

Lighting

Installing the most energy efficient lighting systems can save up to 30% (more in some cases) on electricity bills and often results in better quality lighting

Switch Off Policy

A 'switch off' policy has been implemented throughout the building. By maintaining this policy and increasing education awareness to all staff regarding energy efficiency, equipment and light switch off, 15% of energy bills can be saved.

Occupancy sensors have been installed in the store room, this ensures that lights only operate when there is somebody there to require them.

Consider installing presence detectors in the toilets. The passive infrared (PIR) sensors will detect the presence of staff/customers and automatically switch the lights on for a set period of time.

Light Fittings

The building still has evidence of the old fluorescent tubes in place. The newer slim line fluorescent tubes (26mm diameter) use 10% less electricity and are cheaper to buy than the older 38mm tubes. They can eliminate hum and flicker, extending lamp life and can often reduce consumption by around 25%. A registered electrician can replace all fluorescent lights for you, and remove the tubes from your premises through a designated waste carrier licence.

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Fluorescent tubes and their fittings can be purchased from any DIY outlet or electrical wholesaler. Check the packaging and make sure that all new tubes have a 'tri-phosphor' coating. These have improved light output and a longer tube life.

Spotlights can be very expensive to run for long periods and tend to produce more heat than light. The lights should be replaced with energy efficient spot light bulbs, which can again be recommended by your electrician. These bulbs have a longer life and lower maintenance costs and can use up to 75% less energy. A reputable lighting supplier should offer you a free survey and estimate the likely saving as part of the quotation. You are advised to seek a minimum of three quotations.

Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) are used in the changing area and toilets. Maintain this good practice of using these CFLs as they use only 20% of the energy of the equivalent traditional bulbs.

Consider replacing the tungsten halogen lamps with metal halide lamps. The metal halide lamps give excellent crisp white light and have a low energy consumption. The lamp has a life of 6,000/12,000 hours.

Ensure lamps, fittings and rooflights are kept clean. Dirty shades and rooflights greatly reduce lighting levels. Clean diffuser light fittings both inside and out regularly, to do this you will need to remove the diffuser

Exterior Lighting

The exterior lighting is on a timer base and therefore not in use when it is not needed. This is excellent practice, and used mainly for security purposes. Continue to check timers to make sure they are at correct settings and are on for no longer than they should be.

The exterior lighting is controlled by a motion sensor and therefore not in use when it is not needed. This is excellent practice, and used mainly for security purposes.

Exterior lighting should be limited to hours of darkness. It may not be necessary to have lights on continuously throughout the night. Consider fitting lighting controls to limit hours of use.

Also contact your light supplier to enquire whether there are alternative energy efficient light bulbs available for your exterior lighting/flood lights

In the office

By switching computers off at nights and at weekends their energy consumption can be reduced by 75% per year

Computers It is believed that the office equipment is not an energy efficient version. The best known energy label for office equipment is the Energy Star rating, whereby equipment automatically enters a low power mode after a pre-set time, however energy management software must be enabled. Make sure that energy efficiency is always included in purchasing specifications.

Computers cannot be switched off at night. Investigate the possibility of switching off a number of computers at nights and weekend, rather than leaving them running their consumption can be reduced by 75% per year. Alternatively investigate the possibility of backing up machines over night on certain nights of the week and communicate this to staff.

If the monitor is also turned off when not being used (including lunchtimes, etc), and the standby actions are activated, energy consumption can be reduced by 90% per year.