Case Study
Lanchester Hospital

Background

This project at Lanchester Road Hospital, a mental health hospital in Durham, involved installing 549 roof mounted solar PV panels to provide electricity to 5 separate wards across the hospital. The works were completed over a tight 4-week timescale and required careful coordination to ensure minimum disruption to day-to-day hospital operation.

We achieved a high quality of service for this project, with 0 RIDDORs and 0 defects, meaning high levels of satisfaction for our client.

Key success

Energy bill saving of £1.6m over a 20-year lifecycle

Assessment | Design | Coordination | Installation | Evaluation

Delivery approach

Synergize leveraged our ISO 9001 approved supplier matrix to ensure specialist support from our partners for this project. In particular, we worked closely with our accredited supply chain partners, Platinum Renewables, to complete full building assessments and surveys of the site, design the most cost effective solar PV system (based on the available roof pitches) and deliver the installation works. Our experienced project manager, Nicola Goodhall, managed works from our local head office in North Yorkshire.



Client Feedback

"If I could describe this project in a few words, it would be scoped well, managed well, delivered fantastically, on budget and within time."

Ian Parker, Head of Lifecycles & Variations

Challenges and solutions



To reduce distress to mental health service users, we carefully sequenced work around clinical routines and patient wellbeing. Secure access, deliveries and segregated work areas were agreed with Estates and ward teams and daily communication helped reduce patient anxiety, maintain safe routes and preserve continuity.



Working with a key supply chain partner introduced a point of potential weakness in our delivery approach. To mitigate this, our ISO 9001 approved supplier matrix has built in vetting procedures (including financial vetting). Throughout this project, our senior management also audited site regularly to ensure Platinum Renewables were working to our high standards of quality



This project involved high levels of coordination between healthcare staff, representatives of the NHS Trust, Synergize team and subcontractors, and GFM (facilities management). Additionally, although this was a targeted solar PV installation rather than a full building redevelopment, our delivery was aligned with the principles of the NHS Net Zero Building Standard, ensuring integration with wider NHS goals and processes.

Project Success

This project was highly successful, bringing energy efficient upgrades with minimal disruption to building users. Outcomes included:

- Energy bill saving of £1.6m over a 20-year lifecycle
- 247kW electricity produced
- Estimated to reduce emissions by approx. 50 tonnes of CO_2e per year
- Completed to align with the client's end of financial year
- 0 RIDDORs and 0 defects on completion

