

The future is green: Colchester Institute introduce low carbon heating sources and sustainability studies



Colchester Institute is the largest vocational training provider in North Essex and supports over 8,000 Further Education (FE), Higher Education (HE) and Apprenticeship learners.

The £3.7m grant, provided by Salix on behalf of the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy will allow for the replacement of gas boilers with air source heat pumps and single glazed windows with insulation panels throughout the main block.

The FE, HE and apprenticeship students will be the main benefactors of the new low carbon

technologies with the main buildings seeing a transformational change of learning environments.

The upgraded windows and insulation will improve the temperature control therefore making the current conditions experienced including cold draughts in the winter and overheating in the summer, a thing of the past.

As part of the College's commitment to carbon reduction, each area of study has been tasked with creating a course module which focuses on sustainability. Bespoke tutorial sessions looking at 'Green' issues will be introduced in the 2021-22 academic year.

Estimated savings for Colchester Institute

Annual savings:
£24,462

Total grant value:
£3.7m

Annual carbon savings:
290 tCO_{2e}

For more information...

Please contact us on **020 4542 6439**
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“This project provides a real boost to delivering on the goals established in our Strategic Plan to 2024. These buildings are at the forefront of our site and this will not only transform the external façade but, more importantly, it will dramatically improve the student experience once inside the classrooms, computer suites and salons. We have an ambition to support the Government’s carbon reduction targets as far as possible, and this project provides the perfect platform to take this forward.”

Alison Andreas, Principal and Chief Executive



Technical Breakdown

- Investment in green technologies which will improve the energy performance of principal buildings
- Replacement of gas fire boilers with air source heat pumps
- Insulating spandrel panels
- Double glazing
- Building and Energy Management System to automate and take control of operations

Future Plans include:

- Kickstart journey on the FE Climate Action Road Map developed by Climate Commission and the Nous Group which provides guidance on how best to respond to the climate emergency
- Collaborating with Trident Utilities to develop net zero strategy which incorporates the provision of monthly data dashboards and progress certification
- To introduce 4 days when all teaching will be off campus, significantly reducing campus on-site power and heating requirements
- Installing building management systems to reduce energy usage

Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS)

The Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme is funded by The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and delivered by Salix Finance.

The scheme was made available for capital energy efficiency and heat decarbonisation projects within public sector non-domestic buildings, including central government departments and

non-departmental public bodies in England only, to deliver the following objectives:

1. Deliver stimulus to the energy efficiency and heat decarbonisation sectors, supporting jobs.
2. Deliver significant carbon savings within the public sector.

Further information about the PSDS and further schemes can be found on the Salix website.

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