



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

Long Clawson

Industrial Heat Recovery Support (IHRS)
Programme Case Study

November 2021

Context

Long Clawson Dairy, the largest producer of Stilton Cheese in the UK, has remained a farming co-operative for over 100 years and still operate the business from their site in the Vale of Belvoir. In 2018, they identified the displacement of their gas consumption as a real opportunity to reduce their carbon footprint.

How IHRS supported the project

We first investigated a heat pump solution to switch from gas to electricity for a significant part of the pasteurisation process – a move that could set new standards of carbon saving for our industry. A detailed study would be needed to understand how such a solution might fit into the tried and tested production process.

The IHRS programme allowed us to secure a capital contribution for this work, as the cost of the study was considered by the project team to be too much. With funding in place, we were happy to proceed, supported by a highly experienced IHRS delivery team to maximise the accuracy of our study.

Benefits and added value

We secured funding for almost 40% of the project cost, and the detailed feasibility study and preliminary Engineering works have now been completed. The output identified a technical solution that met our operating requirements, an accurate delivery budget, and predicts:

- a) 27.3% in energy cost reductions, and;
- b) ~28,000 tonnes of carbon savings – a reduction of 34%.

Lessons learned

Our management team have agreed to progress the Heat Recovery Project to the second phase and have applied for a subsequent capital funding grant. There is unanimous agreement that this solution will be a major contributor to helping Long Clawson remain at the forefront of our industry while we continue to support our cooperative members and employees, while still producing a world class product.

“We are very pleased with the output findings of the study and very much appreciate how the IHRS has contributed to this and our industry.”

Iain Grant, Long Clawson Dairy – Operations Director



The images provided show the existing chiller units and pipework to which the units designed during the IHRS project would be integrated.

This publication is available from: www.gov.uk/guidance/industrial-heat-recovery-support-programme-how-to-apply

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