Overall exterior

Waiting area

ACCOMMODATION SCHEDULE
- BEXLEY PCT
- SIGNPOST
- C.A.B.
- QUEEN MARY'S NHS
- G.P.'S
- OXLEAS NHS TRUST
- DENTISTRY (GREENWICH PCT)
- ENTRANCE/WAITING/RECEPTION
- SHARED G.P.'S & BEXLEY PCT
- COMMON AREAS AND CIRCULATION

Erith Health Centre
Kent

The practice was invited by Oxleas NHS Trust and Bexley and Greenwich Health Authority to carry out a site option appraisal for new healthcare premises which would deliver enhanced service provision in the most deprived area of Bexley, Kent.

The new primary healthcare premises on the site of the existing health centre will deliver an integrated provision across the locality along with social and voluntary services.

The health centre has been designed as a landmark building reinforcing pedestrian links between the town centre and river front.

The building was constructed in two phases over two years, allowing the services from the existing health centre to be decanted into the first phase 3-storey block. Following completion of the phase one building at the end of 2002 the existing health centre was demolished, making way for the second phase of construction. The project was completed in November 2003, and provides 1950m² accommodation.

Eight user groups accommodate the new premises which include three GP practices, four NHS Trusts and the Citizen Advice Bureau.

The £3.2 million scheme, which also benefits from City Challenge funding, includes new public conveniences for Bexley Council.

The main waiting room has a landscaped courtyard aspect. The interior layout has been designed to allow for flexible working patterns and relationships between user groups with adaptable room allocation and use. A 'plug in' philosophy for IT and services allows flexibility to meet future delivery of healthcare. To avoid an institutional feel, circulation spaces are enhanced with natural light and thought has been given to signage, artificial lighting and materials. Contemporary colour schemes reinforce the material specification with careful consideration to satisfy design criteria for the partially sighted.

Contractor: Rydon Construction
Structural Engineer: John Allen Associates
Services Engineer: Norman Bromley
Quantity Surveyor: Turner and Townsend

a l e x a n d e r : s e d g l e y