



KEY FACTS

Project:	Priority Assessment Unit
Client:	Ashford and St Peter's Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Delivery Partner:	Claritas Group
Architects:	BDP/P+HS Architects
Programme:	Less than 6 months on site
Size:	62-bed unit

A new Priority Assessment Unit to support increased demand

THE BRIEF

Ashford and St Peter's Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust had a requirement for a 62-bed Priority Assessment Unit at St Peter's Hospital in Chertsey to support the increased demand for emergency care.

THE OFFSITE SOLUTION

Premier was appointed main contractor for the £9.8m project, supported by strategic delivery partner Claritas Group.

Due for completion by summer 2021, this fast-track offsite building project will *reduce the programme by up to nine months* compared to in-situ construction. The speed of offsite manufacturing and fitting out will allow earlier occupation.

The project was procured through the Crown Commercial Service framework.

THE CHALLENGES

- Offsite construction will allow the development of a very constrained site. The new building will be located in a courtyard and close to the Emergency Department which will require careful logistical planning.
- The building solution has been engineered to maintain patient flows between the existing facilities and the new unit, with continuous level floors throughout.
- Premier is working to a short programme for this project to allow the Trust to meet an urgent need to expand capacity for emergency care. Construction and fitout work offsite will be maximised to radically reduce disruption to patient care and the time on site has been reduced to just over six months.





Images courtesy of BDP

THE FACILITY

The new, two-storey assessment unit will be linked to the Emergency Department and will accommodate 62 patient bays, nurse stations, staff rooms, seminar rooms, laundry, clean utilities and kitchenettes

The building will be fitted with medical gases, datacomms, security systems, CCTV, nurse call systems, and fully integrated with the main hospital.

Externally, the assessment unit will be finished in vertical rainscreen cladding in shades of grey and brickwork to complement adjacent buildings.

The building envelope has been designed to be highly thermally efficient to reduce running costs and carbon emissions, and the picture windows will have solar control glass and integral brise soleil sunshading. A building energy management system (BeMS) will optimise energy use.

“This project is an example of how striking and unique architectural design, that is also in keeping with its surroundings, can be successfully married with delivery via offsite construction, bringing many benefits including speed, quality and efficiency.”

Akshay Khera
Architecture Director, BDP

THE CUSTOMER PERSPECTIVE

“This project forms part of the Trust’s emergency pathway redevelopment programme, which is now underway, and responds to the urgent national need to increase capacity in emergency care.”

“Offsite construction means less time on site and therefore much less disruption to patient care, which is a priority for the Trust. The Premier solution met the technical constraints of this site, particularly to provide seamless connections at two levels to maintain patient flows between the existing Emergency Department. Premier has demonstrated the flexibility and design capabilities to engineer a bespoke solution for this challenging site, with all the speed, quality and value benefits of offsite construction. We look forward to the successful delivery of this much needed new unit.”

Andrew Grimes
Assistant Director of Property and Capital Development
NHS Trust