

# Salix Schools: Switching to Low Energy

## Information for Local Authorities & Maintained Schools



This guide explains the benefits a **Salix Schools: Switching to Low Energy (SLE)** Pilot can deliver to maintained schools in England.

### The Salix Schools Switching to Low Energy Pilot

In partnership with the Department for Education and the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, Salix has launched the second phase of the SLE pilot. The aim of the pilot is to provide schools with an energy survey to demonstrate how they can reduce their energy spend to the lowest level possible through energy efficiency projects and behavioural changes.

#### Who are Salix

Salix is a not-for-profit organisation which receives funding from the Government to help the public sector to finance energy efficiency projects. Salix is able to provide 100% interest-free funding on projects which pay back in 8 years or less. To date, Salix has enabled over 1,800 maintained schools across England to invest in energy efficiency projects by providing £37 million of interest-free loans.

#### Schools taking part in this pilot will receive:

- ✓ A detailed review of the school's energy consumption and costs.
- ✓ A complete list of all possible energy efficiency improvements including solar photovoltaics.
- ✓ Advice on how to reduce energy consumption for the school through 'no cost' behavioural changes.
- ✓ Quotation request sheets enabling projects to be directly procured.
- ✓ Energy efficiency projects which can be funded by Salix.
- ✓ Funding options explored for all identified projects.

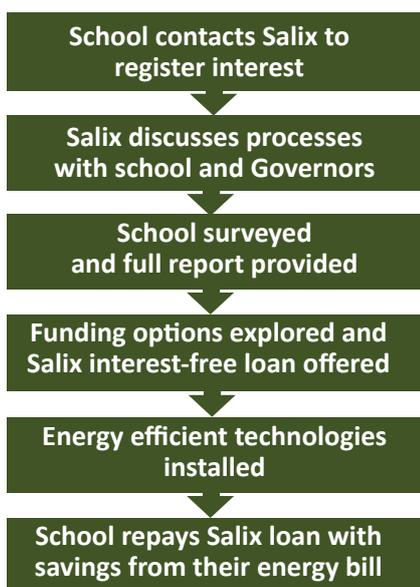
#### The Salix solution

Installing energy efficient technologies is an effective way to reduce energy and maintenance bills, modernise schools and create a more comfortable learning environment for staff and pupils. Schools can use the Salix interest-free loan to fund the installation of these technologies which is repaid using the savings from the school's energy bills. Once the loan is repaid, the school will continue to benefit from the significant energy savings that can be used for other resources.

To apply or for further information please contact the Salix schools team on:  
**Tel: 020 3102 6903 email: [schoolsapplication@salixfinance.co.uk](mailto:schoolsapplication@salixfinance.co.uk)**

# How to switch to low energy

## The Salix process



### Costs

To help schools overcome financial barriers, the cost of the SLE survey can be included within the interest-free Salix loan for the energy efficiency technologies identified. In the case that the school does not install the suggested energy technologies using a Salix loan, the school will pay the costs of the survey ranging from £2,500 to £5,000 (ex VAT), dependent upon m<sup>2</sup> size of the school.

### How to apply

All maintained Schools are eligible for the Salix Switching to Low Energy Survey.

To register interest, please visit the webpage highlighted below.

Schools will need to provide the following details in the expression of interest form:

- ✓ m<sup>2</sup> of the school.
- ✓ Annual energy spend.
- ✓ Display energy certificate rating of the school.

## Frequently asked questions

### When can the school make a decision on which projects to go ahead with?

The school can decide within 3 months of the survey results to use Salix funding for some or all of the upgrades.

### Is the school obligated to complete all of the energy efficiency improvements advised?

The school is not required to pursue all energy saving measures, however Salix would encourage all schools to pursue the full range of measures identified to reduce their spend on energy bills to the lowest possible.

### How do the survey findings differ from the DEC advisory report?

Each school taking part will receive a document which advises the order in which to make improvements and enough detailed information to procure against. It will also highlight which funding routes are suitable for the identified technologies.

### What are the timeframes for installing a project with Salix?

Once you have received your survey report and have applied to Salix for funding, we will issue a Commitment Letter which confirms the funding for your projects. Once this letter has been signed by the school, you will have up to 9 months to complete the work, to allow for procurement and programming works over suitable periods such as the Easter or summer holidays.

### How is the Salix loan repaid?

The loan will be repaid via direct debit every April and October over the confirmed period. The loan is 100% interest-free so you will not repay more than the initial loan amount and the payments will be covered by your energy savings.

For more information or to express interest in the pilot please visit:

[www.salixfinance.co.uk/loans/schools-switching-to-low-energy](http://www.salixfinance.co.uk/loans/schools-switching-to-low-energy)