

# University challenge

Watts has provided **first-class, independent advice** to the property and construction industry for more than **40 years**. Our **expert education team** operates across a **regional network** to ensure **local knowledge** and support is always available. By working in partnership with our university clients, we have been able to inform and transform the way that services are delivered to their customers. We **offer advice** at every stage of the **property life cycle**, including the provision of **condition surveys, planned preventative maintenance, project management, quantity surveying, sustainability**, M&E engineering, and technical services in relation to **neighbourly matters**.



## The reality

HEFCE invests nearly £8 billion in higher education in England to secure future prosperity. As a result, John Denham, University Secretary has set two objectives for the sector: supporting the economy through the recession and building a framework for the future of higher education.

“One of my main priorities for the Council in 2009 is to support and encourage the sector to use all of its huge capacity to train, research, innovate and inspire, reaching into local communities to offer practical help to individuals and businesses through these tougher economic times while laying the foundations for the future.”

**John Denham**, University Secretary

## Seven key challenges for University Estates

- 1 Creating a sense of place for staff, students, visitors and the community
- 2 Developing inspirational space
- 3 Developing multi-disciplinary facilities clustered around core services
- 4 Providing facilities that support new technology and various methods of teaching and research
- 5 Creating flexible property facilitating greater space utilisation
- 6 Sustainable development requiring significant reduction in carbon emissions – 60% reduction by 2050
- 7 Providing high quality student accommodation.

## How Watts can help

Watts has led, reviewed, managed and supported numerous universities' programmes and projects. Our approach embodies:

- Active listening: we listen to your needs and interpret and present options for achieving your aims
- On site presence: in most cases we temporarily second members of our team into your organisation to experience how the facility operates
- Forming relationships: consulting all those involved, through formal and informal channels
- Value-focused: being clear about strategic objectives and how current activities contribute to these objectives. Knowing what to rationalise and prioritise
- People orientated: creating a project environment which motivates everyone involved.

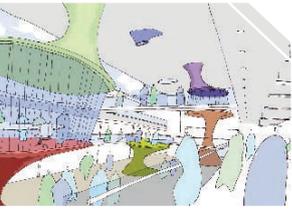
## Watts' services

Our extensive technical knowledge enables us to provide the following services:

- Project management
- Programme management
- Contract administration
- Employer's agent
- Quantity surveying
- Value and risk management
- Refurbishment and maintenance management
- Energy compliance (EPC/DEC) and sustainability
- Compliance and Health and Safety
- OJEU advice/review



## Recent commissions



### St George's, University of London – Laboratory Building Refurbishment

**Service:** Project Management

A feasibility study into the major refurbishment of an existing laboratory building to provide state-of-the-art facilities and a new central atrium circulation space with working balconies and meeting pods.



### University of Portsmouth – Dental Outreach Centre

**Service:** OJEU Bid Review (Contractor Selection)

Watts undertook a review of over 25 subcontractor PQQ submissions relating to a new development. The process involved agreeing scoring criteria, establishing a scoring mix and preparing a final recommendation of companies to short list for tender.



### Loughborough University – Athletics Track Extension

**Service:** Cost consultancy

Provision of cost consultancy advice in respect of extending an athletics track, including the provision of new floodlighting.



### Thames Valley University – Refurbishment

**Service:** Project management, contract administration, cost consultancy and CDM coordinator

This included upgrading common areas and corridors, including fire precaution works to the Teaching and Hospitality Building.



### Canterbury Christchurch University – St Gregory's Development

**Service:** Cost consultancy

Provision of traditional cost consultancy services. The scheme involves the creation of a bespoke music centre/auditorium, together with training rooms. The new building is situated within a graveyard, adjacent to historic church.

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