

Successful innovations/ technology

Features such as stone cladding were incorporated into the construction. This adds to the durability of the construction, increases the thermal mass and hence improves the energy performance of the building. Similarly high quality standards to the surfaces, finishes and selection of glazing and natural products in the entrance area offer a very impressive welcoming signature to the service and a durable, low maintenance aspect.

A full ProCure21 training session for all of the team was supported by Paul before any work was undertaken and a separate user workshop was set up to key into the design a wide range of user views. One particular aspect of the workshop was the importance of hearing the patient viewpoint and the sensitivity of allowing private areas for patients when faced with unfavourable diagnosis. This resulted in a revised layout to patient flows.

One important lesson Paul felt had been learned for future projects was the transparency and engagement within the project. "The cost certainty and ability to engage positively with the PSCP and whole design team was a positive aspect of the ProCure21 process," he added. "This is a true landmark building, one which can be quite rightly regarded as best in class. Staff and patients are very impressed."

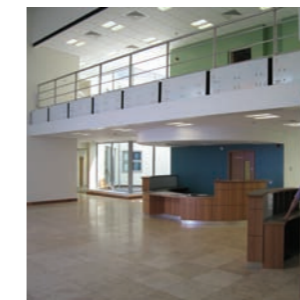
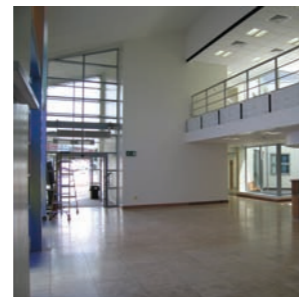
The scheme was completed early to allow specialist equipment to be installed and commissioned ahead of the introduction of patient services. This flexibility is becoming a common pattern with ProCure21 schemes to optimise the provision of the earliest possible fast track availability whilst maintaining exceptionally high standards.

'Super efficient' mechanical and electrical systems go a long way towards 'future-proofing' the structure – by allowing space and facilities for complex medical equipment to be installed.

The latest innovation in underfloor heating was used and this not only freed up wall space and reduced the need for visible pipework systems, but also operates at much more comfortable temperature with a reduction in overall energy consumption and carbon footprint. This learning was again brought forward via the PSCP supply chain from earlier ProCure21 schemes.

A further significant design feature of the centre is the stained glass windows. Staff and patients were involved in the development of these, attending a series of consultation sessions with Artists Martin Donlin, Lesley Fallais and Helen Kitchen. The main concept for the design was to create windows that have an uplifting, optimistic and welcoming effect. The design was based on natural images including trees, leaves, water, sun and sky and used the theme of organic forms along with a calming white glass effect. Studies have shown that natural forms and calming colours have a positive effect on patient recovery.

Paul went on to mention, "The important issue of designing out cross infection potential was essential. Easy to clean surfaces, no need for radiators and innovative new digitally-controlled taps all helped".



The Nightingale Centre and Genesis Prevention Centre at Wythenshawe Hospital will ensure world-class breast care and breast cancer prevention services are offered by the University Hospital of South Manchester NHS Foundation Trust well into the future.

Paul Featherstone, the Trust's Director of Estates and Facilities, said he "had been impressed by ProCure21's energy in meeting the core objectives of the brief".

Overview

University Hospital of South Manchester NHS Foundation Trust operates Wythenshawe Hospital and Withington Hospital. It is a large teaching Trust with strong education and research links with the University of Manchester.

The project to improve breast care and breast cancer services was developed in collaboration with The Genesis Appeal, a charity researching the origins and prevention of breast cancer. The Genesis Appeal is the UK's only breast cancer charity entirely dedicated to prevention of the disease.

The new Genesis Prevention Centre, developed under ProCure21, is Europe's first purpose-built breast cancer prevention centre. It aims to develop as a world-class breast cancer prevention unit, with research and teaching facilities integrated with hospital-based breast care services.

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Development towards this goal has already begun. For example, award-winning Dr Michelle Harvie, the only Research Dietician in the UK testing the effect of diet on breast cancer, is based at the centre.

Paul Featherstone, Director of Estates and Facilities for University Hospital of South Manchester, said, "The Trust is committed to providing top quality healthcare services through involvement, initiative and innovation while continuing to develop as a leading research and teaching centre of excellence. It is committed to the provision of treatments that offer the greatest prospect of cure and that ensure the highest possible quality of life to those living with breast cancer."

Work on the centre began in March 2006. Architects Gilling Dod were commissioned to design it, ESE Project Management commissioned to act as the Client Project Manager, with Laing O'Rourke appointed as the Principal Supply Chain Partner (PSCP). By August, the foundations for the building had already begun with the clearing of the site.

A ceremonial turf cutting ceremony was held at the site on 29 September 2005, the turf was cut by Genesis patron and fundraiser Diane Modahl, one of Britain's fastest runners and Olympic gold medallist.

The £14.25m project was completed on time in July 2007. The new centre was officially opened on Sunday July 8, 2007. It was due to be fully functional by September 2007.

The building area reconfigures, extends and substantially improves the existing breast care and breast cancer prevention services offered by the Trust to the population of South Manchester and beyond.

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Paul Featherstone, Director of Estates and Facilities for University Hospital of South Manchester.



Achievements and benefits

The project aligns fully with the Trust's overall strategy, the Trust's estates strategy and the Local Cancer Plan. It will enable the Trust, once the new centre is operational, to achieve the targets set in the NHS Plan and the NHS Cancer Plan, and those set by the National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE).

The Nightingale Centre and Genesis Prevention Centre are headed by Professor Tony Howell, the UK's first Professor of Cancer Prevention. The work of this internationally recognised team of experts includes:

- research into:
 - diet and lifestyle as triggers of the disease;
 - dietary prevention;
 - the faulty genes that can cause cancer;
 - cancer-prevention drugs;
 - pre-cancer changes;
 - related diseases such as ovary cancer;
- risk assessment for women worried about the disease;
- a Family History Clinic, so that affected families obtain the best support, care and advice;
- methods of early detection;
- training breast cancer specialists for the future.

