

Milton Keynes Green Roof Project

The Green Roof Project is, in effect, a takeover of rooftops for people and nature by creating green spaces to support community cohesion, raise awareness and demonstrate the benefits of green roofing.

A **green roof** or **living roof** is a roof of a building that is partially or completely covered with vegetation and a growing medium, planted over a waterproofing membrane.

The Green Roof Project combines both product (green roof, roof garden and growing spaces) and service (installation, training and outreach) to pioneer the retrofit potential of green and blue roofs in towns and cities. In a time of climate emergency and biodiversity loss, it is essential that towns and cities look at green infrastructure opportunities to mitigate the effects of climate change. These are opportunities that can recreate lost wildlife habitats and improve the natural environment. Rooftops can also be used for food growing and secure green space for building tenants.

The Green Roof Project has tested and proved a green solution that can be translated to any appropriate roof, any size, anywhere. The Project can be for the benefit of the building occupants and users only or for the wider community.

Benefits of Green Roofs

- Water attenuation, storm water management and flood reduction
- Insulation; keeps the building warm in winter and cool in summer
- Sound proofing; reduces external noises
- Air cooling; reduces surrounding air temperatures and the urban heat island effect
- Carbon capture and sequestration – 1.28kg per square meter per year (extensive roofs)
- Protection of the waterproofing layer; extends the lifespan of the roof by up to three times.
- Creation of secure areas for ground nesting bees, birds and invertebrates
- Good for mental health and wellbeing
- Space for food growing and recreation.






In 2019 the Green Roof Project mapped Central Milton Keynes rooftops and identified the equivalent of six full size football pitches worth of roof space that could be greened without structural enhancement.



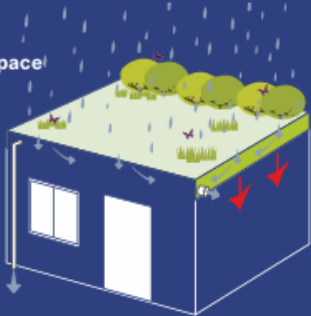
YMCA Milton Keynes – Green Roof Project

Simon Green, CEO of YMCA Milton Keynes: Young people are disproportionately affected by environmental damage because they will be here longer to experience it. We need to make some fundamental changes to how we treat nature in our society and the creation of green roofs is a great way to have an impact in a positive way. We know from our own green roof how wonderful it is to have a secret place where nature thrives and where staff and residents can spend time and improve their wellbeing. If you're not convinced, then I invite you to come and see ours and experience the benefits first-hand.

Green roof
Vegetation growing on any structure's horizontal surface

-  **6.7%**
Total energy savings for the space directly below the green roof
-  **6.9%**
Uplift to property value by an accessible green roof
-  **11db**
Noise reduction by an extensive green roof

Common alternative terms: Living Roof, eco-roof, roof garden, brown roofs, green-blue roofs, biodiverse roofs



Average CAPEX installation cost
(£ per m²)

£126 Extensive green roof	£176 Intensive green roof
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Average OPEX maintenance cost
(£ per m²yr)

£6 Extensive green roof	£11 Intensive green roof
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Find out more about the project: <https://gardensinthesky.co.uk/green-roof-project>

Instagram: greenroofproject

X and Facebook: greenroofmk