

15092- Design & Access Statement

Description of Development

The proposal is to construct a new recreation/sports hall and essential link corridor between the existing Hazelwood & Campion buildings, at Prospect Park Hospital. The areas can be seen highlighted on drawing 15092_F_P003 with critical dimensions and internally detailed on drawing 15092_F_P004.

Purpose of the Build

There are plans in the near future to have Hazelwood and Campion buildings vacated as part of the improvement of mental health services. It has been identified that the Tier 4 CAMHS (children & adolescent mental health service) is a suitable alternative to occupy the area as their current premises is unsuitable for a modern level of care and lacks the support from other teams in its current location at Wokingham Hospital.

In order to achieve a high level of safety & security for the patients, the public and staff, it is essential that a new link corridor is constructed to connect Hazelwood and Campion buildings. Hazelwood will be refurbished to improve a suite of bedrooms with en-suites to the 1st floor, with living accommodation on the ground floor. Campion will be fitted out as class rooms and a therapy suite on the ground floor and catering for both inpatients & outpatients. On the first floor there will offices that support the service and a flat for visiting families.

The link corridor will also serve to attach a proposed sports hall. This area will serve to greatly improve the activities and welfare learning that the staff can offer to their patients. Its size is to be of a community badminton court (including run off areas) which has been positioned to avoid any impact to the surrounding TPO trees, taking advantage of the shielding of the banking and creating a large enough space for most suitable physical activity for the young people.

Site Context

The current existing site is an area of banked grassland on the Northeast side of the hospital, directly adjacent to Campion and Hazelwood buildings. The proposed buildings will be almost entirely screened from the residential road (Honey End Lane) this is further enhanced by the use of a living roof.

Involvement

The works involved will include excavating the bank to accommodate the sports hall. It is proposed that once a retaining wall has been built, the soil will be pushed back up to improve thermal loss and to assist in blending the building to its surroundings. The sports hall has been designed so that its appearance from highest point of the bank is minimal with a maximum elevation of 2m from the top of the bank. The works will also include the construction of a single storey link corridor that will also accommodate a designated WC and a store.

Materials

The materials chosen for the project are specifically designed to complement both the surrounding buildings and the surrounding landscape. Their colour and texture is as such that the building will appear sunk into the existing bank to minimise the visual impact to the local residents. The materials chosen are as follows:

Cladding: RockPanel (woods range) in Oak colour. These long panels are orientated vertically to softly simulate the surrounding oak tree trunks and to ensure that the colour harmonises with the trunks colour palette.

Fascias: These are chosen to be a granite grey colour in order to highlight the roof for aesthetic purposes and to reduce the trip hazard when standing on the bank.

Sports Hall Roof: Shallow depth green roof with low maintenance grasses in order to assist it's inconspicuously by blending into the bank.

Link Corridor Roof: Grey slate effect tiles (to match the existing buildings).

Link Corridor Walls: Red/pink common brickwork (to match to the existing buildings).

Effecting the rest of the site

There will be very minimal or no impact on the other parts of the hospital.

Conclusion

The proposed construction has been designed to minimise the visual impact on the surrounding residents and incorporated technologies to create a naturally thermal and noise resistant building. The link corridor is an essential part of the proposed CAMHS service that will be occupying the building as it serves as a safe and secure passage for patients from their accommodation block to their learning, recreational and therapy spaces.