



NEWS RELEASE

28th October 2010

New £46 million mental healthcare facility takes shape

GB Building Solutions has completed the construction of William Wake House, a £46 million residential mental healthcare facility, for national charity St Andrew's Healthcare.

The Northampton-based development, thought to be the largest classically-designed new build in the UK for half a century, is based at the charity's Northampton campus.

William Wake House provides 132 en-suite bedrooms within eight rehabilitation and recovery wards. The centre is set to house some of St Andrew's most specialist services to date - including services for Deaf people, culturally-sensitive support for African-Caribbean men and transitional care for young adults as well as supporting men with mental health needs, learning disabilities, Aspergers and acquired brain injuries.

The external facade, designed by Robert Adam Architects, is in a classical style and required over 6,950 tonnes of stone to complete. The essential building layout and internal design was then further developed by Oxford Architects.

Beneath the classical exterior, there is a state-of-the-art, well-equipped healthcare facility. Apart from the latest ward environments, the building offers a wealth of extras including light and heavy industry workshops, a hairdressing salon, education suite, kitchens, swimming pool, sports hall and range of therapy rooms.

The scheme also incorporates a range of sustainable features which will also minimise environmental impact and future running costs; these include a Biomass Boiler, CHP plant and grey water recycling.

William Wake House was completed four weeks prior to practical completion. The scale of the development is clear from the statistics generated, including: 2,370 people inducted throughout the construction period; 116 separate subcontractors; 1,369 tonnes of steel; 4,500 light fittings ; 3,561m³ of waste removed from site, with 97 per cent being recycled; 7,051 design drawings and 3,517 keys issued.



Martin Smout, chairman and chief executive of GB Building Solutions says, “GB has built numerous facilities for St Andrew’s Healthcare over the past five years, but this one really is in a class of its own in terms of scale and the healthcare services provided. We are extremely proud to have been involved in the development of this remarkable building.”

Mark Johnston-Wood, estates director for St Andrew’s, said: “William Wake House is an important part of our charity’s growth plans. It’s all about meeting specialist needs and offering tailored treatment in a modern, high-quality environment.

“The quality of development has already attracted numerous positive comments from local communities and is an attractive new addition to Northampton. We look forward to working alongside NHS partners to provide vitally-important services to patients in the months and years ahead.”

The development was completed in October 2010.

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Notes for Editors

GB Building Solutions is a solutions-focused construction company which believes in adding value and delivering on the promises it makes to its customers. GB Building Solutions has five offices based throughout England and undertakes a range of new build and refurbishment projects in both the public and private sectors. It specialises in five sectors:

- ❖ Healthcare
- ❖ Commercial
- ❖ Education
- ❖ Hotels and leisure
- ❖ Residential.

St Andrew’s Healthcare is the UK’s leading specialist mental healthcare charity. Founded more than 170 years ago, the charity now manages facilities in Northampton, Birmingham, Essex and Nottinghamshire.

St Andrew’s provides both specialist national care and regional services where people need to be close to their communities. The charity’s strong reputation is founded on high-quality, diverse assessment, treatment and rehabilitation programmes for people with mental disorders, learning disabilities and brain injury.