

Category:
Non Residential
(over £250k)

CLIENT:

The Office for Health & Social Care
 Corporate Headquarters,
 Le Vauquiedor, St. Andrews
 Guernsey GY6 8TW

ARCHITECTS:

Andrew Street
IBI Group
 Morgan Arcade,
 105-106 Creative Quarter,
 Cardiff CF10 1AF

CONTRACTOR:

Mark Farey
Harbour View Construction Ltd.

The Oberlands Mental Health and Wellbeing Centre



The Oberland's Mental Health and Wellbeing Centre is the new home for mental health services for the people of Guernsey. The brief was for a building that; brought the disparate service under one roof, de-stigmatised mental health, reduced violence and aggression, was flexible for the Island's demands and promoted wellbeing through a therapeutic environment.

The move to treat mental health as an equal to acute health on one campus at the PEH has truly made a giant step towards de-stigmatising the service. Inpatient areas are located on the private part of the site with therapeutic courtyards connecting the service user to the wider rural landscape. Outpatient functions are located to engage with the public face of the campus. The co-location improves operational efficiencies in transport, catering and estates maintenance.

The design is flexible allowing boundaries within the service to respond to change. Clusters of inpatient beds are positioned around a social hub and can be altered to respond to demand. The flexible layout and standardised bedroom future-proofs the service to respond to the Island's varied needs. Feedback in use has identified a positive impact on the number of violent and aggressive incidents within inpatient areas.

Stakeholders identified the need for a 'heart' space that would unite the service. The open plan entrance provides a community hub from which way finding is simplified and enhanced by service user art. The café within the space employs service users as part of their rehabilitation and has resulted in employment opportunities in the community.

Sensitive re-modelling of the existing Georgian villa and its incorporation into the development has ensured parity for the CAMHS service whilst establishing its own distinct identity and front door.

