

6975 Royal Berkshire Hospital Planning Statement

This document is intended to accompany the Royal Berkshire NHS Trust (RBH NHS Trust) planning submission, to provide a replacement, compliant Air Handling Unit on the roof of the maternity block at Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading.

Project Proposal

The existing air handling unit on level 6 of the maternity block past due for refurbishment. The system is no longer HTM compliant, but the room the unit is stored in is surrounded by other rooms and corridors. A new compliant air handling system is larger than the available space. This means that the only available space is on the roof of the block which has other air handling equipment installed on it. This planning application is to proceed with the installation detailed in the drawing package and is supported by an acoustic report.

Existing use

The area proposed for the installation is an empty area of the maternity block roof that overlooks Craven Road. This building has existing ducting and equipment installed on it that is viewable from ground level. For this installation, the equipment will be surrounded by acoustic louvres that will hide the machinery and reduce the aesthetic impact of the proposal. An acoustic survey has been undertaken at ground level to assess the impact of the equipment on the surrounding area and found that the measures taken will be enough to make sure that no noise nuisance is created.

CIL Questions

As the proposal is for roof top ventilation equipment, we believe CIL would not be applicable.

Accessibility & Design

The equipment is not accessible to the public and only to Trust specialist maintenance staff. Due to the existing structure of the building a series of steels have been proposed to support the equipment and distribute the weight on to the building. A raised walkway around the equipment will be required but will allow the installation of acoustic louvres that will help with sound as well as provide a protective compound for anyone working on the equipment. A further handrail is also proposed as a backup safety system. All proposals are designed to current relevant Health Technical Memorandums and Health Building Note guidelines.

Daylight or Sunlight Assessment

The proposal would have no adverse impact on the existing amount of window glazing or impede existing access to daylight. We therefore believe that, due to the size and the scope of works, a daylight/sunlight assessment is not applicable.

Noise Impact Assessment

A noise impact assessment has been undertaken and is included with this submission.

Landscaping

As the proposal would have no impact upon the existing landscaping, a landscape design is, therefore, not applicable.