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## **solarZero Schools Project**

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We have recently advised solarZero on its negotiations with the Ministry of Education on the template energy services agreement that solarZero will offer to eligible state schools across New Zealand.

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Have you memories of a long school building surrounded by sun-baked asphalt and playing fields, quite possibly with not a shade tree in sight? Our client solarZero has launched a new project to generate solar electricity off school roofs across the country.

With financing made available by New Zealand Green Investment Finance, the solarZero Schools initiative enables solarZero to deploy distributed solar generation across schools, demonstrating to future generations in a tangible way what a low carbon world can look like.

The 20 year contract we have helped solarZero develop provides solar energy services to the school for no up-front cost and with long-term fixed costs at a price below the current cost of retail electricity, making it an attractive option for schools. Across the school sector there is scope for up to 200MW of solar power over time which is a significant contribution to current renewable energy targets.

The long-term contract contains some novel features, being required to operate within the regulatory framework for New Zealand state schools and meet the requirements of the Ministry as school property owner.

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### **Specialist Expertise**

Corporate & commercial  
Energy & resources

### **Key lawyers involved**

Brigid McArthur