

Big Yellow's Queen's Awards for Enterprise – Sustainable Development Category

The UK's leading self storage brand Big Yellow Self Storage has been awarded a Queen's Award for Enterprise in the Sustainable Development category. This award is in recognition of the company's ongoing commitment with staff, customers and investors to create an environmentally sustainable business, achieved through green building design, sustainable operations, energy efficiency and renewable energy investments.

Big Yellow provides secure do-it-yourself storage rooms for domestic and business customers. Their storage facilities combine the latest technology with excellent customer service and a network of sixty six storage sites in high profile, easy-to-access and secure main road locations.



Big Yellow Self Storage Chiswick Opened in 2012

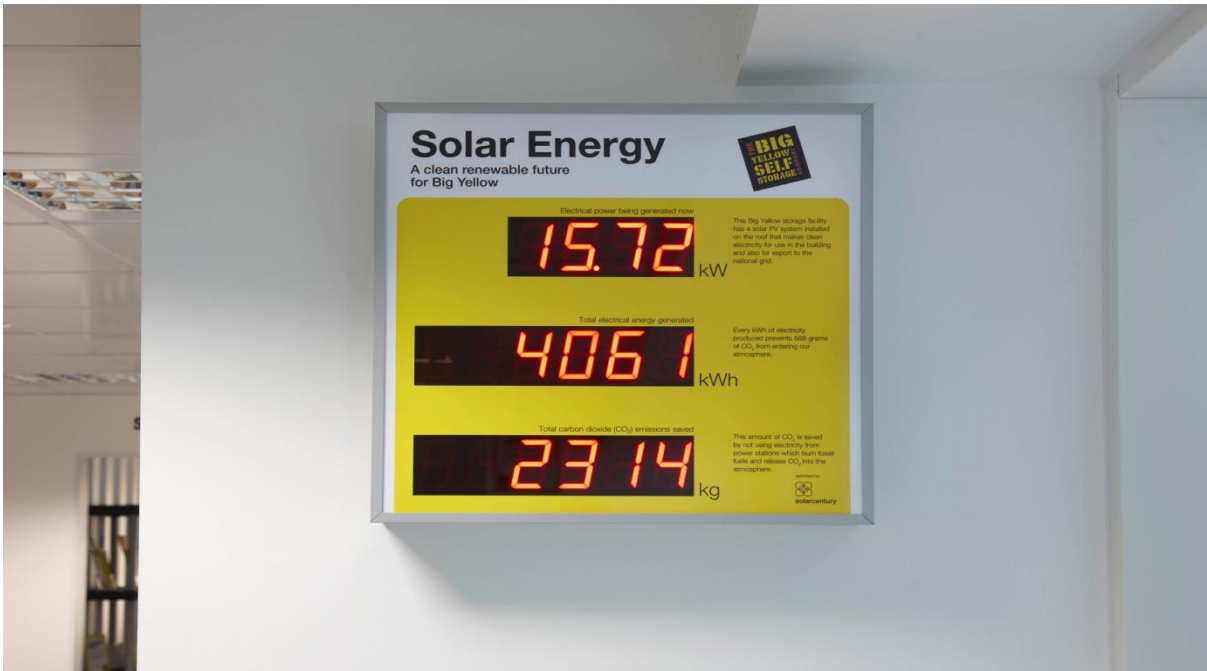
The company have always identified social and environmental responsibility as a priority and, over the last few years have been increasing their renewable energy generation.

Solar panel electricity generation has grown by 15% in the past year alone, contributing to the power needs of many of its stores. Wind turbines and ground source heat pumps provide additional, alternative energy sources at other store locations.



Big Yellow Self Storage Chiswick has solar PV roof panels that can generate about 20% of its annual energy use.

This year we achieved our best performance in reducing our carbon footprint by 5.5%, mainly from energy efficient lighting technology. This includes energy efficient adaptors and motion sensor lighting, which is only activated when a customer is present in the storage area.



Customer facing solar panel display within the public reception area or storage loading bay

If you were to see a bird's eye view of some of Big Yellow's stores you would notice something quite unique – their green roofs. Similar to a wild grass lawn, these provide additional insulation to a store's upper floor, keeping it cool during the summer and reducing the need for energy-intensive ventilation. Rain water is harvested from the roofs to be used for the watering of Big Yellow's surrounding landscaped areas in the drier months. And water taps in-store benefit from efficient low flow aerated spray heads, helping to further reduce any water wastage.



Big Yellow Self Storage Chiswick has a lower level green roof and a rainwater harvesting system to irrigate a bio-diverse landscape for wildlife at ground level.

In the construction of its stores, Big Yellow uses sustainably manufactured building materials as much as possible. Steel partitioning is made from 40-60% recycled steel and the floors from recycled sawdust and bark-particle board.

Paul Donnelly, Big Yellow Group PLC, Corporate & Social Responsibility Manager says, "We're delighted that our continual focus on reducing our carbon footprint has resulted in Big Yellow being recognised with a Queen's Award for Enterprise in Sustainable Development. We look forward to further absolute reductions in our electricity use, water use and tonnage of waste disposed"