

Glazing systems by Kawneer feature on Hampshire leisure redevelopment

Architectural glazing systems by Kawneer have been used throughout a flagship facility for a local authority to improve the well-being of its local community. AA®100 curtain walling and AA®720 and series 190 doors feature throughout the £23 million redevelopment of Hart Leisure Centre in Fleet, Hampshire, operated by Everyone Active.

Building: Hart Leisure Centre

Location: Fleet

Architect: GT3 Architects

Main Contractor: Willmott Dixon

Installer: Leay



Kawneer systems used for flagship leisure centre

The centre comprises three indoor swimming pools, natural and artificial football pitches, a 130-station gym, illuminated climbing wall, sauna and steam rooms, sports hall and coffee shop adjacent to a 24-hectare country park which played an integral part in the centre's design.

Kawneer's AA®100 zone-drained and capped curtain walling features externally in the swimming pool, gym and entrance areas, complemented by the AA®720 doors and series 190 heavy-duty doors around the entrances. The curtain walling also features internally, as screens to the pool areas and office locations.

They were installed to a design by GT3 Architects by specialist sub-contractor Leay for main contractor Willmott Dixon, who provided more than 150 work experience placements for young people from the local area during the 15-month build.

GT3's senior architectural technologist Steve Mirtle said: "The roof is the predominant feature of the building which along with the wild flower planting within the landscaping helps blend the building into the adjacent country park setting.

"The Kawneer glazing systems were used to provide the required daylight requirements within the building along with providing views and vista into the park and landscaping externally.

"It's definitely going to be a flagship for the area and for the operator, Everyone Active, it's going to be one of their prime centres."

The design challenge was significant due to the site's location next to Edenbrook country park.

Willmott Dixon construction manager Ben Heath said: "The customer (Hart District Council) wanted something that was different that would provide the community with a sustainable, environmentally-friendly leisure centre with a range of facilities for everyone to enjoy."

In search of inspiration, the council's procurement team even went on a fact-finding mission across the country before setting the brief.

The building has been designed as three interlocking pavilions. Two sweeping coppercoloured curved roofs accommodate the pool hall and the sports hall, and the fitness suite and climbing wall sits in between the two wings. A plaza links the building to the country park.

As well as the Kawneer curtain walling and doors, the external elevations of the steel-framed building feature brickwork plinth at lower level with a mixture of Trespa panelling above.

Leay's business development manager Mike Watts said: "As Kawneer's curtain walling was installed within a swimming pool environment we had to ensure all the glazing was silicone sealed. The curtain walling also had to accommodate additional loads as a Brise Soleil system was suspended from it."









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