

UK Specification shapes up leisure centre redevelopment

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Flitwick leisure centre is a multi-million pound development required to service the needs of the growing local community.

The access and flow requirements of the public building needed to be fully considered during the design phase and a total solution was required for internal and external doorsets.



Companies

B3 Architects and Central Bedfordshire Council

Segment: Leisure

Property type: Leisure Centre

Location: Flitwick, Bedfordshire

Challenge

The contemporary development, which includes a 25m swimming pool, a four-court sports hall, an indoor climbing wall and a health and fitness suite, has been built next to the old centre, meaning aesthetics had to be carefully considered to balance the modern facilities with its historic setting.

"The old leisure centre remained open during the redevelopment next door, so collaboration across all parties was crucial to the client. With so many areas to the building, each with different uses, the team had to carefully think through how the flow of traffic would work within the requirements of each space."

Solution

Maintaining a close relationship with the architects to understand their aesthetic vision and the building's design intent, the team wrote a specification that included a suite of finishes to compliment the development's visual appeal.

By taking a design-led and simplified approach to specification, ASSA ABLOY UK Specification assisted the architects and contractors in all areas of the development, including scheduling, which often requires in-depth levels of expertise to get right.

In addition, the data provided assisted with whole life costing and certifying the sustainability credentials of a building, as well as the on-going management. All stages of a visitor's journey through the building were considered throughout the project.

"By taking a design-led and simplified approach to specification, we're able to assist architects and contractors in all areas of the development, particularly the areas that they can find burdensome, such as scheduling, which often requires in-depth levels of expertise to get right."

*David Shields,
Specification Development Manager
at ASSA ABLOY UK Specification*

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