



Additional Support Needs (ASN) residential home at Muirend Road, Perth

Project Brief

Perth and Kinross Council wanted to provide an Additional Support Needs Residential Home in Perth to provide accommodation for young people between the ages of three and eighteen years old. Changes in the Care Commission standards meant that it was decided that a new build facility would be more cost effective than the conversion of an existing property.

The aim of the clients was to provide accommodation which would comprise a safe, secure and welcoming environment, and because of the residential nature of the building, low long-term running costs were a priority, as was the longevity of the technology and reduced future maintenance costs.

The original design was for a 590m² facility consisting of seven en-suite bedrooms, along with dining and sitting rooms, kitchen, staff rooms and laundry and medical facilities on a single floor. The building was to have a relatively traditional look in order to reflect the domestic architecture of the surrounding area.

Project Type/Application

SIPs Industries was asked to provide SIPs panels to comprise the full thermal envelope of the building, including the walls, roof and floor, along with internal structural and stud walls.

The residence was in an area of primarily domestic dwellings, the planners stipulated that the finished residence was to have a fairly traditional look in order to reflect the domestic architecture of the surrounding area; SIPs Industries panels allowed the clients to achieve high levels of insulation, while at the same time providing the flexibility to achieve the look required by the planners.



Outcome/Result/Success Factors

Before construction began, the clients stipulated that the completed building must achieve an air pressure test score of 7 air changes per hour (ACH); the unfinished building achieved an air pressure test score of 2.58 ACH.

The build took place during the harsh winter of 2009/10. The external heat sensors on the North and South sides of the building registered a temperature range of 27°C, from -14°C to +14°C; once the SIPs kit was up and before heating had been installed, heat sensors in five different areas of the building registered a constant temperature of between 12°C and 14°C. This was before the windows and doors had been installed, and the openings had been covered over with unsealed boards.

The original design had been for a single storey building; by using SIPs Industries panels, the clients gained an upstairs room in the roof space which they are able to use as a play room and chill out space. The downstairs living area has also benefited from using SIPs technology, as they have created a light, airy, inviting room, with high ceilings and lots of light and space.



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