

The Osborne logo is a magenta circle containing the word "OSBORNE" in white, uppercase, sans-serif font.

OSBORNE

Design and Build – Chamberlain Halls Southampton

Property Week
Student
Accommodation
Awards 2016

FINALIST

LOCATION

Southampton

PROJECT

Chamberlain Halls

BEDROOMS

356

CLIENT

University of Southampton

YEAR

2016



Need

Like many universities, Southampton had aging student accommodation which was failing to meet the changing needs of students. It also presented an increasing maintenance and environmental burden.

The university planned a £36m investment to replace the 1950's building with the new 356 bed Chamberlain Halls. It was part of the University's wider programme of upgrading student facilities and reducing the pressure on the local residential letting market.

With planning in place, the university expected quality and a student space which sat naturally within the existing 2200 bed Glen Eyre Complex. They also needed the Glen Eyre facility to remain operationally 'live' throughout delivery.

Solution

Design

The contemporary design was sympathetic to the campus location with

356 premium en-suite bedrooms clustered in flats within 5 blocks. The student experience was central to the concept with modern shared kitchens, common rooms, and a range of study space.

Architecturally, the striking larch timber façade and zinc cladding on the roof and walls blended with the surrounding environment. Additional facilities included a laundry and cycle storage.

Transport links were a consideration, with a new on-site bus interchange for the University's Uni-link bus service improving traffic flow along local roads.

Build

Safety, noise and disruption had to be controlled in this sensitive location to safeguard students and the University's good community relationships. The site team planned and executed a range of measures to reduce impacts.

Their success was recognised with an exceptional 45/50 by the Considerate Constructors Scheme who felt that the site *"was a talisman for best practice, and the efforts of the site management personnel and all those associated with the project are to be applauded."*

Outcome

Chamberlain Halls is a quality addition to the University of Southampton's student accommodation portfolio. As with all developments the new facility was handed over on time and welcomed its first cohort of students in September 2016.

Extremely well received by both the University and the students, the hall achieved 100% occupancy in its first year.

The success followed on from the 1100 bed Mayflower Halls in Southampton which Osborne designed, built and funded in the first arrangement of its kind for the university.

"We have maintained a focus on quality throughout the design and delivery of Chamberlain Hall, the goal always being to create a space that students will enjoy living in and that will enhance their university experience." **Professor Alex Neill - University's Vice President for Education**