

North Middlesex University Hospital

Client // Kier Construction
Architect // AHP Architects & Surveyors
Type of Build // Existing Hospital, New Building
Location // North London
Contract Value // £17.9 Million

Introduction

A major new building was required at North Middlesex University Hospital for a new Women and Children's Centre.

The centre was required to accommodate the increase in maternity patients and around 2,000 additional births in North Middlesex. It forms part of a major reorganisation of hospital services in the boroughs of Barnet, Enfield and Haringey.

The Project

The £17.9m contract for the new Women and Children's Centre was procured under the ProCure21+ framework and was constructed by principal contractor Kier Construction, with AHP Architects & Surveyors providing the architectural and project management resources. The project uses a Yorkon off-site solution from the Portakabin Group, which is the UK's largest and most complex modular building project to be built in the health sector.

The building accommodates:

- A consultant-led delivery unit
- Additional high dependency beds
- Two new obstetrics theatres
- Neonatal unit
- Triage centre
- Women's outpatient department
- Midwife-led birthing unit with four birthing pool rooms
- Roof top plant room on the second floor.

The off-site solution approach radically reduced disruption to patient care and the build programme to ensure the new facilities became operational in line with the Trust's clinical strategy and prior to seasonal winter pressures.



152 steel-framed Yorkkon modules up to 18m long and weighing up to 18.5 tonnes were craned into position in just 28 days. A 500-tonne crane was used for this operation which took place within the hospital grounds and in close proximity to existing facilities that remained in use throughout.

The units were installed partially completed with window frames, first fix electrics, HVAC ducting, plumbing, and a high performance concrete floor.

The external appearance of the scheme reflects the design of the adjacent facilities and features rendered façades, ribbon glazing around the perimeter of the first floor, a large atrium entrance spanning two storeys with light wells providing further natural daylight inside.

Vistamatic

Vistamatic standard vision panels were a supply only to the project at North Middlesex University Hospital, they were open/close vision screens used in doors and walls for the benefit of the hospital staff to keep a close eye on vulnerable patients in acute wards that provided support to the A&E department. Vistamatic also supplied their lever-operated VISTA-Slide™ observation screens. The VISTA-Slide™ is an observation screen that operates in a lateral fashion with the linear design moving vertically from side to side within the confines of the metal framed or sealed unit.

During the installation there were a few issues, obtaining the overall thickness of the desired unit and in time before manufacturing of doors was troublesome which meant the aperture left out was the wrong size (too big). Kier contacted Vistamatic to help find a solution which led to the introduction of foam strips to pack out the glazing unit. Kwok Yam, Works Manager - Kier Construction commented "The help given to us by the team at Vistamatic was invaluable".

Vistamatic were specified by AHP Architects based on the reliability and quality of their products in the market and the fact that they offered supply only.

"The quality of the product was good and well received by the users as they serve a big part of their day to day running of the hospital and care for patients. In terms of the overall process from design, specification, quote, purchase order, lead time delivery and customers satisfaction for the delivery of the units, Vistamatic showed excellent management and customer care throughout the process, "compliments to the team" especially Bernice Cohen."

Kwok Yam, Works Manager - Kier Construction

