

Feasibility Study Project

Description

- ◆ The Cedars is an acute mental health unit located at the Royal Devon and Exeter site in Exeter providing psychiatric inpatient care for men and women with mental health issues
- ◆ The project involved reconfiguration and refurbishment of the two Seclusion Suites to provide secure, safe and HBN compliant facilities including a De-escalation Lounge with en-suite WC and shower, a Seclusion Room with en-suite WC and shower and a secure lobby for staff.

Involvement

- ◆ SDS were appointed to review the feasibility of the proposed works
- ◆ Due to budget constraints, SDS also reviewed various ways in which the works could be phased and how this impacted on potential project time scales and budget
- ◆ Incorporated sophisticated systems including staff attack, door alarms and related technologies, such as security design to enhance security with CCTV cameras protecting the perimeter and key entry positions, with access control system to secure areas
- ◆ Hot and cold water supplies to refurbished welfare facilities
- ◆ Out of hours building and property protection through the use of automatic intruder detection and alarm systems.

Benefits Delivered

- ◆ The feasibility delivered new seclusion rooms with updated services to reflect HTM guidance including comfort cooling and fully anti ligature fittings and services
- ◆ Pro-active advice on the engineering requirements of the Health Technical Memorandum and Health Building Notes
- ◆ Greater office space including improved air quality delivered through the use of demand controlled heat recovery ventilation
- ◆ Efficient MEP systems and controls that offer reliability and ease of maintenance.



'Dedicated mental health unit run by Devon Partnership NHS Trust providing assessment and treatment for both men and women'



Seclusion Rooms Project

Description

- ◆ The project involved altering the existing wings to accommodate new office facilities, Seclusion Rooms, Extra Care Area and a Place of Safety
- ◆ The works also included refurbishment of existing kitchen and staff welfare facilities.

Involvement

- ◆ SDS were appointed to design HTM - compliant ventilation, heating, domestic services and electrical systems
- ◆ The electrical systems include new lighting, CCTV, spider alarm system and aspirating fire alarm detectors
- ◆ All building services were specified as anti - ligature
- ◆ SDS are currently engaged in post contract services, carrying out regular inspections leading up to handover of the first phase and reviewing commissioning documentation
- ◆ Providing a fully co-ordinated scheme design.

Benefits Delivered

- ◆ The project will deliver a comfortable environment for patients, with air source heat pumps for heating and cooling for rapid response and thermal comfort
- ◆ The inefficient and noisy ventilation systems have been replaced with heat recovery units to reduce running costs and provide a constant source of fresh air, essential in the areas with sealed windows
- ◆ All accessories are anti-ligature providing a safe environment for patients
- ◆ New lighting and AV systems provide greater opportunities for staff to control the audio-visual environment, an essential part of the de-escalation process
- ◆ Involved with engaging users in the system design process and route to achieve sign off from Authorising Engineers including fire, ventilation and electrical.