



Askern Leisure Centre

Through two phases of work, totalling £4.5million, Equans has transformed an outdated leisure centre, on behalf of City of Doncaster Council. The modernised building is now powered by two new air source heat pumps, helping to reduce carbon emissions by 4,000 tonnes over the lifetime of the energy improvements carried out. The centre has also been fully refurbished internally.

An eco-upgrade

Askern Leisure Centre has been brought into the 21st Century through an extensive retrofit - creating contemporary health and fitness facilities.

The £2.5million first phase of the project included the removal of a coal-fired boiler - one of just two remaining in the country at the time - which was replaced with two efficient air source heat pumps.

Phase one also involved improving the fabric of the building with a new warm roof, insulated external cladding and LED lighting. Double-glazed windows and doors were fitted along with a new air handling unit.

The improvements will save 700,623kwh of energy each year - a 17% reduction.

Emissions from the building will be as low as 264 carbon tonnes annually - offering an estimated saving of £21,936 per year for the council.

Facilities for the community

A £2million internal re-fit was completed in the second phase of work. The funding for this part of the project included a £1million Sport England grant to improve sport and fitness facilities for the community.

The pool hall, fitness studios, reception and viewing gallery were refurbished and a new cafe and seating area have been created.

New flooring and decoration throughout the building have added to the internal transformation.

Toilet and changing facilities have been remodelled alongside the creation of a 'Changing Places' accessible facility, which will ensure that the building can be used by the whole community.

Securing government funding

Equans worked with Doncaster Leisure Trust (DLT), which manages the centre, and City of Doncaster Council to bid for funding and to re-design the facilities.

Together, the partnership successfully secured £1.5million of funding for phase one from the Government's Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS), managed by the Department Energy Security and Net Zero .

The PSDS was launched in 2020 with the aim of reducing carbon emissions from public sector buildings by 75% by 2037.



Key Features

- ▶ Client: City of Doncaster Council
- ▶ Start: August 2021
- ▶ Completion: February 2023
- ▶ Value: £4.5m

Fully refurbished eco-friendly building, part-funded by the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme

Two new eco-friendly air source heat pumps

New warm roof, external insulation, energy-efficient windows and doors and LED lighting

Increased accessibility with the addition of a 'Changing Places' facility

Sport England funding used to complete a second phase

Brand new cafe area

Estimated carbon savings totalling 4,000