

The Sports Leisure Legacy Project (photos courtesy of Watson Batty)

Egham Orbit Leisure Centre

The £15m, new build leisure centre launches the first phase of The Runnymede Regeneration Programme (RRP), a programme that will see several sites re-developed across the Borough. The new build leisure centre offers Egham a unique, improved and distinctive sporting, leisure, health and wellbeing destination; a place which will significantly enhance the existing facilities to benefit the wider community. Completed in January 2019, the centre provides a wide range of sport and leisure facilities that replace the existing (dry-side) leisure centre. These include a 25m eight lane swimming pool and a 10m x 10m learner pool, both with movable floors; wet splash area; soft play area and various dedicated changing room facilities including wet, dry, communal and change for outdoor sports. Additional facilities include a health suite with spa, sauna, steam room and 8 treatment rooms (4 dry treatment and 4 wet treatment); crèche with outdoor terrace and play area; 4 court sports hall and a fitness suite with 2 consultation rooms. Flexible spaces have been made available with one dedicated to indoor cycling or training and a further 2 multi-use studios featuring sliding/folding doors. Staff offices with breakout areas and a cafe with outdoor terrace are included, with outdoor spaces being landscaped to enhance the completed leisure centre design. A compact and effective complex, Egham Orbit reflects a modern approach to leisure centre delivery, in a safe, welcoming and comfortable environment. The centre achieved a Very Good BREEAM Rating.



Newark Leisure Centre

Completed in March 2016, the new £11m leisure centre for Newark & Sherwood District Council creates a compact and effective facility and includes; a six lane 25m main pool, an 8.5 x 20m teaching pool with water features, a four-court sports hall, a 200-station fitness suite, 2 squash courts with moveable wall, 2 exercise studios and ancillary accommodation including on-site parking and landscape works. The new leisure centre is part of a mixed-use development on Bowbridge Road, Newark including a sports hub and 115 housing units. The main facilities within the building are linked to the main concourse creating an open and transparent environment making it easy to supervise and manage from the main reception whilst providing natural surveillance to the external areas. Watson Batty Architects were commissioned for the design of the project from development of the brief (RIBA Stage 0) and assisted Newark & Sherwood District Council in the creation of an ambitious Local Authority operated leisure centre.



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Washington Leisure Centre

This exceptional new £11m facility, completed in April 2015, was built on the site of the existing leisure centre and provides a more welcoming and friendly atmosphere. The new building includes a six-lane, 25 m main pool; a learner pool with a water feature and two water slides; a four-court sports hall; a health suite with a sauna and steam rooms; a spinning room; a 100-station wellness centre and ancillary accommodation. The scheme also includes floodlit five-a-side synthetic football pitches and a car park. Both the design and position of the centre prioritises user access and improves safety by separating pedestrian and vehicular movement. The visually attractive avenue, built for pedestrians arriving on foot, provides a friendly walk up to the centre and doubles as a meet and greet area. Any building should flatter its environment and this leisure centre uses the bright-green fields and trees of Princess Anne Park to great effect, with sedum roofing helping knit the building into the green surroundings. The elevation treatment is simple but effective. The glazed area is thoughtfully positioned to enhance connectivity between the internal and external spaces while maintaining privacy for users of the pool hall.



Washington

Broughton Astley Leisure Centre

Watson Batty Architects were appointed by Parkwood Leisure as part of a Design, Build, Manage and operate procurement up to RIBA Stage 4 and then were novated to Speller Metcalfe Construction to deliver RIBA Stages 5 and 6 of the project with successful completion in December 2019. The new £3.6m leisure centre accommodates a four-court sports hall; 4 dry changing rooms, 2 no. flexible dance studios, 60-stations fitness suite, café and ancillary accommodation. The scheme also includes floodlit FA standard synthetic football pitches and a car park. The design also allows for future expansion on site to accommodate a swimming pool as long term ambition. Broughton Astley Parish Council had a number of core outcomes and objectives to deliver from the new facility to ensure it goes on to support and deliver the overall corporate objectives of the Council. As designers, our challenge was to ensure we successfully delivered these in the design alongside complying with the latest Sport Governing Bodies recommendations and working to a tight budget. The facility will be used by the community of Broughton Astley and the students at Thomas Astley Community College. The building is designed to accommodate a dedicated and secured access from the Academy side to the leisure centre.



Broughton