

Case study

BUILDINGS

Kentish Town - Camden PCT LIFT Development

Camden Primary Care Trust is responding pro-actively to the challenges of climate change and sustainability in the re-development of Kentish Town Integrated Health Centre, a new £10 million facility, built with an energy reduction design. The building has been designed and engineered to be more than 12 times more efficient than the previous Kentish Town Health Centre.

The site, on Bartholomew Road, has a legacy of innovation going back to the 1960's when it first embraced an integrated approach to primary care. The new building has been designed with overall health promotion in mind and it is hoped that this will help to address the health inequalities of the area, minimising the need for acute services. Natural light, passive cooling and solar panels are just some of the integral design features that will make this building resilient in the provision of healthcare for years to come.

There is innovative and flexible design at the heart of the layout, with rooms that are able to adapt to potential changing future demands. All rooms, including GP consults, are for multi use by a range of clinicians and support staff.



“This example is more than just a building, it is about providing a more sustainable way of delivering healthcare” Sonia Roschnik, Operational Director, NHS SDU

There is high efficiency in terms of space allocation and high usability is achieved by hot desking throughout the office areas. The staff communal space is designed to promote a multidisciplinary approach to primary care where patients needs can be discussed providing high quality, well-organised services saving staff time and resources.

Brief for the project:

“A simply designed building, that is low on energy and lifecycle costs. A pilot and flagship for the delivery of new primary care buildings, that is designed as a social enterprise, where all profits are ploughed back into the project to cover the outset costs”.

The communal meeting rooms in the building can be subdivided into six spaces or as an open space that can be let out for events or community space, which can host everything from antenatal groups to yoga or for private functions, contributing to community cohesion. The waiting room has a cafe run by a local business and the area doubles as an internet access point and self service check in at 'health pods' which measure blood pressure, weight and height, to save time before you see the doctor.

The centre also has a green travel plan and waste management plan. Kentish Town has excellent public transport access both by bus, over-ground train and Tube. There is no patient parking except for disabled access bays, and private use of cars is discouraged, there are also four charging points for pooled use electric vehicles are provided in the staff car park.



Early stakeholder consultations held by the PCT indicated that cycling to work would be more popular if showers were provided: accordingly staff showers are provided and thirty eight cycle racks are installed.

Recycling has been embraced, from re-use of materials from the previous building, through to the new fixtures and fittings, for example consultation room desks made from recycle. Recycling points have also been designed in throughout the building and waste is also able to be separated in an outside store.

"From the outset Camden PCT was aware that an opportunity was presenting itself to commission a new primary care building which could lead the way forward in the future development of the NHS estate. Not least of the concerns was that the building should be sustainable both in terms of its construction but perhaps more importantly in terms of its whole life operational and lifecycle characteristics. The term 'carbon footprint', if heard at all in 2002, was an unfamiliar and somewhat esoteric idea, but it was towards this concept that Camden wished their competition entrants to move". David Ransley, KentishTown Project Manager & Roy Macgregor GP, Director Community Health Partnerships

For more information please contact Camden PCT on 0207 530 5405 or see www.camdenpct.nhs.uk

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The NHS Sustainable Development Unit develops organisations, people, tools, policy, and research to help the NHS in England fulfil its potential as a leading sustainable and low carbon organisation.