

# News

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## National energy award for Muse office project

Number One Bickerstaffe Square, home to Blackpool Council and part of Muse Developments' Talbot Gateway regeneration scheme, has been recognised as the most energy efficient building in the UK.

Winner of the Energy Efficient Building of the Year category at the Energy Awards, held at the London Hilton on Park Lane on Tuesday 2nd December 2014, the 125,000 sq ft, state-of-the-art office was praised for its use of energy-efficient systems and low/zero carbon technologies.

The Energy Awards recognise and reward both supply and demand-side excellence within the energy sector. The awards acknowledge achievement in carbon reduction and energy efficiency, energy supply, brokering as well as products and services.

The brief was for a 'low carbon, low energy building' and Muse Developments, the company behind the Talbot Gateway Central Business District (CBD), worked with the design team and contractor to ensure that energy-efficient measures were incorporated into the building.

These included solar glass and passive shading to make the most of the changeable weather, roof-mounted air source heat pumps and photo-voltaic panels and a high-tech heat-recovery system for the data centre which recycles the waste heat from computer servers to reduce the building's energy requirements.

The award was received by Andy Barton, project manager at Muse Developments, who said: "These are without doubt the best offices Muse has delivered to date and to have received this award is a reflection of the hard work in forward planning, development of the brief and the work by the design team and Blackpool Council.

"Number One Bickerstaffe Square is unlike any other office accommodation available in Blackpool; the intention from the outset was to deliver a sustainable and energy efficient office that serves the needs of the Council to the benefit of their council tax payers. This award recognizes that this goal has been achieved."

A statement from event organisers, EMAP, a content, subscription and networking business, read: "All of this year's entrants, finalists & winners deserve to be recognised for their contribution to the energy industry. The esteemed judging panel had the very difficult task of narrowing down the entries to an exceptional shortlist and then to select the very worthy winners. The judges were extremely impressed with all the hard work and innovation displayed by the entrants this year."

Cllr Fred Jackson, Blackpool Council's cabinet member for urban regeneration, said: "I'm sure everyone will agree that, if you're going to create a new office, it should be energy efficient and minimise emissions as much as possible.

"This award goes to demonstrate that we've managed to do that very effectively and I congratulate Muse and the project team."

Number One Bickerstaffe Square is part of phase 1 at Talbot Gateway CBD. When complete, the scheme will provide new retail, commercial and community space for Blackpool, in addition to town centre parking and transport.