

# CASE STUDY

**BLACKWATER LEISURE CENTRE  
& MALDON DISTRICT COUNCIL**

LIGHTING



**MALDON DISTRICT  
COUNCIL**

## LIGHTING

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### PROBLEMS:

- AGEING LIGHT FITTINGS
- LOW LIGHT LEVELS

Blackwater Leisure Centre had low light levels and ageing light fittings. SCL sent in their lighting design team to look at each area and assess what solutions were needed for their independent functions. The three areas included a gymnasium, the swimming pool, and the main sports hall.

#### *What did we find?*

The gymnasium had very low light levels and many 'dark-spots' due to the Category 2 louvers originally installed. In addition, there had subsequently been additional lightening tracks installed, which had spot lamps that blew weekly.

#### *What was our solution?*

SCLs solution was to install low-energy LED panels on a retro-fit basis. As there are no louvers on these fitting, there was an immediate, and noticeable significant rise in the light levels. Upon completing the project, light levels were checked again and were found to have increased by more than 80% in real terms.

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

By replacing old florescent systems with LED lighting, up to 60-70% of savings can be made on energy bills. LED is up to 90% more efficient than incandescent light sources.

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### Phil Wallis of Leisure Connection said:

#### On the Gymnasium

*“Not only did we see a notable increase in the light levels, we also reduced the power consumption by 50% as the LED fittings use only half the energy of the original fittings. . In addition to this, gym’s by their very nature heat up, especially when there are a lot of people working out. Before SCL installed the new fittings, we could actually feel the heat coming off the light fittings, but now we can’t feel a thing. We also have to cool the area with air-conditioning which now doesn’t have to work as hard as it had to before – so this reduces our costs too!”*

#### On the Swimming Pool

*“SCL upgraded the lighting to the wet changing area walkway as the old fittings were beyond economical servicing. The new fittings were low energy fittings which were designed to be used in corrosive environments, as the chlorine in the air, over a long period of time, can rust and damage normal fittings. SCL also upgraded the emergency lighting system too. The work was carried out during normal hours with excellent safety controls in place, so we were able to stay open during the whole process.”*

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### DID YOU KNOW?

Luminance of lighting in sports halls and places with high activity should be ranging from 200-300 lux (500 lux for competitions). Cool white lights are also advised in order to improve performance and mirror the effects of natural light sources.

### On the Sports Hall

*"Most of the sport played in the sports Hall involves projectiles such as shuttlecocks, basket balls etc. We also have sports such as trampolining, which require those participating to be looking to the heavens. When people looked up at the old light fittings, they could suffer from glare, but the new fittings are designed specifically for use in sports halls and they provide the right light levels, but without the glare. I've lost count of the great comments we have received from our members."*

If you like what we do and would like to speak to us about a project for you, call us today 01621850202

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