

Solarspot D-38 systems for Elm Ward, Hellingly

Elm Ward, Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

Overview

Hellingly is a medium secure unit for people between the ages of 18-65 who have mental health problems and who have become involved with the criminal justice system. They assess and manage people whose conditions cannot safely be treated other than in a secure or supervised environment.

Elm Ward is a brand new facility specifically designed and built to accommodate up to 15 residents. The new wing comprises 15 individual rooms with en suites, as well as office facilities, activity areas, kitchens and a gym. Some parts of the building identified as being potentially dark so Solarspot daylight systems were specified to remedy these areas with some much needed natural light.

Special considerations

Due to the very specific needs of the residents, the Solarspot systems had to meet a number of requirements. Firstly, the diffuser needed to be resistant to impact from below. In order to do this, the diffuser lens was made from double sheet of clear polycarbonate with a frosted sheet laminated in the middle to diffuse the light. It also had to sit flush in the ceiling so that there were no ligature points, making the fitting a serious challenge for the installers.

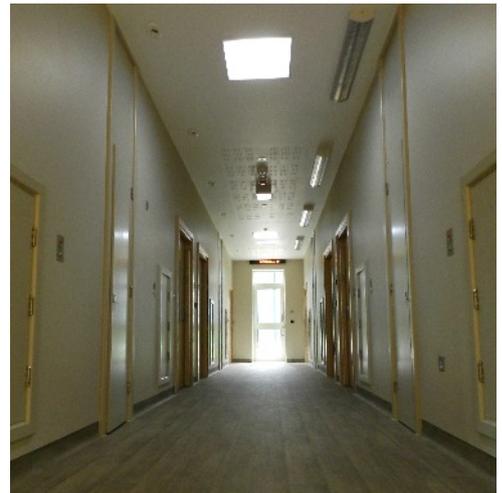
The diffuser units had to be fitted before the ceiling was installed so everything had to be perfect as once the final plastering was completed there would be no opportunity to adjust or gain access to them. This meant that they had to be suspended in the correct position without the aid of any supports or the ceiling grid.



Solarspot D-38 systems provide the only source of natural light in the residents gym.

Natural daylight replaces electric light during the day in the corridors.

Solarspot domes maximise daylight capture on the roof.

**System specification**

Solarspot D-38 units with square metal transition ceiling boxes with polycarbonate lenses for impact resistance and fire protection, Versatile flashings for concrete interlocking tiles and extension tubes for distances ranging from 1.5m to 7.5m. Additional fire collars fitted at roof void floor.