

## Nationwide Convert City Centre Offices to Take Green Heat



New Oxford House, located in Barkers Pool in Sheffield City Centre, was built in the early 1960's. It currently provides approximately 22,000 square feet of office accommodation above the Nationwide Building Society.

The office accommodation has just undergone a refurbishment programme that was completed in September 2001. The plans for refurbishment were formulated back in 2000 and the heating system was one of the items that required replacement. Before September 2001 all heating was provided by electricity. The age of this system meant that it had become extremely inefficient and costly to operate.

The Project Managers, Insignia Richard Ellis, contacted several suppliers including Sheffield Heat & Power, now Onyx Sheffield Ltd, on behalf of their client Nationwide Building Society and negotiations began to make a connection possible. Engineers from the district energy company examined the technical aspects of making a connection and put a package together that would allow Nationwide to provide a cost effective and efficient heat source to the tenants at the same time as protecting the environment.

Terms and conditions of connection and supply were agreed upon and the refurbishment project began. The district heating system was installed along with a new wet central heating system, which was designed by Gilfillan Associates Building Services Consulting Engineers. The system was designed to achieve highest efficiency by zoned metering and control together with variable speed secondary pumps. Several suggestions for metering options were considered to enable Nationwide to

manage and monitor heat supply to each of the five floors.

A schedule was agreed for the connection to take place in conjunction with the other refurbishment works, which included fenestration, new wall floor and ceiling finishes, new power and lighting services, new data containment and provision of shower and disabled persons WC facility.

A short extension to the district heating network was made from Barkers Pool and into the building at an agreed location. Internally work was carried out to run the pipe from the building entry point to a disused plant room where the heat exchanger was to be located.

When the new wet central heating system was in place, engineers from the district energy company returned to complete the connection and commission the heat exchanger. The building is now utilising green heat. Nationwide can now ensure that existing and future tenants receive an efficient and economical system.

New Oxford House has joined many other buildings in Sheffield that are helping to reduce reliance on fossil fuel and displace emissions to the atmosphere. It has been estimated that the district heating connection to the building will reduce fossil fuel energy use by over 690MWh and save 340 tonnes of carbon dioxide being released into the atmosphere.

The building owner, the tenant, residents and visitors to Sheffield will experience the benefits of the connection to district heating for many, many years to come.

## NEW LOOK, SAME SERVICE

This newsletter is the first to land on your desk since Onyx took over the operation of the district heating network as part of the integrated waste management contract with Sheffield City Council. Due to the recent company changes, we have had a change in image as you can see from the style of this newsletter. The new logo represents a way forward with long term commitment from a company with many years experience in Energy from Waste and group experience in district heating.

The district heating network may have a new image and a new logo but it will continue to provide you with a clean and

green source of heat with the same level of reliable and friendly service that Sheffield Heat & Power delivered. The integrated waste management service allows a more efficient and coherent method of operating the district heating network ensuring that it is working to its full potential, delivering economic and environmental benefits.

The new look newsletter follows the same theme as the old newsletter, containing articles covering company news, industry news and, environmental news. These were areas that our customers expressed a preference to see more of. If you have any suggestions for future articles within these topics let Lisa Came know on **0114 272 4278** or [lcame@onyxgroup.co.uk](mailto:lcame@onyxgroup.co.uk).

### IN THIS ISSUE

- 1 The Connection of New Oxford House
- 1 Our New Image
- 1 Grants for District Heating
- 1 Parachute Jump for Charity
- 1 Plan for New Energy Recovery Facility
- 1 Energy Efficiency in Practice by Sheffield Hallam University