

BUILDING SUCCESS

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Pictured left to right: Henri Ramnuth, Jhonny Mancero, Margaret Harris, Simon Corben, Nancy Silva



We were delighted to host a visit from Simon Corben, Director and Head of Profession, NHS Estates and Facilities at NHSEI, Sue Hardy Regional Estates Delivery Director - London and Nancy Silva, Regional Estates Delivery Director - London NHSEI to the Trust.

The visit was part of a national road show to say thank you to the wider estates and facilities teams for all the hard work and effort put in during our collective response to the pandemic. Due to social distancing and IP&C guidelines only a small number of our teams were able to attend. Both throughout the tour of the Royal Free and the subsequent meet and greet, Simon and team were extremely impressed and grateful in how we responded to the pandemic.

Introduction to the third edition of the RFLPS Newsletter

Brian Pratt

Director of Capital



WELCOME

A very warm welcome to this, the third edition of the RFLPS newsletter, Building Success. By the time this edition goes to print, we will be aware of the latest Governmental plans for the easing of local and national lockdown restrictions.

What these will be remains, thankfully, in the hands of others to decide. Whatever this latest phase of easing brings in terms of newly returned freedoms, we must remain as vigilant as we have been throughout with our fundamental basics of mask wearing, social distancing within the Trust premises and basic IP&C measures. The vaccine remains the single biggest weapon in the armoury to defeat Covid-19 and I would urge you all to get jabbed as soon as you can. If you have concerns on any grounds regarding the vaccine, then please do review the information available on Freenet and speak to your Line Manager as appropriate. The vaccine is safe, effective and will keep you and your community safe.

Whilst only three editions in now, the one thing that continues to resonate with me in these introductions is the immense sense of pride that our teams continue to instil in us all in going about our daily work in such extraordinary circumstances. Having only joined the world of healthcare less than 2 years ago, I can honestly say that I have never, in my previous 20+ years of professional experience, worked with

such an amazing team as we have here at the Royal Free London Trust (nor have I had to learn as quickly as I have!). What is delivered day in, day out, continues to astound; and to throw the challenges of operational, maintenance and build factors into the toughest time the NHS has ever had, is testament to you all that we continue to perform as we do. I hope you enjoy reading this 3rd edition of Building Success.

Pictured left to right: Cristina Codoban – Team Leader Pears Building, Harry Stevens – Dining room porter, Abdul Hassan – Team Leader – security, Joy Harrison – Facilities administrator, Emma Tarpey – Clinical manual Handling advisor





EPIC NEW WARD OPENS AT RFH

A new purpose built 20-bed enhanced postoperative integrated care (EPIC) unit is now open at the Royal Free Hospital.

Clinical and design teams have worked closely together to expand the existing surgical high dependency unit (HDU) and transform the former day surgery and surgical admissions area on the third floor to form a completely new ward, featuring state of the art equipment.

The purpose of the EPIC unit is to provide a dedicated 24/7 facility for enhanced immediate postoperative care for adult patients undergoing major surgery at the Royal Free Hospital.

The unit comprises of multiple clinical areas including a post anaesthesia care unit (PACU) and additional surgical HDU and ICU facilities.

In addition, new public toilets, staff changing rooms, a relatives' room, interview room and an AV enabled multi-disciplinary seminar and training room have been provided. The seminar and training room's versatility is further enhanced by a medical gas provision for training and an acoustic dividing wall to permit 2 events simultaneously. The new wards make use of extensive glazed partitions and glazed sliding

doors, installed between bed bays and to surround individual rooms, to support efficiency.

The programme of works, led by the capital projects team in Royal Free London Property Services, have required intense collaboration in complex circumstances, given the challenges posed by COVID-19 restrictions. The project commenced in the Summer of 2020, starting on site with demolition in September. Parallel design work continuing to meet the tight timetable, with the brief adapting, through regular engagement with clinical colleagues throughout the project to accommodate emerging new ways of working. The team have worked hard to keep the programme on track, whilst also ensuring compliance with infection, prevention and control measures. All existing services were stripped out, and new and enhanced services installed as well as significant steel supporting structure for bed pendants and hoists to all beds. The logistics of this tested the team with the need for out of hours working in an extremely busy hospital environment and frequent re-sequencing to accommodate

the impact of COVID -19 compliance on resource availability.

Weekly meetings with the clinical team and hospital support services as well as with the full design team and main contractor took place throughout the project and this collaborative working enabled upgraded beds to be delivered for the surgical high dependency unit in December. The eight updated bed spaces were quickly adapted further to treat COVID patients during the second surge. The team swiftly enhanced procedures to support the design and construction team on site working adjacent to this. The remaining beds and facilities were made available in April 2021. The success of this project was due to exceptional close collaboration and flexibility by all parties involved.



TO PROVIDE A DEDICATED 24/7 FACILITY FOR ENHANCED IMMEDIATE POSTOPERATIVE CARE FOR ADULT PATIENTS UNDERGOING MAJOR SURGERY



WEST HERTFORDSHIRE HOSPITALS NHS TRUST UPDATE

In October 2019 Royal Free London Property Services were commissioned by West Hertfordshire NHS Trust to help them deliver their Acute Hospital Redevelopment programme as part of the national Health Infrastructure Plan (HIP).

This programme will transform clinical services across Hertfordshire, providing real improvements across the estate. The RFLPS team are currently providing a Project Management Office (PMO), Estate expertise and leadership, Healthcare Planning capability and ownership of the Outline Business Case (OBC), to help the Trust develop a truly excellent clinical facility for their local population and wider healthcare landscape. Since we started, we have helped build a team and develop a plan to take the project from an idea, into reality. This has included helping the Trust deliver a preferred option for where to build the hospital. We are now driving critical conversations concerning the size, shape and functionality of the facility itself. We have between one and two years remaining

of designing and financing the build, depending on the national picture, as well as establishing several key enabling projects to prepare the site in Central Watford for development. Once these elements are complete, construction on the new hospital can commence with the aim of being materially complete during 2025.

Working with West Herts through this commission is allowing RFLPS to develop our Consultancy offer. We have a strong, multi-disciplinary team made up of experienced Estates, Construction and Transformation personnel. The team is growing and it is our ambition to continue to support the national initiative to improve Health Infrastructure via the New Hospital Programme in several different ways. Through these continually emerging opportunities, we aim to offer experience to individuals across RFLPS who are interested in growing their CV's and being part of a team that are constructing the future landscape of British health care.

Staff Experience & Vaccinations

All staff are eligible to be vaccinated against COVID-19. The vaccine is safe, effective and will help keep all of us safe.

All RFL staff can book an appointment using the national booking service and all they need to do is show proof of employment as a health worker (irrespective of the role or position within the trust).

The vaccination is not mandatory and if you prefer not to get vaccinated at this present time all we require is for you to let us know so we can amend our records which can be found on the Freeten page.

Confidential one-to-one conversations

If you have a question about the COVID-19 vaccine and would prefer to speak to someone privately, you can now book a 10 minute session with a member of the executive team, one of our chaplains or a vaccine influencer. To arrange a conversation, please email rf-tr.hrbpadmin@nhs.net with a selection of different dates and times.

Focus on Mark Wardle

Mark began on the 17 July 1989 on a student placement at the Whittington Hall Hospital in Chesterfield for 4 weeks before commencing at the Royal Free Hospital on 7 August 1989.

Mark originated from Nottingham and became the first Computer Support Assistant in the Works Department (which became Estates) whose role was to compile a Computerised Asset Register in order to perform Capital Charges as the hospital applied for Trust status, using (WIMS) Works Information Management System. Later applying for the Computer & Information Officer post in 20 October 1989. He has

continued to support the Department's Network & IT function to the RFL PS Group; Estates, Capital, Facilities, Chase Farm and Barnet and all Satellite locations for the Trust, as well as The Whittington Hospital, and continues to do so today.

Supporting and developing PlanetFM, BMS backbone network, Time and Attendance, Door Access, Lift Monitoring and Microsoft Office as well as many other systems (to talk about).

Has a new Assistant – Georgi Tasev who recently qualified with a degree in Cyber Security.

Mark hopes to continue maintaining and developing systems for the directorate and looks forward to expanding skills and methodologies. Mark is an avid motor sport fan in all it's forms but especially formula 1

and its history. He enjoys spending time with his family, days out, films and restaurants and loves Science Fiction, programs about the history of technology and listening to music.

As Covid began Mark was isolating as a precaution, since then he works from home 3 days and on site for 2 due to transport links initially being cancelled then reintroduced with a limited service. Mark has had his first Covid job!

On the lighting I did the network hardware procurement, not the light controls, and I've liaised with contractors designing route for cabling along with George.



Developing our staff

The trust is currently working on a Staff Health and Wellbeing Strategy and has asked teams for their input. Listening sessions were held with the staff experience team to engage teams and gather responses. One of the common themes related to career development opportunities and its importance to staff wellbeing, feeling valued and how the Trust can help to improve access. Furthermore the staff survey results also demonstrated a need to focus on enabling individuals to fulfil their potential in the workplace.

We have just put together a career development pathway individually tailored to each of the main staff groups within facilities – domestics, porters and catering. These cater for staff at all levels and provide a framework for learning progression within computer skills, English and Maths functional skills and enable team member's access to apprenticeships.

The initial cohort has been an outstanding success with a significant level of interest. If you would like to access these opportunities in the future we'll be launching more information sessions in due course. Keep an eye out for posters in your local areas or speak to your line manager.

Decon Unit goes Electric

From May 2021, the Decon business in Chalkmill Drive, Enfield are investing in new electric vehicles to pick up & deliver instruments and scopes to all RFL sites. Our first van arrived on 3/5/21 and was immediately put into service. Great feedback from our hard working drivers thus far.

Electric vans produce zero tailpipe emissions. This makes them ideal for improving air quality, especially in urban areas, and reducing harmful CO2 and NOx emissions. The trust can save money on their annual fuel expenditure by moving to sustainable vehicles.



In this case, "Greener is not only Cleaner but Cheaper".

Chalkmill Drive has 14 charging points that can be used for charging during the day. This is just the start of our Electric Journey.

The Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme – Salix fund

The Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme has given NHS trusts in England a major opportunity to decarbonise public sector non-domestic buildings by installing new technology.

The £1bn scheme run by Salix has provided grants of up to 100% of the cost of capital projects designed to decarbonise public buildings.

The purpose of the scheme is to help make eligible buildings more energy-efficient and install low carbon heating systems like heat pumps, heating controls, glazing and insulation and low energy lighting.

RFL PS approved the proposed plan to be submitted for the grant scheme and on 24th February 2021, RFL Property Services successfully obtained approval of £1m grant from the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy to fund a plan for the Royal Free Hospital site.

This plan is the first stage in fully transforming the Royal Free Hospital into a smart building from light control (current phase) and air conditioning - at a later stage.

The fund approval was conditional on design, procurement, planning and delivery of the various work-streams in just 34 days - RFL Property Services, Trust teams led by the Estates Department and specialist subcontractors pulled out all the stops to secure the funding and deliver the project.

Phase 1 achievements:-

- 15000m length of CAT6 Ethernet cables to build the new proposed network
- 7500m length of cables of new power and control circuits
- 980 new LED fittings included as part of phase1 this scheme distributed within all main corridors
- 15488 total number of various light fitting the network is capable to remotely manage
- 242 new light controller
- 122 new power circuits
- 146 new network switches
- 122 new network CCTV cameras
- 244 electrical smart meters
- 1 modern firewall security switch to protect the entire network from external threats
- 48 new speed control inverter for air handling units

This project delivers 2,089,447 KW/hr savings on electricity which equates to an annual CO2 emission reduction of 205 tonnes. The project pays for itself in energy savings in just over 5 years.

The successful delivery of this project form part of RFL Property Services and the Trust's commitment to meeting the government target to reach NHS net-zero carbon emissions by 2030.

Work continues, in parallel, to switch our energy supplies to 100% renewable energy sources, with contracts already in place for some of our smaller sites. Look out for more updates in later issues.



We hope you have enjoyed reading this newsletter. If you have any stories you would like to share or comments about the Newsletter please email Sharon Sullivan at sharon.sullivan1@nhs.net.