

Sunderland Royal Hospital

Project	Sunderland Royal Hospital
Type of Build	Extension and Refurbishment – New Emergency Department
Location	Sunderland
Lead Joiner	Woodtech Joinery
Contract Value	£18 million

Sunderland Royal Hospital's ageing emergency department was in desperate need of a multi-million pound revamp. Details of the changes were first unveiled in 2013 when trust bosses admitted the facility needed updating and hospital chiefs said admissions had risen between seven and eight per cent between 2013-14, far above the national average of three to five per cent.

It is hoped that the new five-story development will alleviate pressure on the Royal's A&E department. Issues such as having to deal with a broader range of health issues, an ageing population and a shortage of doctors willing to work in A&E had all contributed to the admissions increase.

The redesigned areas will provide new, improved arrival point, reception and waiting areas, assessment, consultation and treatment areas, specialist rooms for resuscitation, isolation, x-ray, ultra-sound, scanning, high dependency, laboratories and a pharmacy.

The development will also include a dedicated paediatric emergency department.

The project was being completed in three phases, beginning with the refurbishment of two existing wards and an extension to the front of the building to provide the new paediatric emergency department entrance.

The second phase saw the refurbishment of the existing emergency department and new three-storey extension added to the front of the building. During this phase the newly refurbished paediatric area was used as a temporary emergency department.

Phase 3 will included the construction of a glazed entrance canopy, with the adult emergency department temporarily providing emergency care for all patients.



A spokesman for City Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust said:

“The new emergency department at Sunderland Royal will be one of the most advanced units in the region offering patients the highest quality of emergency department technology and staffing.

“The existing department at Sunderland Royal received over 127,000 attendances during 2013-14 – the new unit will meet the demands of ever-increasing patient numbers and the pressures of the growing elderly population.”

Vistamatic

Vistamatic standard vision panels were a supply only to the project at Sunderland Royal Hospital, they were open/close vision screens used in the entrance doors to the wards for the benefit of the hospital staff to observe patients whilst minimising the disruption to the other ward users.

Vistamatic also supplied their Smart Glass, this was found in the treatment rooms so when they were unoccupied the glass is clear but when the doctor or nurse occupies the room with a patient they can activate the Smart Glass so it becomes instantly opaque.



Woodtech Joinery, based in Middlesbrough specified Vistamatic for the project due to the previous experience they'd had working with them, the superiority and quality of Vistamatic's products over any others on the market and the great reputation Vistamatic hold within their field.

“Working with Vistamatic on the Sunderland Royal Hospital project has been great, the help given to us by the team at Vistamatic has been invaluable and I'm pleased to say that everything has run smoothly.

“The superiority and quality of their products is unrivalled in the market, that teamed the price being right and the previous experience we have working with them made them the obvious choice on this job.

“We would have no hesitation in recommending and indeed using Vistamatic for any project in the future. The quality of work and planning has been excellent and they have always shown a true willingness to work with us, in return we have a very happy client.”

Kevin Oldcorn, Director - Woodtech Joinery



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