



PRESS RELEASE

Community Centre sees the light!

Solar panels have been installed on the roof of Farnborough Community Centre in Meudon Avenue to demonstrate the benefits of solar energy.

The panels were officially unveiled by the Rushmoor Strategic Partnership in February. Two children from the Farnborough Grange Infant School were invited along to help the Mayor of Rushmoor, Cllr John Marsh with the switching on ceremony.



(from left to right) back: Michael Beale from Solar Century the company that installed the panels, Councillor Peter Moyle, Chairman of the Rushmoor Strategic Partnership and Leader of Rushmoor Borough Council. Front: Fraz Bari (age 6) and Hollie Dixon (age 5) from Farnborough Grange Infant School and Councillor John Marsh, Mayor of Rushmoor.

The project uses 20 high-tech solar panels and will produce around 4,000 kilowatt hours of electricity each year. The project also encourages the use of renewable energy sources, which do not cause damage to the environment as a solution to the threat of climate change.

The system has an information panel so that visitors to the community centre can see how much electricity is being generated by the solar panels. It also shows the amount of carbon dioxide prevented from entering the atmosphere as a result of using solar panels.

Les Murrell, Strategy Co-ordinator at Rushmoor Borough Council the lead partner of the Rushmoor Strategic Partnership said, "The project will help us to highlight the benefits of solar panels and encourage developers, businesses and residents to invest in solar power. The costs are really coming down with new options available every day, as this demand grows solar energy will become more and more affordable."

He added: "Renewable energy such as solar power is a major element of the Government's plans to address climate change and encourage developers and home owners to use cleaner, more sustainable sources of energy. In 2000, the Government also set a target to generate

10% of the UK's electricity needs using renewable energy by 2010 so it is very important that Rushmoor Council and the Rushmoor Strategic Partnership do our bit to help."

Councillor Peter Moyle, Chairman of the Rushmoor Strategic Partnership and the Leader of Rushmoor Borough Council said: "With the future development of Aldershot on the cards with the Aldershot Urban Extension, this is a great chance to promote the benefits of solar energy to developers of new homes as well as residents carrying out home improvements. The Rushmoor Strategic Partnership wants to improve the quality of life for future generations and encouraging this technology is a good way for us to make a difference."

For further information please contact Les Murrell at Rushmoor Borough Council on 01252 398 538.

The Rushmoor Strategic Partnership brings together major public, private and voluntary organisations that are committed to improving quality of life for people living or working in Rushmoor.



The solar panels on the roof of Farnborough Community Centre