Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE), now Office for Students (OfS).

Over 100 energy efficiency technologies are eligible for interest-free Salix funding, including Solar PV, LED lighting upgrades, laboratory upgrades and measures within new-build developments.



Case study: Queen Mary University of London

Like every university, Queen Mary University of London (QMUL) was tasked with reducing its carbon emissions, with less reliance on the National Grid.

Aware that many prospective students today consider their university of choice's 'eco credentials', it is important to have effective carbon reduction plans in place.

It has been well publicised that many higher education institutions have struggled to meet Government targets, but QMUL utilised funding from Salix Finance to stay on track with sustainability targets.



The solution: A sustainable future

To date QMUL has delivered nearly £3 million worth of energy efficiency projects utilising both Salix one-off loans and their Recycling Fund.

The loans were used to install several different energy efficiency technologies including LED lighting, boiler replacement works, building energy management systems (BEMS) and better building insulation and draft proofing.

The Recycling Fund was set up in 2009 courtesy of Salix - a long term, ring fenced fund held by the public body, where any financial savings could be re-invested by the university to finance more energy efficiency projects.

This huge reduction in carbon emissions by nearly 3,000 tonnes a year, equates to annual savings of over £600,000.

Queen Mary University of London has worked extremely hard to meet the government's green targets and reduce its carbon footprint. This project with Salix has been instrumental in allowing them to do so and demonstrates the opportunities available to other higher education institutions to work towards building a more sustainable future.

For further information, or to discuss potential funding opportunities for your institution, please contact Salix Finance's Programme Manager for colleges and universities: laura.couldrey@salixfinance.co.uk

