



PHILIPS

Case study

Unite Students

Case study

Creating an ideal environment for living and learning

Location: 28 University Towns & Cities

Philips Lighting: Tailored lighting system for a large scale, multi-site project



Fast Facts

Customer
Unite Students

Location
Nationwide

Project description

Tailored lighting system for a large scale, multi-site project encompassing lighting surveys, design support, installation management and after-sales service.



In addition to carrying out initial site surveys, Philips worked closely with Unite Students to understand the drivers and ensure that the project would fit their needs. Philips is also managing the installation and commissioning and will deliver after sales service and ongoing support.

“We provide homes for over 46,000 students so, not only is it a big project in terms of the physical installation, it also represents a significant engagement and project management challenge to make sure it runs smoothly,” James Tiernan noted.

LED lighting is being installed in corridors, kitchens, lounges, common rooms, and reception spaces, as well as outdoor areas. The installation of dimmer switches

and a Philips LivingColors colour change lamp in every bedroom, is also allowing students to personalise their lighting to suit study, relaxation or socialising.

Of the students who were surveyed after their accommodation had been upgraded, 86% said the lighting has improved their surroundings and the LivingColors lamps have proved very popular.

In making this investment to improve the physical space for its students, Unite Students is also increasing the energy efficiency of its buildings while reducing the maintenance requirements of the portfolio. Feedback from all stakeholders has been extremely positive, in terms of both the installation process and the end result.



Philips Lighting is providing an estate-wide LED lighting services package to Unite Students, the UK’s largest owner, manager and developer of purpose-built student accommodation. The £21m project is expected to deliver a 10-15% reduction in lighting energy consumption, with a payback of less than five years.

Unite Students provides homes for students in 138 buildings across 28 university towns and cities. The organisation’s core purpose is to provide students with a ‘Home for Success.’ This means helping them achieve more from their time at university, whether that is academic success, personal growth or employability.

The two-year lighting upgrade programme followed a pilot project at The Grange student accommodation in Leicester. This clearly demonstrated significant benefits in terms of energy and carbon saving, maintenance reductions and improved living and study environments for students. The project is due for completion in July 2016, by which time over 300,000 new light fittings and 85,000 sensors and dimmers will have been installed.

The LED upgrade was projected to deliver benefits of £93 per bed across energy, carbon, maintenance and Enhanced Capital Allowances. A year into the project, with installation completed in 41 buildings across 10 cities, indications are that benefits equivalent to £120 per bed are consistently being delivered. These include an 84% reduction in the volume of maintenance report forms received. In addition, annual carbon dioxide emissions are expected to be reduced by about 2,000 tonnes.

“Lighting accounts for about 30% of our overall electricity consumption and our energy strategy identified it as a significant opportunity to make some energy and carbon savings,” explained Energy & Environment Manager James Tiernan.

“We started out with some small trials and quickly found that it also offered a massive opportunity to improve the internal lighting of our buildings and make a transformational change for the students that live in them,” he added.

“ From the beginning of the project, we have had a great partnership with Philips. When we started, this was a really big project and Philips proved very helpful in finding the right lighting solutions for the whole business. Throughout the whole process Philips has been great in understanding the culture of our business and engaging throughout the project as it continued. This has been fantastic from our point of view.”

Steve Batley,
Estates Director, Unite Students

BLOCK B & RECEPTION



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