

2025 | YEAR IN REVIEW



BHESCO

Brighton & Hove Energy Services Co-op

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Community energy projects

Consultancy projects

Fuel poverty alleviation

Energy Saving Service

Plans for the future



A message from Kayla



As another year draws to a close, it's time to reflect on a great year for BHESCo. 2025 has seen us complete the development of new energy projects, further establishing the long-term financial health of the business and our reputation as an organisation that gets the job done. We developed our first in-roof solar array at Dyke Golf Club and empowered a dozen homeowners to make the switch to solar power and battery storage through our innovative *Solar Powered Communities* programme.

Our project consultancy services continue to see high demand with our team providing technical analysis and financial modelling for several high-profile organisations across Sussex, most notably at the Manor Royal Business District in Crawley. 2025 also saw the launch of our sixth community share offer, which has raised a nearly £50,000 at the time of writing, and I would like to say a huge thank you to all of our new and existing investors.

Looking forwards, we are very excited to expand our *Solar Powered Communities* programme to more towns and villages in Sussex, as well as developing decarbonisation pathways for several communities in and around Brighton. More on our big plans for 2026 [here](#).

Wishing you a wonderful holiday season and great success in the new year.

Best wishes,

Kayla Ente
Founder and CEO

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Community energy projects

BHESCo completed work on two innovative new community energy projects in 2025.

37kW in-roof solar PV | Dyke Golf Club

Building on the success of a solar panel and battery storage combination that we introduced to the maintenance shed at Dyke Golf Club in 2017, BHESCo were engaged to design and finance a solar power system for the main clubhouse at Dyke Golf Club. Our Project Development Team recommended an **87 panel 'in-roof' solar power system** which was designed to be aesthetically pleasing (an important factor as the building is located within the South Downs National Park) while tackling issues the clubhouse had been experiencing with wind driven rain during heavy downpours.

Lifetime CO₂ savings - 88 tonnes

Lifetime £ savings - £195,094



Watch the case study video on [YouTube](#)

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Community energy projects

Preston Park Community Energy programme

It has long been a dream of BHESCo's to develop a neighbourhood-scale solar power programme, and we were delighted to realise this dream right here in Brighton. We partnered with local energy champions from the Preston Park neighbourhood and the solar panel installer OneZero (now POP Energy) to deliver a campaign encouraging residents to sign up for **solar power and battery storage at no upfront cost**. The campaign received a tremendous response with dozens of households signing up for a free solar power survey. In the first phase of the programme solar panels and solar batteries were **installed on fifteen homes**, creating what we hope will become Brighton's very first community microgrid. We have every confidence that this project will become a template for communities across the country who want to develop their own solar neighbourhoods.

Lifetime CO₂ savings - 211 tonnes

Lifetime £ savings - £61,125



[Read the full case study](#)

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Consultancy projects

In addition to developing our own community energy projects, BHESCo's Project Team make their services available to anyone wishing to introduce low-carbon technologies to their property.

In 2025 no less than **fifteen different organisations have sought our experience and expertise** to help them make the right decisions with their decarbonisation projects.

Customer Type	Type of consultancy delivered
School	Solar PV / heating feasibility study for new extension
Community centre	Energy assessment / audit
Heritage site	Solar PV feasibility study
Art gallery	Solar PV & heat pump feasibility study
Food bank warehouse	Solar PV feasibility study
Block of flats	Energy assessment / audit
Nursery	Solar PV feasibility study
Sports hall	Energy assessment / audit
Business park	Solar PV feasibility study
Local authority carpark	Solar carports feasibility study
Swimming pool	Solar PV / energy efficiency review
Hospice	Solar PV feasibility study
New housing development	Solar PV / heat pump feasibility study
Block of flats	Heating optimisation study and grant funding research
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Fuel poverty alleviation

With energy costs remaining stubbornly high, millions of households across the UK are falling into debt and struggling to stay warm over winter.

In Brighton & Hove, BHESCO work tirelessly to support people who are unable to pay their heat and power bills. By visiting foodbanks, community lunch clubs, faith groups and health hubs, we can meet with those who are in greatest need of our support to help them overcome the uncertainty and stress associated with unaffordable energy bills.



In addition to providing trusted advice and information, our energy advisors visit people in their homes to install simple energy-saving measures and provide bespoke advice on heating and ventilation. [Watch our fuel poverty video on YouTube](#)

1,731

Total number of households advised

178

Total number of home energy visits

£75k

Total client financial benefit

£37k

Value of energy saving items issued to households

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Energy Saving Service

BHESCo's Energy Saving Service continues to see high demand from property owners who want to reduce long-term energy costs and carbon emissions.

In addition to homeowners, we have seen increased interest in our services from housing providers who want to meet modern energy efficiency standards and deliver quality housing for their tenants.

In 2025 we have...



Provided **Retrofit Assessments for 29 properties** under the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund, resulting in the installation of solar PV systems, high heat retention storage heaters, cavity wall insulation, and double glazing.



Completed a BHESCo **whole house retrofit guide for 16 homes** in Sussex.



Conducted **thermal imaging surveys for 3 houses** in Brighton and Hove.



Watch our Energy Saving Service video on [YouTube](#)

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Plans for 2026 and beyond...

The momentum from 2025 carries us straight into an even busier 2026...

In January, we commence work on a two-year campaign to bring our **Solar Power Communities** programme to three new neighbourhoods in Sussex, this time with an emphasis on tackling the omnipresent challenge of lifting fuel-poor households out of the cold, starting with energy efficiency improvements, solar power and battery storage.

We will also begin a **Decarbonisation Plan** for the neighbourhood of Saltdean and progress to the second phase of our Decarbonisation Plan for the village of Ovingdean, taking action to develop electricity generation with solar and wind power.

We eagerly anticipate the launch of the UK Government's **Warm Homes Plan** which will make millions of pounds of funding available for the take up of insulation, heat pumps, and solar power. We also look forward to the publication of the **Local Power Plan** which we hope will provide millions of pounds in grant funding and low-cost loans for the development of community energy projects.

Our work with **Re-Energise Manor Royal** at the Manor Royal Business Park will move from an engagement phase to the implementation phase, where BHESCo will project manage the installation of **£1 million of solar panels** through the Crawley Towns Fund grant.

Finally, we will continue our innovative work driving forward the number of clean electricity beneficiaries within the evolving regulatory framework, maximising the intrinsic value of renewable energy with our project partners. We welcome everyone who shares our vision of the power of social enterprise to change the world to join us by becoming a member of our co-operative.