

# Havant Public Service Plaza

Property Services



**Location:**  
Havant, Hampshire

**Client:**  
Havant Borough Council,  
Hampshire County Council

**Value:** £9.7 million

**Completed:** August 2011

**Specialist teams:**  
Architects and Interiors:  
HCC Property Services  
Landscape and Structures:  
HCC Property Services  
M&E: Gary Jones Assoc Ltd  
QS: Cyril Sweet Ltd  
Contractor: Morgan Sindall

Havant Public Service Plaza was opened to the public on 22 August 2011, following the successful completion of Phase 1 of a £9.75m refurbishment and extension to the existing Havant Borough Council headquarters building. The project was funded by Havant Borough Council, Hampshire County Council, and a central government Co-Location grant.

As a result of the project, Hampshire County Council and Havant Borough Council have been able to co-locate their offices in Havant to improve customer access and quality of service, whilst also rationalising their assets into a single modern civic office complex. The co-location includes other public services partners such as the Citizens Advice Bureau.

The existing building had suffered from significant ad-hoc alterations since it was constructed in 1974, and also contained widespread asbestos. The construction works involved stripping the building back to its frame and external envelope and refurbishing throughout with new acoustic ceilings and energy efficient lighting and ventilation, providing open plan flexible office accommodation along with a variety of meeting rooms, resource areas and kitchenettes. Upon completion the building is expected to achieve a BREEAM Very Good rating.

Through new ways of working, the project improves space utilisation of the existing offices, supports collaborative working practices, integrates service delivery and enables the disposal of surplus office buildings. The project has transformed the civic campus into a high quality accessible public space that will promote regeneration in the Borough of Havant.

## Key Benefits

- Transformation of the existing 1974 building into a modern efficient office complex which offers flexible work space and an increase in capacity from approximately 440 to over 700 staff.
- Enables co-location of public service delivery in Havant, enabling visitors to access all their public services under one roof.
- Enables rationalisation of local office accommodation into a single building.
- New landmark entrance pavilion to accommodate the enhanced public service provision and encourage regeneration elsewhere in the borough.

*“ The new Public Service Plaza will provide a much improved experience for visitors compared with the former Civic Offices. Residents will be able to get all of their public service queries answered and won’t even need to know which organisation to ask. It’s modern, but it’s also functional. Havant is setting an example to other local authorities in Hampshire and is showing just how successful partnership working can be for delivering efficient services to our community. ”*

Councillor Tony Briggs,  
Leader of Havant Borough Council



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