LED lights cuts bills and maintenance for borough council

Swindon Borough Council has reduced maintenance needs at one of its sheltered housing developments by installing L 665 LED energy-saving illuminated house numbers from Steinel (UK) Ltd, which combine LED innovation with the latest sensor technology.

Fully-illuminated, easy-to-spot house numbers aren't just a matter of appearance at George Tweed Gardens in Swindon. They're also critical for all emergency services when called to the sheltered housing complex. Emergency services personnel have to be able to identify properties within the development very quickly when they answer 999 calls or Swindon Borough Council Home line services are called.

Yet the 13W twin tube compact fluorescent light bulbs that previously illuminated the house numbers were inefficient and needed replacing. Swindon Borough Council found that it was constantly sending engineers to the site to change dead lamps.

A 'fit and forget' lighting solution

was needed, removing the need for further maintenance. With this in mind, the council decided to take advantage of LED technology in the form of L 665 LED house number lights from Steinel, the market leader in lighting sensor technology. In all, 43 of the LED house number lights were installed at George Tweed Gardens

"The LED lights definitely make the numbering at George Tweed Gardens easier to see," comments James Porch, electrical surveyor at Swindon Borough Council. "When someone gets within 8m of a front door, the L 665 LED, which is mounted on the wall beside the door, starts giving out bright warm-white light. For older

people, who are likely to be visited by an emergency service, this is very important. The residents are also pleased with the clean, modern look of the Steinel number lights."

Each L 665 LED house number light dims down to 10 per cent light output when no one is detected in the area – a fact that reduces energy consumption. When a person approaches the area, the L 665 LED's passive infra-red sensor – which has a 360° angle of coverage – immediately lights up. Once the person has left the area, the light switches back down to 10 per cent output after a preselected time.

"At council-run properties, we're using LED lighting more and more," comments Swindon Borough Council's James Porch. "LED is a route to energy savings, but in cases like George Tweed Gardens, the maintenance reduction on offer is really the driving force."

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