

Research facility at University of York

Submitted by	Turner & Townsend
Category	Game Changer
Introduction to the nominated company / project / development / deal - please provide a high level overview of the company / project / development / deal including relevant financial information (100 words):	<p>Turner & Townsend provided Project Management services to deliver a new state of the art research facility, for the University of York. The project is one of only three of its kind in the UK and consists of Cryo-electron microscopy, X-ray crystallography and NMR spectroscopy. These are all techniques used for research development, which is quite apt in the current climate give the Covid-19 pandemic.</p> <p>The new-build has been fitted with new research equipment and took 16 months to complete. The project was completed within a budget of £5million.</p>
Tell us why the nominated company / individual / development / deal should win this award (500 words):	<p>The University have created a new state of the art research facility, which is only one of three of its kind in the UK. Cryo electron microscopy is the latest in a series of techniques able to determine the three-dimensional structure of proteins. By co-locating this new experiment with X-ray crystallography and NMR spectroscopy, an integrated, collaborative facility has been established for the study of protein structure and function.</p> <p>Due to the nature of the research being conducted in the facility, there was a great emphasis on the humidity and temperature ranges within the building. To achieve this, the design of the M&E installation was thoroughly considered with specialists and stakeholders, to ensure the requirements could be met. The designs were run through models on numerous occasions and were even manipulated during the commissioning phase to realise the required environment. Considerations included vibration, noise and air flow, to name few.</p> <p>The project was also delivered within a live environment on campus, which in itself brought along other challenges. From a health and safety perspective the contractor had to consider the pedestrian traffic of students and how they could access the surrounding buildings. The underground services also had to be considered to ensure no disruption was caused to adjacent buildings, particularly with regards to power & data, which would have consequently disrupted teaching on-site.</p> <p>Collaboration amongst the design team was key to the successful delivery of this project. To mention the M&E installation again, the employer's requirements had to be gathered to realise how each room should perform and give the University the controls they require. Each room in the building has specific requirements and so there were a</p>

	<p>number of stakeholders. The requirements for every piece of apparatus was obtained to ensure the design included all heat, sound and power loads. The team collaborated throughout the project, and convened weekly meetings to ensure design and installation worked as planned.</p> <p>The teamwork aspect worked throughout the team, including the design and client team. Communication was very open and attributed towards the success of the project.</p> <p>The design team had to take on board the challenges presented by Covid-19. This resulted in virtual meetings that in fact assisted the project, as the team had to focus on presenting information in a manner that could be easily digested via this method. As virtual meetings had to be used, time was used more efficiently and rather than travelling to site, smaller half hour meetings were had to discuss details and overcome issues. This was only possible through strong relationships built by the team.</p> <p>The project was delivered on time, within budget, with no H&S incidents and to a standard of high quality which received great feedback from the client.</p>
<p>Please list any other companies involved in this project / development / deal:</p>	<p>Simpsons of York Climatix Group Atkins Global Verisys Faithful & Gould</p>