

**NATIONAL
SUSTAINABILITY
AWARDS**
2022

WINNERS BROCHURE

Recognising the pioneers of sustainability

6 October 2022 | The Waldof Hilton, London

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OVERVIEW



We stand at one of history's crossroads. One direction is clearly better than the other though, it is one in which our carbon footprint reduces, where more carbon is put back in the ground that is spilled into the air, where our future is secure.

The issue is, and has always been, even if we take the right turning, how we get there. Energy is both the problem and the solution. Humanity needs and wants increasing amounts, yet it is the biggest producer of climate change. In order to revolutionise the world, it takes a trinity of important actions: it needs the infrastructure to harness non-polluting sources of energy, it needs consumers to come to understand and adopt clean energy, and it needs financial intuitions to take up the charge to greener investment.

So, it really does give me pleasure to introduce this brochure to highlight their successes and hope the examples can be followed.

Mark Evans, Editor, Better Society

2022 JUDGING PANEL



Catherine Andrews
Executive Coach



Lynsey McMaster-Green
Sustainability Partnership Manager
Aviva



Mark Evans
Publisher
Better Society



Gordon Roy
District Surveyor and Environmental Resilience Director
City of London Corporation



Jo Goddard
Sustainability Consultant and Director
Green and Good Consulting



Greg Sage
Deputy Director of Corporate Affairs and ESG Director
Royal Mail



Alyshia Harrington-Clark
Head of DC, Master Trusts and Lifetime Savings
Pensions and Lifetime Savings Association (PLSA)



Sebastiaan Van Dort
Associate Director & Head of Energy
BSI



Will Kirkpatrick
Head of Social Impact & Sustainable Development
Virgin Media O2



Peter Woods
Head of Facilities
Daiwa Capital Markets Europe



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WINNERS 2022

BUILDING OF THE YEAR

WINNER: AXA IM ALTS 22 BISHOPSGATE

Judges' Comments: This project demonstrates the most innovation of any new building, in which SMART technology manages the buildings systems to ensure maximum efficiency and a blueprint of what others should achieve.

A major development with 62 floors and 1.4 million sq ft of space, and the tallest tower at the heart of the City of London's financial district, 22 Bishopsgate earned itself its own ESG policy and roadmap with a focus on the four key commitments of: health and wellbeing, learning and education, diversity and inclusion, and sustainability and the environment.

Acquired by AXA IM Alts, on behalf of investors in 2015, after a previous development project had stalled, this "Vertical Village" was always going to be more than just office space, as its designers and engineers sought to create a community, complete with amenities and opportunities to share, including 100,000 sq ft dedicated to facilities that aim to improve the everyday experience for the building's users and the public.

This vision was backed with the latest technologies to help keep the building smart (that is, the building uses data to react to the environment and 'thinks' of solutions such as using smart blinds to shade and cool itself, reducing artificial air conditioning). It was the first building in the UK which partnered with Microsoft, predicting that this approach will provide an energy saving of a fifth compared to a 'normal' building. More than one million data points everyday collect information on temperature, air quality, light, water and the flow of people in the building.

The Closed Cavity Façade (CCF) lets in 60 per cent more daylight than comparably performing double glazed facades, making it more energy efficient, and has aided the building to reach an EPC rating of A, and the energy that is used is 100 per cent renewably sourced.

The building is environmentally conscious right down to its foundations, since there was a 100 per cent reuse of existing



foundations and 50 per cent reuse of the existing two-storey basement which has saved 15 per cent of carbon emissions. The rainwater is harvested to minimise domestic water use and for all this, and more, it has achieved a BREEAM Excellent rating.

However, it is not just the technical specifications that the building has won over the judges, it was also the commitment to the users. 22 Bishopsgate was the first tall building in London to adopt the new WELL Building Standard to aid people's health and wellness in its design. The building has the largest bike park in London which stores up to 1,700 bikes, allowing 22 Bishopsgate to reduce carbon commissions and reach a 100/100 cycle score.

Judges also mentioned: "Inclusions in the building design drive innovation with clear environmental benefits and it is what others should achieve."



Building quality homes Taking action on climate change

Berkeley Group is delighted to have won Better Society Network's Carbon Reduction Award. Thank you to all of our teams, partners and suppliers, finding real solutions to the climate crisis, and creating low-carbon homes for the future.

Photography depicts Chelsea Creek, Hammersmith & Fulham



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Proud members of the Berkeley Group
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WINNERS 2022

CARBON REDUCTION AWARD WINNER: BERKELEY GROUP

Judges' Comments: Looking at reduction opportunities across many areas of the business, this convincing entry is a template for others in the sector.

Homebuilder Berkeley Group has been working to reduce the emissions made from building housing, setting targets in a climate action strategy to drive down its carbon footprint.

Berkeley's Our Vision 2030 outlines a 10-year strategy and approach that was adjudged to be truly holistic, including creating low carbon, resilient homes and places and making transformational changes to the construction processes and wider business operations. Last year alone, the company drove down its Scope 1 & 2 emissions by 11 per cent.

Launched in 2021, Our Vision 2030 uses a prioritised approach, identifying and tackling the most carbon intensive activities throughout the built environment and the entire supply chain, identifying mitigations and adaption solutions, and will complete its journey when Berkeley becomes a net-zero carbon business in, or before, 2040 and reduces in-use carbon emissions of its homes by 40 per cent between a 2019 baseline and 2030.

To help meet this latter target, energy efficiency of new homes has been increased from the drawing board, both through the building fabric itself and then through the inclusion of the right type of renewable and low carbon technology, such as heat pump solutions. In 2021/2022, 89 per cent of Berkeley homes had an EPC rating of B or higher. But at the heart of these solutions is a learning environment, with feedback from the first 15 embodied carbon assessments, across a range of building typologies, being analysed and used to identify the carbon-intensive materials within the buildings so that alternatives can be sourced. All these learnings are incorporated into the company's drive to meet its ambitious targets.

With such a holistic approach, supply chain is also a vital part of the plan, and that too has been scrutinised to find solutions that will help reduce the overall carbon deficit.



Where carbon cannot be reduced quickly, or alternatives found, then certified high-quality carbon offsets are used to alleviate and balance the emissions.

All of this provide the judges with a picture of a well thought out and wide-ranging set of solutions, tied together to create a plan that was impressive in the sum of its parts, and even more impressive when taken together. However, it was also the willingness to work in partnership and share intelligence that struck a chord, working with government and industry experts to find common solutions to the climate crisis, and share best-practice. The idea of collaboration is not just in terms of membership, Berkeley itself recently launched Construct Zero programme board, led by the Construction Leadership Council.

One judge simply summed this up by saying: "I was convinced by the approach, as well as the trial of innovative solutions."

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WINNERS 2022

SUSTAINABLE FUND OF THE YEAR WINNER: CBRE UK AFFORDABLE HOUSING FUND

Judges' Comments: A great example of true impact investing backed up with clear impact measurement and data.

The need for sustainable and affordable housing has been a major issue for many years but creating solutions and finance have proved much more difficult to realise.

The CBRE UK Affordable Housing Fund was launched in 2018 to deliver exactly this in areas of need. As an impact investment product, the fund does not just deliver positive results, or even some additional benefits to the community. It is a true bringer of positive change, with its results both measurable and embedded at its heart.

As of the end of March 2022, over half a billion of equity has been committed for housing through the fund and it has provided 1,479 homes for over 4,000 people. It was also one of the first UK unlisted funds bringing institutional client capital into affordable housing to deliver social impact.

But it is not just the scale of the financial commitment that has impressed the judges at the Awards, it is also the framework and measurable objectives that have been set, and applied, with rigour. Without a market standard way of measuring and reporting on social impact for affordable housing investments, CBRE Investment Management worked with The Good Economy (TGE) to develop a proprietary social impact framework.

This Impact Investment Framework is built on five impact pillars that form the basis of all investment decisions: Social need, affordability, sustainable development, quality services and increased supply. That is to say that CBRE Investment Management take a long-term view, engaging with residents via their Registered Providers to ensure that quality is maintained, and that the environmental and social value created cannot be eroded.

Such an approach won plaudits from the judges, but another element was the deciding factor, and that was that the company is sharing its learnings with the sector and



CBRE Investment Management

working towards a standardised approach to measuring and benchmarking social impact.

There is no business that cannot also do good whilst also being a business and this is an example of that, or as a judge said: "They are addressing a real need and gap whilst also giving returns to investors."

Cross River Partnership



Cross River Partnership (CRP) delivers environmental, economic and community-focused projects. We support public, private and voluntary organisations to address creatively challenges around Air Quality, Transport, Placemaking and Wellbeing.

Discover how CRP can help you:
www.crossriverpartnership.org

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WINNERS 2022

MAJOR PROJECT OF THE YEAR

WINNER: UK POWER NETWORKS SERVICES, UPS, MOIXA AND CROSS RIVER PARTNERSHIP

Judges' Comments: An example of collaboration that should be used as a template for others, delivering real results for a comprehensive solution that will achieve a greener future.

The challenge of converting fleet vehicles to electric power is an enormous one, but for the planet it will be a major contributor to holding back carbon emissions and unlocking a greener and safer future.

UPS, one of the world's largest logistics firms, is in the process of this transition but, to achieve this effectively, many issues need to be solved. It is these issues that the winning partnership of the EV Fleet-centred Local Energy Systems (EFLES) project in Kentish Town set out to answer.

Bringing together UPS, UK Power Networks Services, Moixa, and Cross River Partnership in an Innovate UK-funded project, the main aim was to reduce these barriers to the commercial EV fleet transition not just for UPS, but as an example to all fleet operators.

Several complex parts must work together to make a complete solution: there is a need for large-scale installations of public charge points, to ensure the impact on the local electricity network is not too great, to harness on-site solar power and storage to that end and reduce costs to make electric power a viable and real alternative. For UPS there is also a pressing need to ensure the infrastructure is in place rapidly to support the 10,000 electric delivery vehicles it has committed to buying from start-up Arrival.

To help make the system energy efficient, Moixa deployed its GridShare AI platform to enable UPS to seamlessly charge its vans when power is at its cheapest overnight, participate in revenue-generating flexibility services that help balance the local electricity network, and manage potential on-site generation from solar panels and local energy storage.

Aiding this, energy specialists at UK Power Networks Services used detailed data analysis to predict and explore how certain energy tariffs and flexibility services could work in



harmony with these demands for maximum benefit.

The result of this was that UPS could be sure of optimum EV charging at the site by switching to a more efficient Time of Use (ToU) energy tariff and participating in a 'Balancing Mechanism' scheme, under which UPS would be paid to deliver electricity back into the electricity grid, meaning a significant saving of the fleet's energy costs, potentially more than 40 per cent per year.

In addition, the installation of rooftop solar PV at the site as part of a holistic system potentially adds a further reduction in the total electricity costs of 10 per cent.

Cross River Partnership was responsible for collating and disseminating information about the project to a wider audience to encourage other fleet operators to optimise their operations. For the judges, the result was not only a well thought out solution with immediate impact, but also "a combination of skills and resources that working together achieves so much more than a single solution, it provides a method". [For more information, please see the CRP EFLES project page.](#)

WINNERS 2022

COMPANY OF THE YEAR WINNER: OVO

Judges' Comments: A really great story, working to change the behaviours of their customers and linking remuneration to carbon targets demonstrating other areas of sustainability beyond just climate.

Since it was founded in 2009, OVO has grown from a challenger to an established brand serving nearly five million customers in the UK and internationally, striving to deliver more affordable, clean energy for everyone.

Under its Plan Zero, the company is helping to tackle the climate crisis head on as a business, setting science-based sustainability targets and was one of the first companies to align itself to 1.5 degrees methodology.

OVO has committed to achieving net-zero carbon emissions across business operations and commits to helping all customers reduce their total lifestyle carbon emissions. OVO has set science-based targets for operations and supply chain, and remuneration is linked to progress on carbon targets.

OVO has also embraced its customers' needs, creating a zero carbon community, helping them reduce their total lifestyle carbon emissions, reducing their household emissions to net-zero by 2035 and helping five million homes to be active participants in a more resilient, flexible and intelligent energy grid and play their part in transitioning to a zero carbon world.

Throughout the energy crisis, OVO has provided resources and support for its customers. For example, partnering with Experian to offer the industry's first Open Banking digital tool. Payment Support provides bespoke repayment options, enabling customers looking for support to quickly access a detailed, accurate picture of their affordability and help find a tailored financial solution.

A standout moment of 2021 was launching the world's only tariff of its kind: OVO Drive + Anytime. Powered by Kaluza technology, the innovative smart tariff makes car charging greener and reduces charging costs by up to 70 per cent. OVO Drive + Anytime is the world's only 'type of use' electric vehicle energy tariff using technology to split home energy



costs from EV charging costs. It protects EV users against price spikes and higher charges by guaranteeing a low price for smart EV charging throughout the day, enabling members to potentially drive for a year for £100.

Launched in 2021, OVO's Belonging Report shares a vision to be a business leading the way in diversity and inclusion. To tackle inequalities, initiatives such as OVO Unplugged (encouraging people to step away from their screens and prioritise their mental and physical wellbeing); OVO Mind (helping raise awareness around mental health and provide a platform for shared learning and best practice); and Reverse Mentoring (pairing more junior people to network groups with executive team members). Likewise, a pay gap reduction plan is aiming to close the pay gap for good.

Over the past year OVO has ensured sustainability has reached every aspect of the organisation, and driven change outside of OVO by using products, services, and people to empower customers to have an impact and take action against climate change. This is why the judges made OVO the clear winner of Company of the Year.

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WINNERS 2022

USE OF DATA AND ANALYTICS WINNER: OVO

Judges' Comments: Fantastic impact — the equivalent to sequestration of 2,153 trees over ten years is very impressive.

OVO's energy tracking, free to use via the OVO app, helps customers understand how they use their energy and how this impacts the carbon footprint of their home, going beyond basic usage feeding back data to make it meaningful.

By empowering people to take charge of their carbon impact, it helps people to see the potential for improvement, identify changes they can make and maintain those changes in their everyday life. Energy tracking aims to make the benefits of a smart meter tangible to people by showing them where in the home they use their energy, how their carbon impacts compare to other members and encouraging them to reduce consumption through challenges.

Energy tracking is the culmination of six months' worth of both research and concept testing to enable the product to be available at scale. Based on significant research with customers and the wider public, the information provided has been tailored to help people understand how they can, as individuals, help fix the climate crisis.

The technical development team involved engineers, data scientists, product managers, researchers and user experience designers. Developing in an agile way, the product has evolved significantly since its launch in April 2021. This has meant a deeper engagement with the product over time and three-quarters (74.4 per cent) of people saying they found the information provided was helpful in cutting carbon and bills.

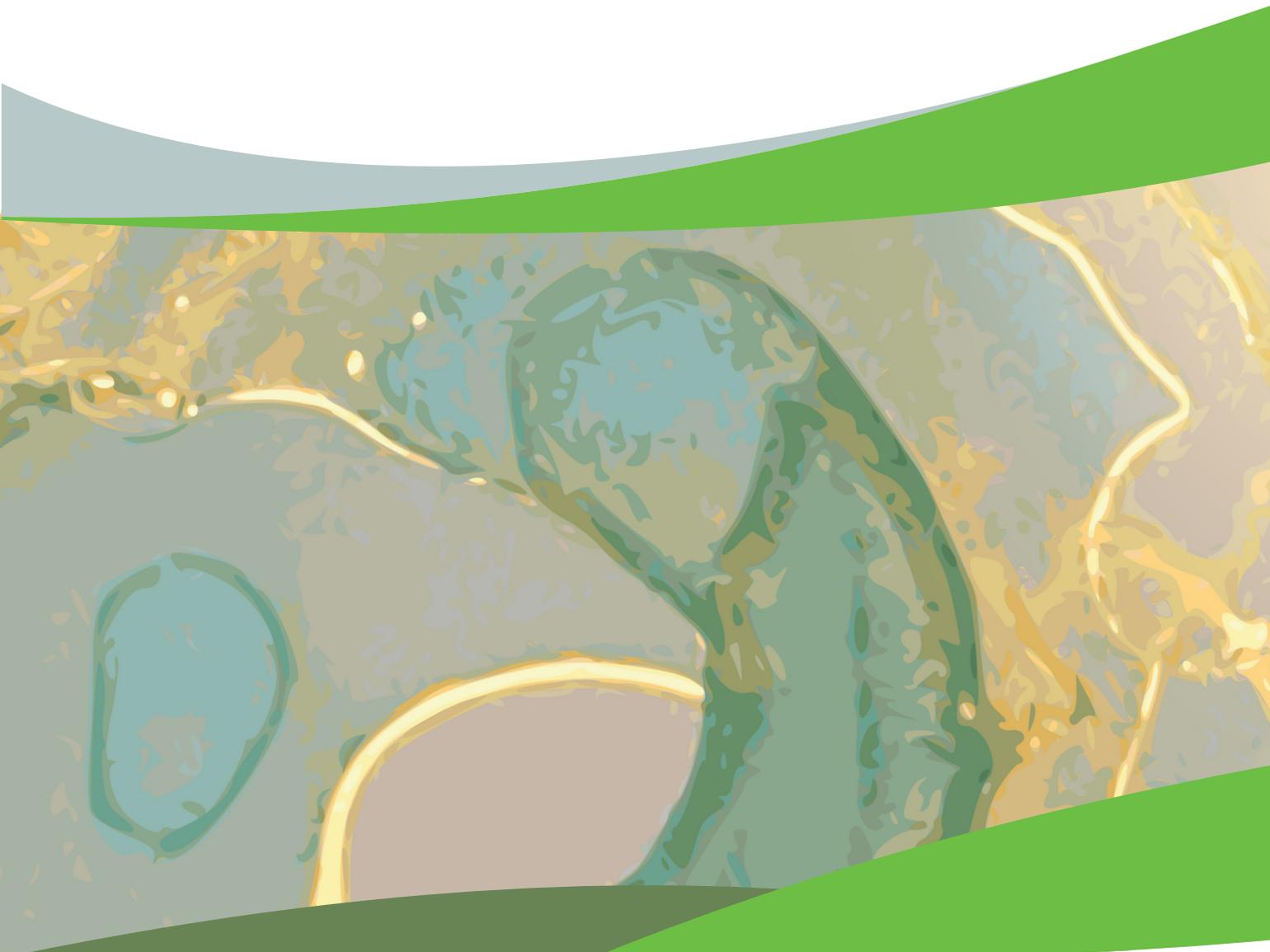
This is the first time an energy supplier has linked usage back to the carbon impact as well as the adoption of new technology such as a smart thermostat that delivers industry first insights into where customers use the most energy in the home directly to them, providing information that can assist behaviour changes. This is broken down by category of appliances or activity in the home, dissecting carbon output



and cost, allowing them to pinpoint exactly what is driving the most usage.

Saving energy and using it at better times means taking pressure off the energy grid as well as cutting individual household emissions, that's why the tool also shows the greenest hours to use appliances. Spreading energy use evenly through the day and night will decrease carbon output from gas sources and ease pressure on renewable sources such as wind farms.

The judges added that they were pleased to see that energy tracking is rolling out to more customers (around 15 per cent currently use it) and that it has already encouraged behaviour change, energy use reductions and a sense of ownership of customers' personal actions that are within their control.



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