



Handelsbanken, Halifax Branch



VRV spins a comfortable workplace for bankers in converted mill

An energy efficient air conditioning system from Daikin UK creates a year-round comfortable working environment for banking staff – and visiting customers – in a former spinning mill, Grade II listed and dating from the 1830s.

The Halifax branch of Handelsbanken occupies almost 3,000 sq.ft on the ground floor of Fearnley Mill – part of the Dean Clough complex, developed originally by James Akroyd and Sons. The numerous sandstone buildings alongside Hebble Brook once formed the world's largest carpet factory. Spinning and weaving machinery is long gone, but the remaining modernised buildings live on as a hub for business and the arts.

Dean Clough enjoyed a royal visit when the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall dropped in during a tour of the area.

According to Historic England, Fearnley Mill is “an early example of a multi-storey mill as part of

an integrated complex, and the earliest mill building in the nationally important group of mill buildings at Dean Clough”.

The ‘slightly trapezoid’ building, of coursed dressed sandstone under a slate roof, has four storeys and a basement which is only visible externally on the west side because of a fall in ground levels.

Handelsbanken shares the building with a serviced office provider. The bank's premises includes reception area, boardroom, two smaller meeting rooms and a general office. All the rooms are kept at a comfortable temperature throughout the year by a 20hp Daikin VRV IV heat recovery system, delivering a nominal 56.0kW (heating and cooling).

The condensing unit is installed in a screened communal outdoor plant area, easily accessible for maintenance purposes, at the edge of the building's car park.

Year of installation

› 2017

Project requirements

- Air conditioning
- Air curtain
- Air purification
- Control
- Heating
- Hot water
- Refrigeration
- Ventilation

Installed systems

- › VRV IV Heat Recovery
- › Roundflow Cassette
- › ITM



Craig Ayrton says:

“The temperature is at a comfortable level when staff arrive in the mornings and it stays like that all day. If the weather is particularly hot or cold, it’s easy for them to adjust the air conditioning for greater comfort.”

Fearnley Mill’s original oak beams are retained in the bank’s offices as a visual feature – in addition to their structural importance – so there is no ceiling void. Craig Ayrton of Bradford-based Daikin D1 Installer Heatworks says: “As a result, the seven 360-degree Roundflow cassettes and their associated pipework are fully exposed. This somewhat unusual solution for a modern office provides a subtle link with the building’s industrial past.”

The bank’s system is controlled through a Daikin Intelligent Touch Manager, which simplifies the setting of on-off times, temperatures and louvre positions on individual indoor units.

The three-pipe Daikin heat recovery system owes its superior efficiency to its ability to recover heat at a low condensing temperature which requires less energy. This contrasts to a two-pipe system where refrigerant gas and liquid are mixed, so a less-efficient higher condensing temperature is needed to separate them.

The Handelsbanken installation is the second Daikin heat recovery system that Heatworks has installed at Dean Clough. When the six-storey A & B Mills building was modernised to accommodate 700 staff of French-based Covea Insurance, the condensing units were installed in a sensitively designed part-louvred plant tower at the rear of the building because of planning constraints and physical issues on the site.



Kit List

Code	Description	No of units
REYQ-T	VRV IV Heat Recovery condensing unit	1
FXFQ-A	Roundflow cassette	7
DCM601A51	Daikin Intelligent Touch Manager	1

