

Willmott Dixon Group



Founded in 1852, privately-owned contracting and interior fit-out group Willmott Dixon is dedicated to leaving a positive legacy in our communities and environment. We create value for customers, stakeholders and communities by working in a sustainable and responsible way to shape the built environment and make a positive impact to society's wellbeing.

Considerate Constructors Scheme



As a founding partner of the Considerate Constructors Scheme (CCS) in 1997, all Willmott Dixon sites are registered with the CCS. The scheme influences the way we design our strategy of work and we are committed to working to the higher code of conduct.



PROJECT INSIGHT

Dorset County Hospital Multi-storey Car Park

Welcome to the third edition of our project newsletter which aims to keep you informed about our plans and progress towards the delivery of Dorset County Hospital's new multi-storey car park.

Key team



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Find out more

For more information about the hospital's development plans visit www.dchft.nhs.uk/about-us/site-development

What has happened?

Since the last update, works on site have progressed substantially. The installation of 150+ pile foundations has concluded and was followed by the placement of ground beams and pile-caps, which together provide the foundations arrangement.

The 750,000 litre capacity attenuation tank is complete, a key milestone as it occupies a significant footprint of the site. Once covered by 'backfilling' around and above the tank, the groundworks stage will be in its final phase. The start of September will see the commencement Huber Car Park Systems, who will be undertaking the installation of the steel frame, stair and lift cores, as well as the façade panels and mechanical and electrical fit-out.

The pile-caps, consisting of reinforced concrete, are used to house the holding down bolts which provide the direct connection between the steel frame structure and the foundations below. The steel reinforced concrete 'connects' a cluster of two or three

pile foundations together in order to provide a solid footing to transfer the load from the steel frame of the car park directly into the foundations below and subsequently into the surrounding ground.

Ground beams have been progressing concurrently with the pile caps - similarly to pile caps this element of works consists of steel reinforced concrete and are primarily used to connect the pile caps together, providing lateral strength while also adding a base for the retaining walls which form part of the car park system.

Energy provider Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE) have continued the excavation and installation of cables that will form the link between the car park and the hospital, as well as the high and low voltage electrical supply.

Finally, initial soft landscaping has begun with planting of shrubs and trees taking place at both the main entrance off Williams Avenue, and the Children's Centre car park.

What happens next?

Over the next few months, groundworks will have completed which sees the arrival of Huber Car Park Systems. The first activity is the erection of the precast stair cores, of which there are two.

The stair cores are manufactured off-site in precast sections. These are then transported to site where they are lifted into position with a crane and joined together to form the finished core. The precast sections are manufactured off site to reduce installation time on site and provide more consistency in the manufacturing process as they are produced in a factory environment under controlled conditions.

The next element of the superstructure to be installed is the steel frame, the key component in supporting and distributing the weight imposed by the car park and vehicles into the foundations and the ground below. Similar to the stair cores, the steel frame sections will be delivered to site in a pre-determined sequence and erected with the use of cranes and operatives working from mobile platforms. Once two thirds of the frame has been completed, works will commence on forming

the floor slabs. These consist of a metal decking which spans the distance between the steel beams to allow steel reinforcement and concrete to be poured, thus forming the slab, which once cured will have the waterproofing and line painting to provide the finished car park surface

With all the structural elements complete, the 'fit-out' phase of works will proceed, including the perforated artwork façade which will include pictures of Corfe Castle, Durdle Door and Portland Bill Lighthouse, as chosen by the local community. Electrical installation including EV charging points, fire alarm systems and lift systems will conclude the fit-out stage.

As the erection of the steel frame progresses it is possible that there will be a temporary increase in noise due to the nature of the equipment used for the connections. This potential noise would be intermittent and would only take place during the hours of work prescribed by planning permission. Should you have any concerns please contact us directly.

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT REFURBISHMENT

Work has just begun on the refurbishment of the Emergency Department facilities at the hospital, with three phases progressively planned to minimise disruption to patients and staff, and the final phase due to hand over in summer 2022.

We will be working in a live hospital environment including remodelling the resuscitation area, minor and major injury units, staff area which will include a section of new-built extension in the existing courtyard, as well as a new-build extension outside, adjacent to the helipad.

Look out for future newsletters detailing the refurbishment works to the Emergency Department.

