

Project 11

Ulster Hospital Maternity Unit

Client:

South & East Belfast Health & Social Services Trust

Architects:

Todd Architects
Watkins Gray
Ann Noble Architects

Estimated Contract Value:

£8.5m

Period of Involvement:

Ongoing

The project started as a proposal to extend the existing Maternity block to incorporate a new midwife-led birthing unit. Feasibility studies and option appraisals looked at the costs of remodelling the existing unit to accommodate the new extension, the adequacy of key links with the related hospital and support services, and the quality of the refurbished building. The appraisals showed that a completely new Maternity Unit would offer the best value solution. This led to a redefinition of the brief, including the schedule of accommodation, and the key planning and design relationships. These were then translated into detailed designs, which were reviewed with clinical staff, managers, infection control officers and providers of the support facilities.

Our experience of maternity unit design enabled us to lead on the formulation and development of operational policies and the brief. We assisted with the planning of the building, and ensured that the proposals fitted with the whole hospital operational policies.

