

NATSON BATTY
ARCHITECTS



2021 - 2022
FUTURE **BUILT**

Specialist Living



A nationally recognised, future-focused practice offering award-winning, cross-sector building design services.

We are Watson Batty Architects

With studios in Leeds and Loughborough, Watson Batty Architects has more than 45 years' experience creating many types of buildings across a diverse range of sectors.

We undertake projects throughout the UK, ranging from commercial refurbishments to multi-million-pound new-build projects and ground-breaking regeneration schemes. Our cross-sector experience includes the areas of Learning, Retail, Commercial, Living, Regeneration, Industrial, Sport & Leisure, Transport and Faith-related projects.

Our core architecture business is supported by specialist in-house services, including Masterplanning, Access Consulting, Listed Building Advice, Graphics & Visualisation, Party Wall Surveying, Health & Safety Management, Principal Designer, Interiors, and Project Management.

Today, our team comprises over 30 architects, interior designers, technicians and masterplanners. Our management structure consists of four Directors, supported by two Regional Directors, an Associate Director and three Associates who manage each sector, lead the design teams and monitor staff resource.

With a strong and respected brand, a financially robust business, a healthy project pipeline, and a strategy to invest in exceptional talent, we are a company that is built for the future.

Our Approach



Peter White
Managing Director

Putting our clients first

Reliable, professional and knowledgeable, Watson Batty Architects are a trusted design practice because we take time to understand our clients and their specific needs. Our motivation as designers is to interpret and articulate the client's vision, turn it into outstanding architecture and add value at every opportunity.

Creating places for people

Whatever purpose a building may serve and within whatever sector it falls, our ethos is to place users at the heart of the design process and create the very best environments that nurture and inspire.

Responding to the Climate Crisis

Sustainability sits at the very heart of everything we do; it is an integral part of good architecture, not a concept to be bolted on at the end. With over 40% of the UK's carbon footprint attributed to the built environment, we recognise our responsibility to help reduce the causes of our climate emergency.

Championing change and innovation

The building industry is progressing fast, and we're moving with it. We're embracing Modern Methods of Construction, which use offsite building techniques and digital technologies to minimise site construction, reduce waste and energy, and increase project efficiency. And we utilise the latest Building Information Modelling technology, enabling us to lessen cost and risk by sharing information about design, construction and operation in a virtual form.

Employing the best talent

Our highly qualified and experienced architects and support teams are committed to providing clients with exceptional service combined with the highest levels of design and technical expertise.

Harnessing cross-sector knowledge

We provide a truly multi-disciplinary service for a diverse client base operating in a range of sectors. With over 45 years' experience designing and working within various environments, we have a successful track record in the design, delivery and completion of facilities that integrate a variety of uses.



"With an experienced team at the forefront of architecture, we're designing functional and inspiring buildings that help clients realise their ambitions and uphold their responsibilities to users, communities and the environment."

Image: Middleton Extra Care Scheme, Leeds, Leeds City Council

Our Foundations



Image: Burchester Court Extra Care Housing, Grimsby, Living Plus (Places for People)

FUTURE BUILT

- Creative with a Practical Approach
- Respected within our Profession
- We Boldy rise to the Challenge
- A Foundation of Knowledge
- Assured in our Delivery
- Go-ahead Attitude

We’ve built our valued reputation by upholding our guiding principles and core values.

Our four guiding principles ensure we never lose sight of what makes us a successful and respected practice that provides outstanding service to clients:

Providing measurable value

We create spaces that work. It’s not enough for architecture to have a positive visual impact. We pride ourselves on offering cost-effective, feasible design solutions that are buildable, functional and well-detailed.

Reliable and professional

Our clients don’t just know us, they trust us. Our broad experience and our unbending commitment to deliver are two reasons why we have client relationships that span three decades.

Memorable, meaningful and motivating, our **core values** are the fundamental qualities of our business and brand that we live and breathe.

Great to work with

We work openly and with energy. We believe the design process should be collaborative and enjoyable. Listening and understanding always come first. And as a project progresses, free-flowing communication remains central to its success.





Future-focused





We never stand still. Technologies and processes in our industry are constantly evolving and improving, and we readily adapt to offer our clients the best possible service. The need to push the boundaries of our capability is central to our ethos.





“The team at Watson Batty Architects have been excellent. As a client, I feel that they have fully understood and met the brief, have a grasp of our priorities, expectations and limitations. It is difficult to assess some of the points above as we are so early in the process, but I am confident that going forward Watson Batty will not disappoint.”





Laura Whitehead, Project Manager, Leeds City Council





"People I know I can work with"





			
Mark Sidding	Catherine Blain	Philip Guest	Ben Pickersgill
Architect & Board Director	Architect & Associate	Architectural Technologist	Architect & Associate Director





			
Andrew Grindrod	Peter White	Robert Jagger	Rima Yousif
Architect & Board Director	Architect & Managing Board Director	Senior Architectural Technologist & Associate	Architect & Regional Director, Midlands Studio



			
Andrew Hinchliffe	Gemma Bottomley	Matthew Ing	David Walley
Senior Architectural Technologist	Architect & Interiors	Architectural Technologist	Senior Architectural Technologist



			
Martin Bradley	David Coe	Cath Wheeler	Gary Kempston
Architect	Architectural Technologist	Architectural Assistant	Senior Architect

			
Kamila Kudlata	Robert Sorren	Ian Rowley	Alison White
Architectural Assistant	Trainee Architectural Technologist	Assistant	Accounts Manager

			
Richard Merrills	Rachel Lunn	Andrew Glasby	Daniel Lowe
Architect & Board Director	Accounts Manager	Senior Architectural Technologist	Architect

			
Richard Crowson	Sean Nottingham	Will Bakes	Lauren Copsey
Architect & Regional Director, Midlands Studio	Architectural Technologist	Architectural Technologist	Creative Marketing & Communications Manager

	
Lisa Nutton	Steven Horsman
Architect & Interiors	Senior Architectural Technologist & Associate

	
Jaki Whitaker	Neil Murray
Business Support Assistant	Architect



Design Principles



Andrew Grindrod
Sector Lead

With over 25 years experience designing specialist care environments, our knowledge in this sector is second to none. We understand how to get the most out of the design process and appreciate the complexities of managing the procurement process. Reliable, Professional, Knowledgeable, Watson Batty Architects are a trusted design practice.

People First

All our schemes are designed for people. It is fundamental to us that this is recognised early on in the design process. This translates into welcoming homes that offer warm and tactile human experiences - imperative to the elderly and less able.

Collaborative Process

From the onset of a specialist living project, we like to ensure that we listen to our clients and fully understand their expectations in order to create design solutions that fully realise the brief.

We liaise with both the immediate and wider community during the design process, statutory consultees and also end users where feasible.

We also like to work in partnership with other consultants early on in the design process to ensure affordable and cohesive project delivery in a more stringent time frame.

The Wellbeing Principle

We recognise that the home and care environments are fundamental to an individual's wellbeing, and as part of our people first principle, fundamental to our design ethos.

Community

At every scale our projects are designed to create and enhance communities, from small village developments, through to much larger care and retirement schemes.

Technologically Driven

We are constantly appraising new technology that can improve the older persons and service users wellbeing and make everyday tasks easier. Often these technologies complement highly sustainable lifestyles that minimise energy consumption and enhance comfort levels.

From simple interventions such as underfloor heating, material and component specification (windows/doors etc.) and sunlight shading; to MVHR, 'learning' thermostats and optimising the role of WIFI and media systems, we will work closely with clients and specialist consultants to develop bespoke and fully integrated technical solutions to maximise living standards.

Sustainability and Care

As a business, sustainability forms one of our core principles. No matter how large or small our schemes, sustainability will be addressed specifically to the individual project.

We believe that the future adaptability of the schemes is key in ensuring the long-term sustainable life-cycle of the building, as well as meeting the ethos of our clients and local government. For larger extra-care schemes this could involve maximising off-site construction with a panellised timber frame system; at once maximising future adaptability, reducing site wastage, increasing quality and reducing construction timescales.

Where economically viable we also often recommend the use of off-site manufactured bathroom pods that are delivered to site fully equipped with specialist bathroom fittings and services.

All of our residential buildings are highly insulated with an airtight building fabric offering lower running costs and consistent comfort levels. Large windows are also specifically important to the wellbeing of residents. Not only ensuring outward views, but also allowing higher amounts of natural daylight to penetrate into the rooms, as well as larger openable window areas.

Inclusive Design

Designs will be developed to accommodate individuals with varying needs of care comfortably and securely whilst having little impact upon other, more able residents. This is also especially important regarding schemes in more rural locations, where a development may be needed to support a wider cross section of community; and where the scheme itself can benefit the wider community.

Facilities

Many schemes now offer additional facilities, such as hydrotherapy pools, fitness suites, social spaces, restaurants etc. Aside from being user/owner specific it would also be expected that any facilities are location specific. To provide communities with new and updated centres, or adding to existing facilities with regards to the wider area.



Image: Middleton Extra Care Scheme, Leeds, Leeds City Council

Choice and Innovation

Much research and recommendation centre's around choice. For us, as designers, that means involving the residents throughout the design and build process, allowing personalisation of space, consulting with the various stakeholders and letting people have a say. Where feasible, residents should also have a choice as to how their care is provided.

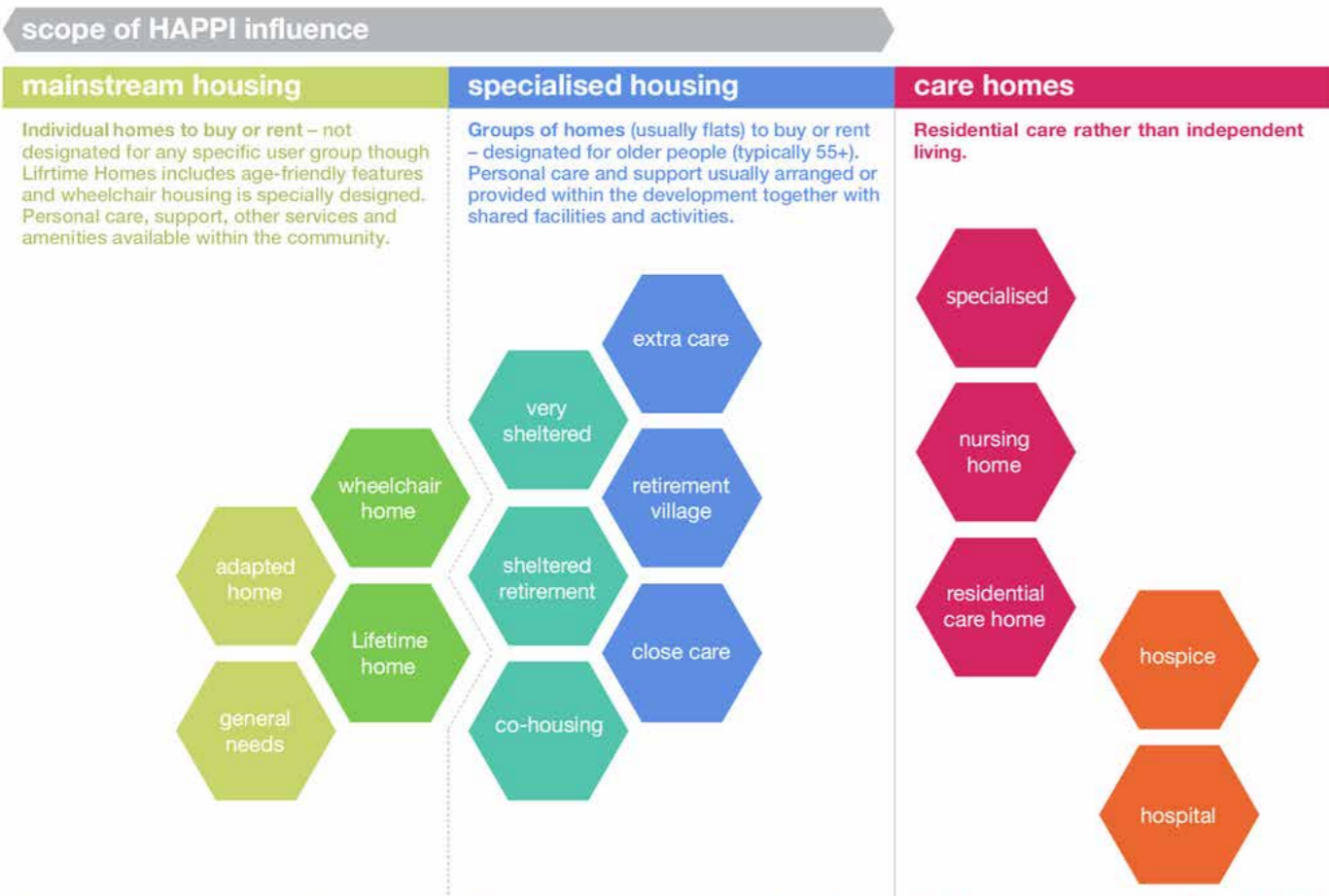
These choices can be improved by the integration of new technology, telehealth/care services, easier contact with family and friends, connections with the wider community, and the design of fully accessible units that adapt with residents needs. Ultimately the homes need to be innovative in terms of use, technology and adaptability.



Leeds City Council

Image: Extra Care Scheme, Westerton Walk, West Ardsley

Extent of HAPPI Influence



Housing Typologies - A Spectrum of Care

Whilst The HAPPI Principles have been developed with a view to meeting the needs and aspirations of our ageing population, many of the recommendations form the basis of our designs across the whole specialist living sector key design elements identified by HAPPI:

- Space and flexibility
- Daylight in the home and in shared spaces
- Balconies and outdoor spaces
- Adaptability and care ready design
- Positive use of circulation space
- Shared facilities and hubs
- Plants, trees and the natural environment
- Energy efficiency and sustainable design
- Storage for belongings and bicycles
- External shared surfaces and home zones

Key Team Members

Watson Batty Architects is a partnership of talented architects, masterplanners, interior designers, technicians and skilled support team. We have specialists across numerous sectors and hold expertise in building conservation, project management, and sustainable design.

We have a dedicated Specialist Living team that has current experience of working together, successfully managing and delivering services within this sector. This experience is within both the private and public sector.

We are familiar with fast moving project delivery, client, and design team collaboration (including design and build procurement routes as well as traditional) and managing multiple stakeholders with differing objectives.



Andrew Grindrod – Director
Andrew has worked within the specialist living sector for over 25 years, supporting the design and delivery of residential and dementia care homes, independent living schemes and Extra Care developments. He has developed the Specialist Living sector across a range of clients including developers, contractors, registered social providers and Local Authorities. Andrew has overall responsibility for the delivery of projects within the Specialist Living sector providing hands on direction and oversight of all aspects of client relationships, appointments and commercial agreements, process and account management, resource and skills mobilisation, continuous improvement systems and technology, communication and innovation. Andrew will ensure the development of excellent working relationships at all levels and effective project delivery as a result.



Robert Jagger – Associate/Project Lead
Robert has many years' experience of delivering complex Extra Care and residential facilities. He leads our BIM Level 2 accreditation and is responsible practice wide for ensuring our ongoing compliance. Robert prides himself on his technical skills and experience, able to run projects from inception to completion. He plays a central role in information production, consistency and compliance on projects. Currently Robert is delivering a 60 bed extra care scheme for Leeds CC at Middleton, through Wates Construction and the refurbishment and extension of an independent living scheme Lincoln Court for the City of York Council.



Gemma Bottomley – Specialist Interior Design/Project Lead
Gemma has worked across a range of care and Extra Care facilities over recent years. Her experiences includes projects from RIBA stage 0 through to stage 7, ably managing teams and supporting end users, guiding clients, dealing with contractors and coordinating handover and post occupancy evaluation. Gemma is adept at dealing with challenging, complex and fast moving projects, whilst balancing end user and client expectations, risk, programme and budgets. At the moment Gemma is involved in the detailed design of the Middleton Extra Care scheme for Leeds CC and a development programme of specialist care facilities for Exemplar Healthcare where we are developing standard scheme layouts and details across the programme of works. On all schemes Gemma adds design value through her knowledge and understanding of the University of Stirling dementia design guides layouts and specifications. This was reinforced through her attendance at the specialist dementia design course earlier this year.



Extra Care

We've designed for the extra care sector for many years. It's one reason our track record in the field is second to none.

Homely and readily accessible environments for all residents that meet the standards set out by national design and good practice guidance such as the University of Stirlings Best Practice Guidance and The Happi Principles.

Image: Burchester Court Extra Care Housing, Grimsby, Living Plus (Places for People)

Burchester Court Extra Care Housing, Grimsby

Watson Batty Architects (WBA) were appointed to support ESH Construction deliver a new build, 60-unit extra care facility in Grimsby. WBA assisted ESH Construction with their D&B tender to Morgan Sindall Later Living for this state-of-the-art new build scheme, providing technical advice on deliverability and detailing issues.

The development is located on Winchester Avenue on the Nunthorpe Estate and has been made possible due to a £10.2 million investment from Places for People Living+ and Homes England. Our role was to carry out the detailed design and working drawings packages to aid ESH during the construction phase.

This new, highly anticipated scheme was delivered by Morgan Sindall Later Living (now Lovell Later Living) and will provide 60 extra care apartments in Grimsby. The project is part of a wider partnership to deliver 300 extra care apartments supporting elderly people to live safely and independently with care on hand if required.



This page and opposite leaf: Burchester Court Extra Care Housing, Grimsby, Living Plus (Places for People)



“Watson Batty Architects have been both proactive and collaborative in supporting us to develop optimal design solutions for our client.”

Richard Johnston, Principal Design Manager, Construction
Yorkshire & North East, Wates on Throstle Rec Scheme,
Middleton

Middleton Extra Care Scheme for Leeds City Council

The scheme aims to provide comfortable and secure Extra Care accommodation, for 48no. 1 and 12no. 2-bed apartments over 3 storeys. The proposals for the extra care facility will provide easy access for people with disabilities and emergency services, clear definition of internal space and will deter crime – the building faces onto the main road with windows facing onto the road; and car parking is visible from a number of the homes to the rear. Accessed by the public from the main road the landscaped frontage to the building uses colour and direction to promote priority to pedestrians. Residents access the building from a separate entrance to the rear, adjacent to the resident’s car park and drop off area. The scale of the building has been designed to integrate within the existing surrounding context.

Whilst designed as a 3 storey building the second floor of the north to south wing has been set back from the main road frontage, with the east to west building element set within the site, furthest away from the surrounding context. The use of a flat roof to the building greatly assists in reducing the overall impact of the facility adjacent to the bungalows and general needs housing. It also provides an opportunity for additional external space accessed from within the building, utilising landscape and pergola features to break up the space and provide defined areas for quiet reflection, as well as areas to meet and be active, in addition to areas for the use of the whole community under managed supervision.

Architecturally the building incorporates contrasting red and grey brick colours, tones and textures with areas of relief around windows and balconies, including additional glazing, creating shadow lines to break up massing along with fretted metal panels and cladding to the 3rd floor.



Above: Middleton Extra Care Scheme, Leeds, Leeds City Council



This page and opposite leaf: Middleton Extra Care Scheme, Leeds, Leeds City Council





Extra Care Housing Wharfedale View

The flagship scheme of 45 self-contained Extra Care apartments at a prominent site in Yeadon, West Yorkshire, for Leeds City Council.

The development consists of 18 one-bedroom and 27 two-bedroom apartments and include a range of communal facilities and outdoor spaces. The new development provides the elderly with contemporary, spacious state-of-the-art living accommodation with the confidence of care and support when needed.

The specification called for almost Passivhaus thermal standards that set a new benchmark for the Council's new build programme, with aspirations to achieve a BREEAM Very Good rating overall.

Watson Batty Architects developed the scheme in Revit to allow collaboration in conjunction with the specialist sub-contractors, structural, mechanical and electrical engineers enabling the Contractor to benefit from construction efficiencies through a more coordinated information flow.

The scheme was developed in accordance with the Leeds Model of Extra Care Housing. With a high specification of rooms and flexibility of multi-use communal areas, the scheme is well positioned to adapt to the changing needs and demands of future generations. Completed: December 2016.



"We are delighted with Wharfedale View. It's a flagship scheme for the council; providing spacious and modern accommodation but more crucially, it will enable older people to live independently with the reassurance of care and support when they need it."

Lorraine Wright, Housing Growth Team, Leeds City Council



Above and opposite leaf: Extra Care Housing Wharfedale View, Yeadon, Leeds City Council

“The refurbishment and extension of Lincoln Court in York provided both logistical and design challenges, however working with Watson Batty in their role of Lead Designer and Architect, simplified the process and made even the challenging details easy to overcome.”

Katie Robertson, Design Co-ordinator, Sewell Group



Above and opposite leaf: Lincoln Court, York, Sewell Construction / City of York Council

Lincoln Court - For Sewell Construction / City of York Council

Watson Batty Architects were approached by City of York Council and Sewell Construction to draft proposals to improve and expand the existing facility. The proposals included 15 new Wheelchair Adaptable Apartments, together with a new welcoming and light-glazed feature entrance and lounge extension.

The site previously contained a sheltered housing complex which was in need of an update. The building had low ceilings which created a dark and unwelcoming space, along with tired and out of date décor.

The new apartments incorporate Juliet balconies and space standards to facilitate wheelchair turning circles. The existing building has been fully refurbished and includes high ceilings and remodelled areas to provide a better use of space for both residents and staff.

New furniture and decor complete the refurbishment to offer a homely welcoming facility. Whilst the facility is not allocated to be a fully dementia complex, the decor has been chosen with designing for dementia in mind. The initial design was also reviewed against the values of Happi Principles to ensure new design offers space & flexibility and maximum use of daylight.

Externally, the facility will benefit from electric vehicle charging points, together with landscaped gardens and secure walkways.



Leeds Extra Care Bid - Places for People

Following on from Watson Batty Architects success constructing Leeds City Council's first flag ship Extra Care Scheme, we worked in partnership with Places for People to bid for a further 4 Extra Care opportunities throughout the Leeds area. The bid process involved several in-depth clarification meetings to ensure the scheme adhered to the "Leeds Standard" and was also in line with strict planning guidelines. We formed an experienced and knowledgeable design team to offer the client the highest level of service whilst conforming with the constraints of the clients brief.

The initial site which formed the finalised bid submission consisted of 59 no. one bedroom and 8 no. two bedroom self-contained apartments. These were set over three storeys and sited around a communal hub which could be used by the local community.



Above: Leeds Extra Care Bid, Places for People

"We have been very impressed with their commitment, dedication, flexibility and responsiveness and find them to be good problem-solvers, always striving to arrive at a workable outcome whilst maintaining a positive and friendly working relationship."

Martin Thomas, Construction Manager, Wates Living Space



Ashbrow Housing Regeneration Bid

Watson Batty Architects provided lead designer support to Wates Living Space HCA DPP Framework Bid for the Ashbrow site regeneration.

Our proposal on this interesting and challenging site divided into 125 no. new build family houses and a 50 no. apartment extra care building located around a series of village green style public open spaces.



This page and opposite leaf: Ashbrow Housing Regeneration Bid



Extra-Care Scheme and Retirement Bungalows, North Halifax Transformation

The Extra-Care Development and retirement bungalows, formed a key part of our successful bid submission for 500 new-build dwellings as part of Calderdale Council's North Halifax Transformation Project.

The new scheme will provide comfortable extra-care accommodation, with 57 number 1 and 2-bed apartments over two-storeys to maintain the residential and domesticity nature of the project, along with 12 independent living bungalows.

At the heart of the scheme, the community hub is a free flowing space with domestic scale furniture, glazed and solid partitions that can be repositioned and adapted to create lounge/activity spaces.

The voids on the first floor provide connectivity within the volume and help define the purpose of the ground floor areas. Linear roof lights ensure that light penetrates further into these spaces. The café area and restaurant are situated out towards the main entrance, providing the flexibility to be divided and opened to the public.

Inspired by the Halifax Piece Hall and local Almshouses, progressive privacy allows for the apartments to be accessed off 'open' corridors within central communal areas, creating a sheltered and private internal courtyard. Our design avoids long dead-end corridors and responds to the wider site layout by opening up circulation space in the Northern wing and providing full height glazing at each end to gain a visual connection with the neighbourhood and pedestrian access routes.

All apartments have an entrance recess which residents to personalise and two large stores, with wheelchair transfer space accommodated close to the entrance door. The sitting areas are centrally located, with full height double-glazing opening onto a private balcony. Dual aspect glazing across the apartments provides a feeling of space, increased daylight and air circulation.

Designed to be fully adaptable, both the apartments and bungalows allow for the removal of sections of partitions, and installation of fixtures and fittings specific to dementia and other special needs.



Above: Extra-Care Scheme and Retirement Bungalows, North Halifax Transformation

North Yorkshire Extra Care Framework

This case study was part of our successful bid for NYCC's Extra Care Framework. The design aims to provide comfortable extra-care accommodation, with 41 no. 1 and 2-bed apartments over 2 storeys, and has been designed in accordance with North Yorkshire County Council's Accommodation with Care Design and Ethos Guide, the Happi report and other good practice guidance as published by the Housing LIN and others.

Accessed by both pedestrians and vehicles from Leylandi Close, the gentle surfaces to the front of the building use colour and direction to promote priority to pedestrians, a drop-off area, and the EA car parking bays. The undercroft allows controlled access to the additional car parking and provides a covered and secure cycle-parking area and entrance-way to the resident's buggy store.

The apartments are accessed from the hub by 2 'streets' that run along the NS axis of the site. The routes through to these streets will be clearly defined through the use of floor finishes, lighting and signage.

Near to the entrance are the spa facilities, with a separate relaxing waiting area. The hair and beauty room sits adjacent to the main entrance, adding visual interest and activity to the entrance area from the outside of the development, and also ensuring that these facilities are easy to access and find for potential non-residents. The bathing and treatment room will also house an assisted bathing area.

Away from the hub, to the South of the gardens, a timber boarded outbuilding houses the second 'hobby' room. A retreat space that could hold regular intimate workshops for the residents. Small seating areas are provided along the street access ways, allowing residents the option to sit 'out' under-cover and in the vicinity of their immediate neighbours. A green roof over the central atrium encourages local wildlife and helps bed the building into the landscape and again minimise scale and massing upon the local neighbourhood.





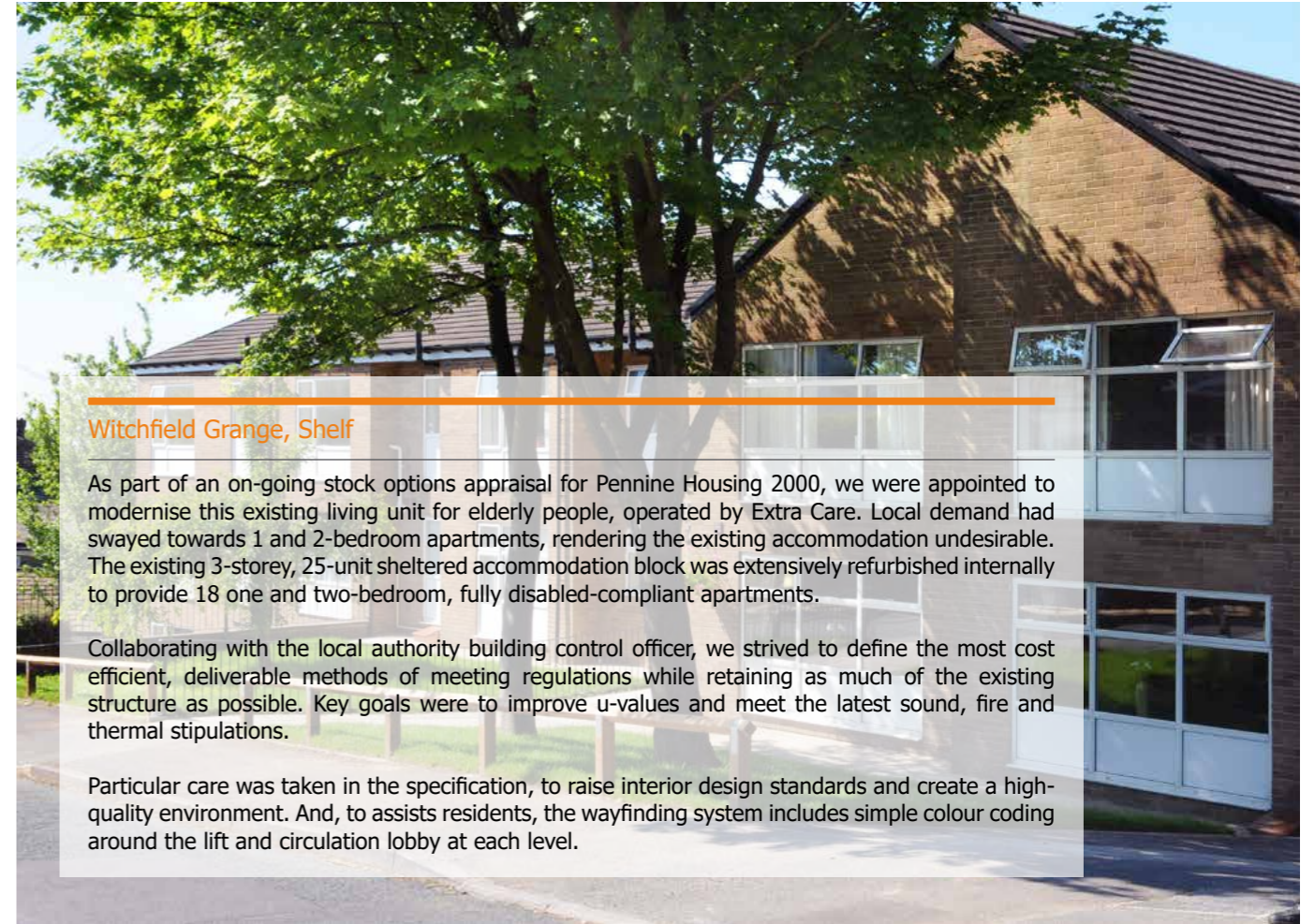
Dudley MBC Norfolk Road and The Walk

We were appointed by Keepmoat to deliver these one and two bedroom extra care facilities for Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council. Initial scheme proposals were reviewed to ensure compliance with all the latest statutory guidance including Level 4 of the Code for Sustainable Homes, Lifetime Homes, Buildings for Life 12 and Secured by Design.

Detailed co-ordination of the proposals with Keepmoat and the other consultants was required to ensure buildability of the schemes on challenging urban sites.



This page: Dudley MBC Norfolk Road and The Walk, Keepmoat



Witchfield Grange, Shelf

As part of an on-going stock options appraisal for Pennine Housing 2000, we were appointed to modernise this existing living unit for elderly people, operated by Extra Care. Local demand had swayed towards 1 and 2-bedroom apartments, rendering the existing accommodation undesirable. The existing 3-storey, 25-unit sheltered accommodation block was extensively refurbished internally to provide 18 one and two-bedroom, fully disabled-compliant apartments.

Collaborating with the local authority building control officer, we strived to define the most cost efficient, deliverable methods of meeting regulations while retaining as much of the existing structure as possible. Key goals were to improve u-values and meet the latest sound, fire and thermal stipulations.

Particular care was taken in the specification, to raise interior design standards and create a high-quality environment. And, to assist residents, the wayfinding system includes simple colour coding around the lift and circulation lobby at each level.



This page: Witchfield Grange, Shelf, Pennine Housing 2000



Specialist Care

From residential care facilities to dementia care homes and building for residents with complex nursing needs.

We understand the fundamental design principles that are required to provide the appropriate facilities in a homely and domestic enabling environment, utilising the latest assistive technology where appropriate.

Image: Specialist Care Facility, Huddersfield Road, Exemplar Healthcare Ltd



Image: Brook View Care Home, Liverpool, Exemplar Healthcare Ltd - Photo Credit: Exemplar Healthcare Ltd

Brook View, Liverpool - Specialist Care Home – Exemplar Healthcare Ltd

We acted as lead on the architectural, interior and technical design elements of the extensive alterations and refurbishment of a former private care home in Liverpool. Involved from the outset, the team worked closely with Exemplar Health Care internal stakeholders and client agents, Faithful & Gould, to develop and deliver the scheme to meet the requirements of the specialist care provider within the constraints of the existing building.

Starting on site in 2018, works transformed the former Ennerdale House building on the site of Aintree Hospital into a new specialist service, Brook View. Providing a high-quality, spacious service designed to meet the needs of residents living with a range of complex nursing needs, Exemplar Healthcare reduced the number of bedrooms from 60 to a 32-bed facility with associated accommodation.

Set back off the road and overlooking a brook, the service includes a therapy suite, spacious lounges and dining rooms and a garden for residents and family members to relax and socialise.

The alterations and refurbishment of the 1930's building presented a number of challenges during the construction phase as the building fabric was stripped back in order to provide Exemplar Healthcare with a high-quality end product. With extensive experience in delivering specialist living projects, we were able to call upon our expertise to work alongside Exemplar Healthcare and deliver the desired project outcome within constraints of the existing building and budget. We were novated to principle contractor, Castlehouse Construction.

“Watson Batty have been proactive in developing our new homes and specifically worked with us to develop our generic room layouts which has enabled us to reduce the amount of uncertainty, a key element when working on such a demanding development rollout.”

James Mell, Developments Manager, Exemplar Health Care Services



This page and opposite leaf: Specialist Care Facility, Huddersfield Road, Exemplar Healthcare Ltd

Specialist Care Facility, Huddersfield Road

A new 40 Bed Specialist Care Unit and 7 independent living bungalows with associated access road, car-parking and landscaping. The main facility consists of 4 units, each with 10no. beds, dining room, quiet rooms and lounge areas. Communal facilities within the building include training rooms, HUB and therapy rooms. The development provides care for residents with a range of complex needs and has been designed to provide a homely environment that allows residents to feel independent, empowered and inspired.

The main facility is located to the north of the site as an L shape building, with the west wing three storey, and the right wing two storey. This design relates to the topography of the site with the two storey element opposite the existing two storey residential units on Huddersfield Road and the three storey on Woodside Road. The bungalows are designed and used as independent living units for the site. The site will be landscaped with communal gardens and have a secure boundary fence around the main building.



"The team at Watson Batty remain passionate about design and delivery of architectural services which has resulted in them becoming a trusted and reliable member of our design team."

James Mell, Developments Manager, Exemplar Health Care Services



Image: Wallasey, Wirral



Image: Proposed Elevations - Norton Road, Stockton-on-Tees



This image and right: Chester Road, Ellesmere Port - Internals



Image: Marmaduke Street, Hull

Exemplar Healthcare Ltd

Exemplar Healthcare are one of the country's most trusted providers of specialist care for adults with complex needs, with their focus on providing a good quality of life, and ensuring service users feel independent, empowered, and inspired. The facilities have highly trained nurses and support workers experienced in caring for people with a wide range of needs such as Parkinson's, Huntington's Disease, Complex Dementia, Acquired Brain Injury, Spinal Injury, Mental Health Conditions and Rehabilitation.

The company has 34 specialist homes across the UK and as part of a new development plan are progressing with plans to build a number more over the next few years.

Our first project with Exemplar, Brook View, Liverpool, completed in September 2019. Since then we have worked closely with the operations and delivery team to create a set of building standards to meet operational needs to be rolled out across all new build and refurbishment projects and have been involved with a number of the new build projects across the country.



Image: Chester Road, Ellesmere Port



Image: Chester Road, Ellesmere Port - Aerial View



Image: Specialist Care Facility, Huddersfield Road - Aerial View

Asquith Hall Dementia Care Home, Todmorden

Commissioned by a private care operator, Asquith Hall is a new state-of-the-art care home facility for 53 residents.

The building provides individual resident rooms with en-suite bedrooms, activity rooms and day space, as well as some specialist facilities such as the hydrotherapy and Snoezelen rooms.

Following an initial review of the approved planning proposals, we suggested re-configuration the internal layouts to provide an additional two bedrooms within the same building footprint. The efficiency gained here was a clear result of our wide care home experience.

Our equally deep knowledge of low-energy and efficient building features enabled us to meet our client's sustainability aspirations. In this case, we recommended an air source heating system that links to the under-floor heating and a rainwater harvesting system.

Site abnormalities included services diversions, main watercourse re-alignment and contamination removal. And, while these factors presented a challenge in hitting the fixed completion date, all works were finished on programme and on budget.



Above: Asquith Hall Dementia Care Home, Todmorden, Triton Construction Ltd



Image: Bramble Lodge, Derbyshire, Winland Care Ltd

Bramble Lodge

This two-storey 24-bedroom extension provides much-needed additional accommodation for an existing dementia care home.

As well as the en-suite residents' accommodation, the new wing includes a lounge, library, sensory room and assisted bathrooms. And, to meet the increased capacity requirements, the services infrastructure also had to be upgraded. Landscaping works were undertaken to provide residents with a spacious and inspiring outdoor environment.

Ensuring that our designs met the Local Authority and Care Quality Commission approvals was complicated by some fundamental site constraints, including difficult ground contour levels and several tree preservation orders.

Finding the required day space was also a challenge. We identified a void under the existing building. This particularly economic solution created a light and spacious day with a level approach to the adjacent private garden area. Safe resident access to the external environment was an added benefit of this proposal. But to make the concept work, there were various technical challenges to overcome, including waterproofing and the implications for the existing foundations.

The final scheme has resulted in a considerably larger facility, without compromising the homely nature of the original premises.



Eleonore House, Northampton

Eleonore House, operated by Northampton Partnership Homes, underwent a full building refurbishment by Kier who were appointed through the Scape framework. Watson Batty Architects were employed as Lead Consultant/Project Architect. We developed an earlier feasibility design scheme and made significant improvements focusing on the main entrance, reception, lounge, accommodation, accessibility and the external garden / relaxation areas. Originally built in the early 1990's by Northampton Borough Council, Eleonore House provides independent living for elderly people.

The refurbished building now includes a total of thirty 'standard 1' bedroom flats, three wheelchair accessible flats and a visitor flat – all fully refurbished to current living standards. The original exposed internal brickwork walls and timber panelling has been replaced with a light and spacious entrance area with the help of a new single storey glazed extension and roof canopy.

The former external brickwork has been revitalised with a light coloured painted render finish and new signage to provide a modern and inviting main entrance.

The residents lounge has been transformed into a modern and inviting space to enable residents to socialise together and with family. The addition of an external seating area with green screening and planters provides additional relaxation space outdoors.

All the internal corridors have been plastered and painted to remove the dark brickwork and new flooring has been laid throughout. All wheelchair accessible accommodation and rear facing flat provide level access to the two landscaped areas which offer a mix of material finishes, new seating, shade and games areas.



Above: Eleonore House, Northampton, Kier



Above: Middleton Extra Care Scheme, Leeds, Leeds City Council

Strategic Masterplanning

Our masterplanning experience varies widely in scale as well as geographical and social contexts. From strategic frameworks to large scale detailed planning applications, a clear, considered masterplan can transform places leading to their physical, social and economic revival.

Our proposals are built on the principles of good urban design and the way places influence wellbeing, work and lifestyle. Technical understanding is key when dealing with interconnected systems such as transport, energy, waste and information. When done right a successful masterplan can deliver measurable value to all parties.



Above: Burchester Court Extra Care Housing, Grimsby, Living Plus (Places for People)

Interior Design

The discipline of architectural practice feeds into our interior design artistry, inspiring schemes that marry functionality with aesthetics and complement the built structure.

Augmenting our architectural practice, our interior design service spans preparation of initial concepts to installation and covers furniture, finishes, materials, lighting and graphics. Our experience is wide-ranging, from enhancing period features in Listed properties to devising robust, functional spaces for industrial new-builds. Each project is tailored to its unique requirements, and we work closely with clients to explore exciting but viable solutions.

In specialist living environments, we incorporate our knowledge of the University of Stirling's design guidelines to ensure that the layouts and finishes specifications are fully dementia compliant. Where budget is an issue, we can create affordable solutions with a wow factor through research and innovative thinking. In places of work, public use and learning, collaboration with Facilities Maintenance departments is invaluable in understanding the needs of end-users. Contemporary spaces demand constant monitoring of creative trends, especially when it comes to choosing environmentally friendly materials, the use of which we advocate wherever possible.



Image: Specialist Care Facility, Huddersfield Road, Exemplar Healthcare Ltd



Image: Extra Care Housing Wharfedale View, Yeadon, Leeds City Council

Project Management

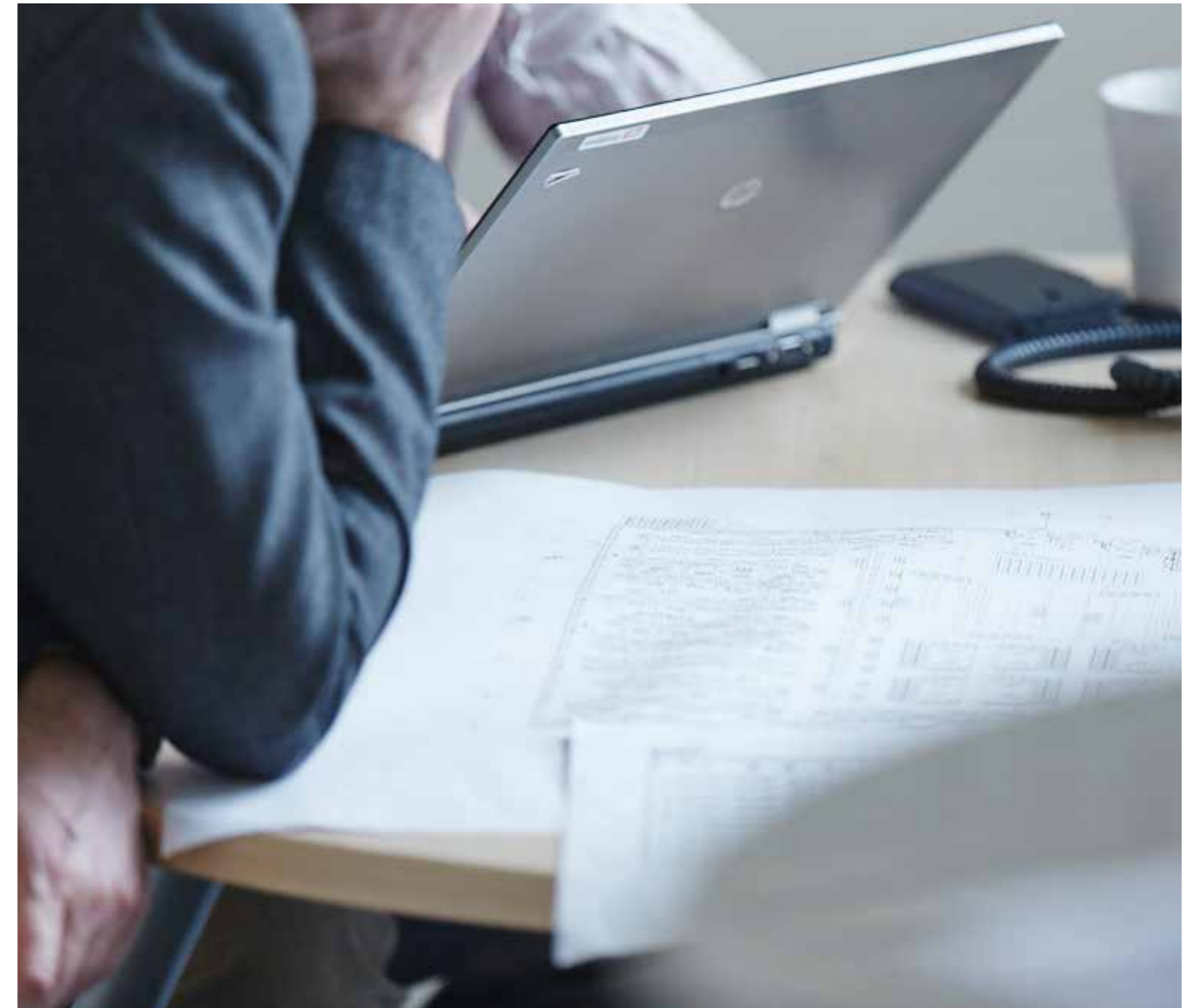
"We continuously strive to challenge and improve the way our projects are delivered"

Watson Batty Architects are corporate members of the Association for Project Management with a number of our staff individual members of the Association for Project Management.

We continuously strive to challenge and improve the way our projects are delivered, not only in terms of quality of design, but also in the efficiencies of delivery, and Project Management is at the core of this.

Project management is the discipline of initiating, planning, executing, controlling, and closing the work of a team to achieve specific goals and meet specific success criteria. We accept that the only way to demonstrate performance to meet the success criteria is to measure it and compare it, and project Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are the main driver of this.

Our Project Management service involves the cycle of planning, implementing, control and monitoring. This process has been effectively used throughout the practice on previous Frameworks.



Principal Designers

"We make health, safety and wellbeing a top priority as part of our core service to clients"

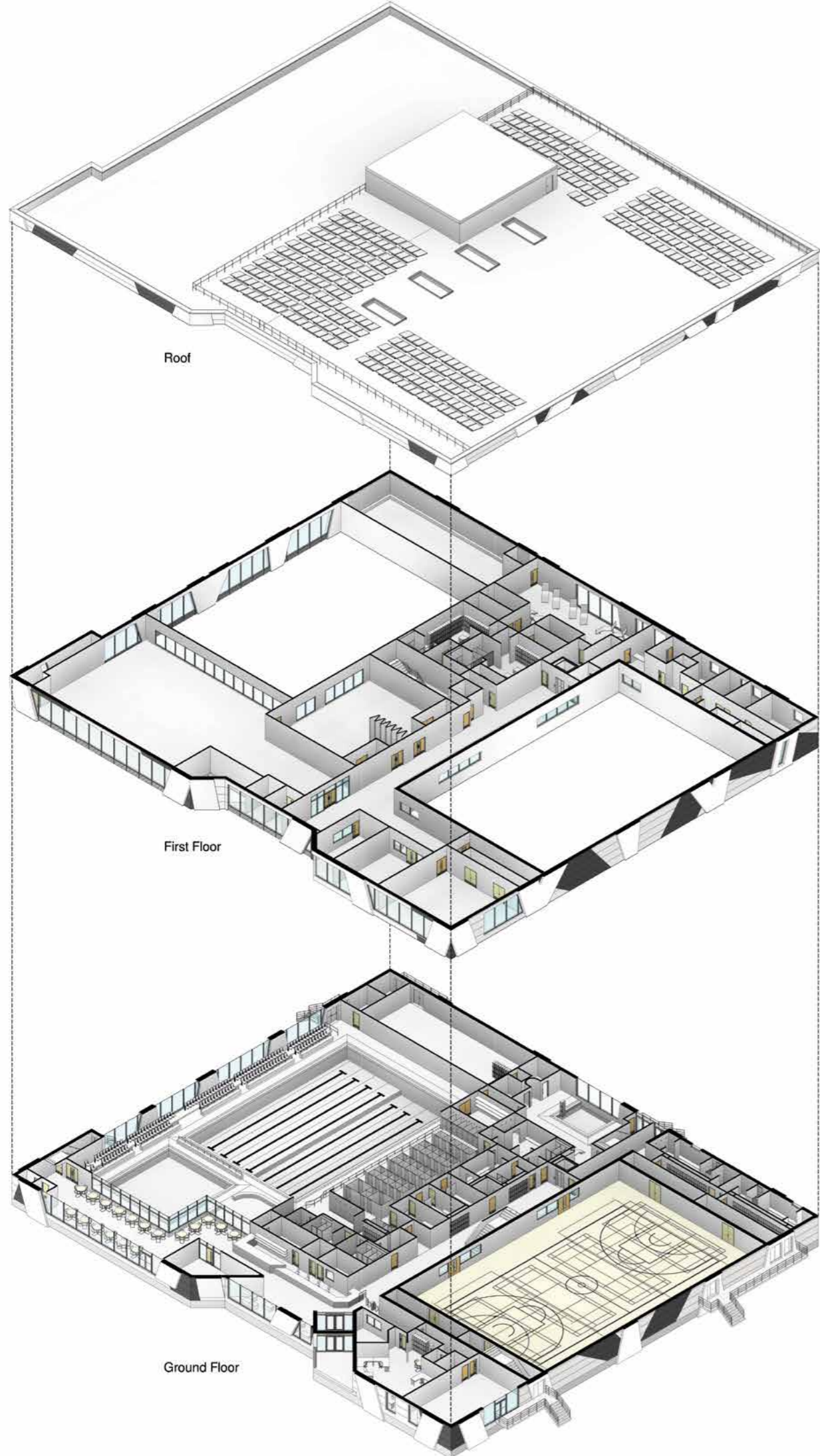
Watson Batty Architects has developed the necessary capabilities and resources to fulfil the role and responsibilities when carrying out the duties of Principal Designer under CDM 2015. Our systems have been updated to reflect the changes in the regulations.

All our staff who will be involved on the projects will have the required training, experience and knowledge to undertake the role of Principal Designer.

We make health, safety and wellbeing a top priority as part of our core service to clients; throughout the design process, within the office environment and when visiting construction sites.

We have made significant financial and time investment in all our staff and committed to appointing a dedicated in-house Health Safety and Wellbeing Advisor.





BIM

Building Information Modelling increases the efficiency of the design process and reduces the cost and quality risks associated with the building process.

To provide the very best service possible for our clients, we are constantly exploring new ways of working and reviewing the latest developments in technology.

Having identified the advantages of BIM back in 2011, we've embraced this evolving technology wholeheartedly. We have been Task Team certified by Stroma since 2018 and this was renewed in December 2020, allowing us to provide our clients with the assurance that we are aligned to working to a PAS 1192-2/ISO 19650 standard.

BIM enables us to generate elaborate virtual models that can be shared between all parties. The models contain digital objects that carry comprehensive information about the design, construction and operation of assets.

To begin with, it improves communication, benefiting both the practice and those we work with collaboratively. It also brings with it the inherent advantages of increasing the efficiency of the design process and reducing the cost and quality risks associated with the building process. And, by allowing visualisation and assessment of concepts and developments, it enhances creativity.



Image: 3D Section - Caddick House Type



Image: Leeds Extra Care Bid - Places for People

"Graitec has supported Watson Batty for many years. We've always been available to react to their growing software needs and continue to give advice on the latest software developments in the industry."

Claire Merrick, Account Manager, Graitec

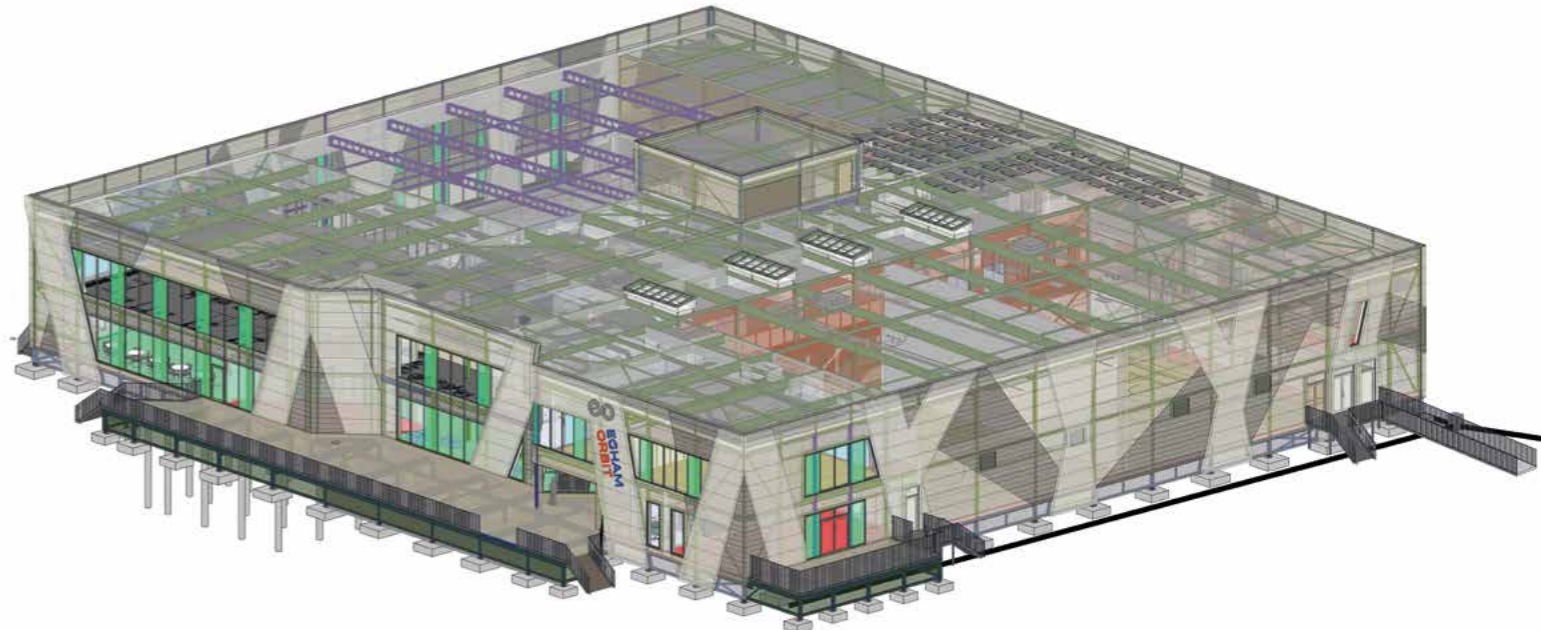


Image above and facing: Egham Orbit Leisure Centre, Surrey, Places for People

Modern Methods of Construction

The world of construction is changing quickly in response to new materials, building techniques, digital design and the need to provide immediate, high quality solutions to meet shortfalls in a number of key sectors. Including education, residential and care.

There are alternative and proven alternatives to 'traditional' forms of construction available to clients. Notwithstanding the ongoing need to carefully evaluate all available options and procurement routes during the early stages of a project, 'offsite' fabrication is rapidly becoming the default choice for a number of public and private sector organisations. It's not a completely new approach but is now founded on a very well informed, agile, innovative and highly skilled operation linked to exciting advances in digital design and collaborative project team environments like Building Information Modelling (BIM).

Essentially it's about pre-manufacturing, using modern methods of production to minimise on site construction. It also has the capacity to not only meet but exceed the requirements to deliver sustainable projects to respond to the climate crisis. In particular, through efficient use of resource, materials and transportation, high-end productivity, reduced waste and energy use, provide robust contemporary solutions that can help deliver circular economy and whole life carbon targets.

At Watson Batty Architects we're proud of being recognised as an innovative design practice but also as architects who know how to deliver technical, compliant, sustainable and safe to build and use projects. We're embracing the opportunities

and partnerships that 'offsite,' modern methods of construction (MMC) can provide. Recently we've delivered new airside schemes which incorporate tensile construction and offsite accommodation and we're currently helping deliver a new £18m academy school on the DfE MMC Framework.

Image: Internal view of 'offsite construction' sports hall at York St John University

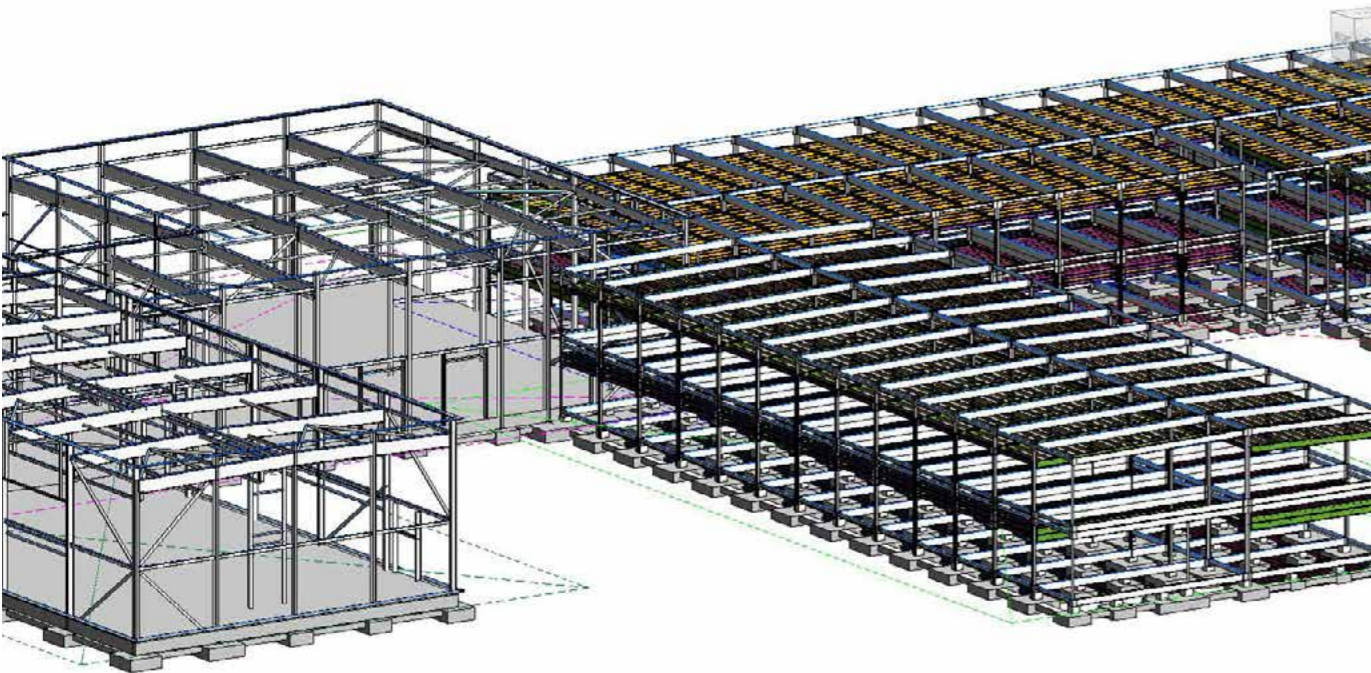


Image: 3D Revit view of a current project with Elliott Group – Part 'traditional' hybrid build and largely offsite two storey new build school



A Sustainable Future

The climate change emergency is the biggest challenge facing our planet.

Over 40% of the UK's carbon footprint is attributed to the built environment, with approximately half of this linked directly to the operational and embodied energy within buildings. At Watson Batty Architects, we recognise our key position and responsibility in helping to reduce further contributions to the causes of climate change. As a practice, we are being proactive through our actions within the ongoing design of buildings, to mitigate its impact and have signed up to the RIBA 2030 Climate Challenge. This directly addresses the operational energy use, embodied carbon, water consumption, land-use, biodiversity and health and wellbeing of new projects over the next 5- and 10-year periods.

We recognise the benefits to projects by engaging in this process and are actively reviewing the impact our designs and specifications have on these benchmarks, in order to better help our clients both, define and deliver their own sustainable outcomes going forward. Sustainable design requires a holistic approach, and we follow the key design principles of a fabric-first and robust solution, but also one tailored to each project to maximise the reductions in embodied carbon, minimise operational energy, water consumption and ongoing maintenance and therefore our clients' future costs.

This ethos resonates in our own office premises in Leeds. Designed by ourselves, the building was awarded the Green Apple Award in 2007 for its energy efficient and sustainable design approach. It includes geothermal heating and cooling systems, a rainwater recovery system, significantly reducing freshwater consumption, natural ventilation and makes extensive use of natural light.

The practice is experienced in environmental design and has successfully completed a number of projects in recent years that have achieved BREEAM certification, including 'Excellent' and 'Outstanding' ratings. It has also completed a Passivhaus certified development for the University of Bradford and we are currently developing a net zero carbon design for a new primary school in Nottingham for the DfE.

In addition to our other services, we can offer a sustainability co-ordination role to your project. Leading the design and project team as an enabler, coordinator, and ambassador to not only meet but exceed current and future building legislation and climate challenge targets aligned with the RIBA Plan of Work and Sustainable Outcomes Guide.



Quality Assurance

One of the first Architectural practices in the region to have a fully certified Quality system in the 1990s.

Quality is at the heart of everything we do as a practice and our system has been externally certified by BM TRADA for nearly 20 years. We are Quality Assured to BS EN ISO 9001:2015, obtaining our initial accreditation on 8th March 1994. Additionally, we are accredited to ISO 45001:2018 (Occupational Health and Safety Management) and to ISO 14001:2015 (Environmental Management).

The implementation of all projects and the delivery of Watson Batty's Architectural and Principal Designer services are all in accordance with our current Integrated Management System (IMS) which incorporates the above accreditations.

Our IMS procedures ensure that there is an agreed framework in place for project delivery from inception to completion to facilitate the consistent delivery of projects across the practice, ensuring that all our projects are delivered in the same

professional manner, regardless of size, scale or complexity. Experience has demonstrated that our IMS procedures are appropriate for all projects.

We were one of the first Architectural practices in the region to have a fully certified Quality system in the 1990s and then a fully integrated management system early in the 2000s, quickly realising the benefits that it brought to consistent project delivery and ultimately customer satisfaction.

Watson Batty Architects Ltd are certified to be Cyber Secure by the ECSC and hold the Cyber Essentials Certificate. This certification reinforces the fact that we are a secure practice, not only for our staff, but clients and potential clients, preventing us from potential cyber attacks from outside the organisation.



Corporate Social Responsibility

We strive to ensure our part in CSR is brought to the attention of our staff at all times.

As a practice, we recognise the importance of approaching Corporate Social Responsibility in a coordinated and committed manner to make a positive impact to our clients, the community, our partners and the environment.

Through our culture, our work in the community and both our environmental and ethical policies, we strive to ensure our part in CSR is brought to the attention of our staff at all times. We encourage the utmost efforts both as individuals and as a company to operate in an ethical manner, both currently and as a future focus of the practice.

The nature of our work makes our impact on the environment at the forefront of how we operate, and we subscribe to the concept of environmentally aware design, supporting the activities of the entire development team in meeting this

objective. Through our design approach we are committed to reducing the impact of our own activities on the environment and raising the awareness of this to our staff, external clients, subcontractors and suppliers. Furthermore, it is in our best interest to achieve client satisfaction and retention through a commitment to policies of good practice and service, and adhere to Statutory and Regulatory requirements in doing so.

Being future focused, we value diversity in the workplace and believe in caring for our employees and work experience students, encouraging continual learning and development opportunities across the business. As a firm, and as individual staff members, we understand the significant impact we can have on the community and are therefore dedicated to being a responsible contributing member of society both through financial and active support.

Contacts

Key Sector Contacts



Industrial & Distribution

Ben Pickersgill

E: ben.pickersgill@watsonbatty.com
T: 01943 876665
M: 07714 343236



Transport & Retail

Peter White

E: peter.white@watsonbatty.com
T: 01943 876665
M: 07974 414694



Sport & Leisure

Rima Yousif

E: rima.yousif@watsonbatty.com
T: 01943 876665
M: 07771 160077



Learning

Mark Sidding

E: mark.sidding@watsonbatty.com
T: 01943 876665
M: 07790 228291



Living

Richard Merrills

E: richard.merrills@watsonbatty.com
T: 01943 876665
M: 07967 567917



Specialist Living & Commercial

Andrew Grindrod

E: andrew.grindrod@watsonbatty.com
T: 01943 876665
M: 07974 414615



Midlands Studio

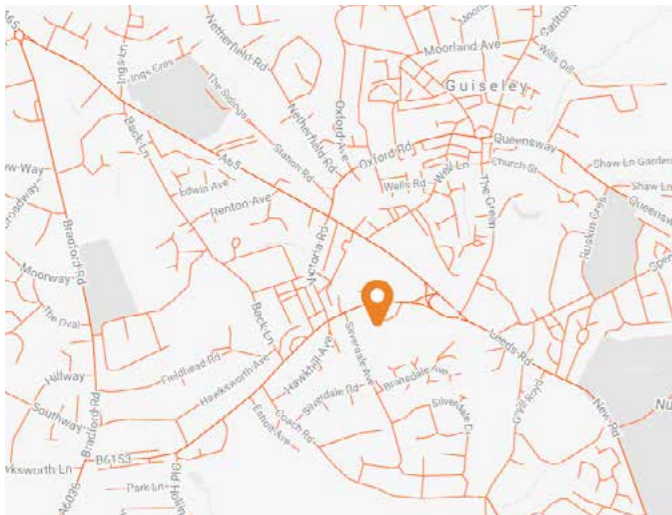
Richard Crowson

E: richard.crowson@watsonbatty.com
T: 01943 876665
M: 07540 501079



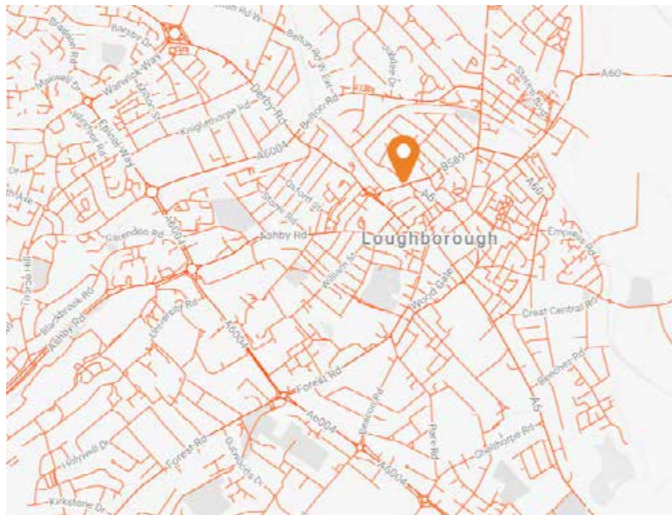
Locations

Leeds



Shires House
Shires Road
Guiseley
Leeds
LS20 8EU

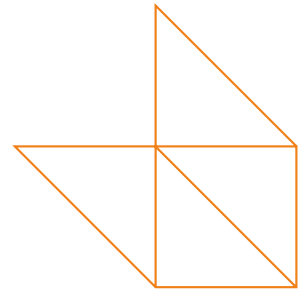
Loughborough



Limehurst House
Bridge Street
Loughborough
Leicestershire
LE11 1NH



WATSON BATTY ARCHITECTS



www.watsonbatty.com

Leeds

Shires House
Shires Road
Leeds
LS20 8EU

t: 01943 876665

Loughborough

Limehurst House
Bridge Street
Loughborough
LE11 1NH

t: 01943 876665