St Albans City Hospital - CDC

Specialist Healthcare

Key Features:

- New Build Extension and Refurbishment
- Phased Handover
- Safely delivered within a live building

Project Overview:

The St Albans City Hospital CDC project was focussed on enhancing the existing Trust diagnostic imaging capabilities by constructing a new CT and MRI suite in the Runcie Wing alongside three Ultrasound areas and a number of other support rooms and facilities. This project involved the construction of a new extension to house and operate the new MRI and CT installations, and a refurbishment of the adjacent existing building to supplement and support these services and improve patient care services. The project was administered under an NEC option A main contract with a number of key specialist elements covered under a CDP remit.

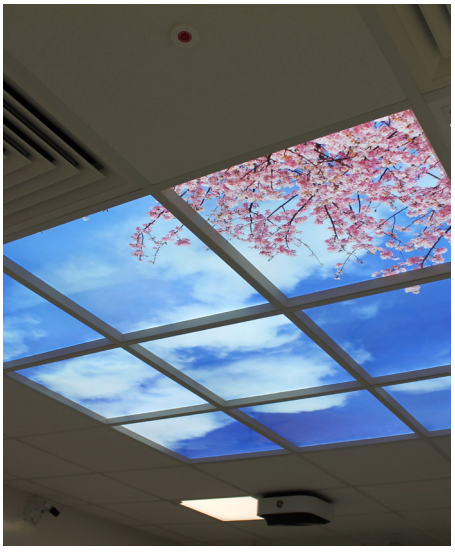
Scope of Works:

The project comprised several key aspects to achieve the state-of-the-art diagnostic suite required:

CT and MRI Suite Construction:
A new MRI and CT room was integrated into the existing CDC facility, extending its functional capacity and modernising its infrastructure.

Refurbishment of Existing Facilities:
The existing CDC was renovated to create three new ultrasound rooms, improving the hospital's imaging services with updated technology and a better patient experience. The completed building also features a renovated entrance, reception area, waiting areas, restroom facilities and changing rooms.

Construction of a Plant Room Housing:
A new plant area was created on the roof of the new building, accommodating the required supporting MEP systems for the new imaging equipment.



Client:	West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust
Project Value:	£5,200,000
Programme Duration:	26 weeks
Architect:	Robert Limbrick Ltd
Project Manager:	Arcadis

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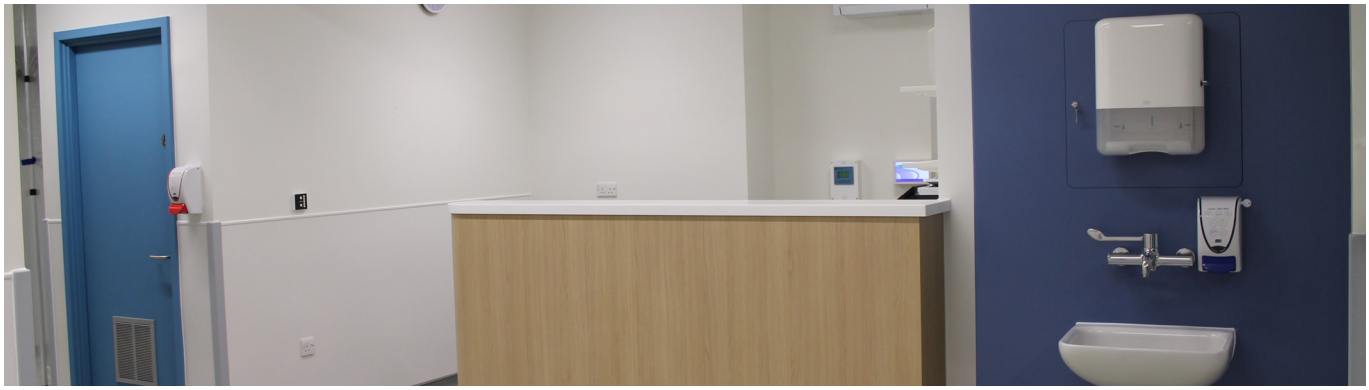

Phased Handover:
The project was executed in stages to maintain operational continuity, including the phased handover of the reception area, CT scanner, MRI scanner and culminating in the final handover of the main refurbished areas.

Site Logistics:

The continued use of live areas in and around the ongoing project areas created logistical challenges and clear and concise planning and communication was key. Delivery times were restricted accordingly and storage on site was limited so material deliveries had to be carefully scheduled. Added to this, we had a number of other adjacent Trust construction projects ongoing in the vicinity and shared access routes/work areas etc needed to be considered and dealt with. Key areas of the existing building, including the existing plantroom, were found to contain ACM's in various forms, which had to then be dealt with as necessary.

The existing MRI facility in use adjacent to the new build location was to be maintained, and the Trust had not fully considered how this would integrate with the proposed build programme. Using our experience and knowledge we proposed and agreed a suitable plan with the Trust to limit any implications on the existing imaging capabilities.

Outcomes:

The successful completion of the St Albans City Hospital CDC expansion resulted in:

- Enhanced imaging capabilities with the addition of new CT, MRI, and ultrasound facilities.
- Improved patient experience due to modernised environments and faster diagnostic processes.
- Increased operational efficiency for hospital staff managing imaging services.

Conclusion:

The St Albans City Hospital - CDC project exemplified a well-coordinated approach to healthcare construction in a challenging operational environment. The project not only delivered essential new facilities but also underscored the importance of careful planning and collaboration within a healthcare setting to enhance service delivery.

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REFERENCE

After a brief hiatus, we have had confirmation that we can open the CDC to patients tomorrow.

I just wanted to reach out personally and thank you for your skill, professionalism, and determination to get the facility over the line. Even through it has been a project with multiple challenges that we have asked you to take on board, you kept pushing forward and we now have a fabulous facility that will make a real difference to the staff and patients we treat.

So really well done to you and the team. Lets get the minor phase 2 works complete, then we'll go out for a low-sugar, non alcoholic drink to celebrate!

You should be really proud of yourselves.

Thanks
Donna.

Donna Fitzpatrick
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