

BIRLEY & PARKWAY FIRE STATIONS SHEFFIELD



KEY FEATURES

- M&E was BIM-led by our specialist in-house team to speed-up the process and prevent delays caused by unforeseen problems
- Two new build fire stations requiring similar M&E facilities but different building layouts needed bespoke designs
- Both were high pressure projects with exact, non-moveable, non-negotiable deadlines
- South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue had to be operating from the new sites on specific dates as the old stations closed within one day
- Co-ordination of services and planning was vital to success
- Meticulously planned to secure labour and equipment at the start of the holiday season to ensure no downtime
- Extensive design input to ensure all systems installed would benefit this crucial 999 emergency service
- Worked seamlessly at two sites on separate sides of Sheffield

THE DETAILS

Project title:

Birley Fire Station,
Parkway Fire Station

Location:

Sheffield (two sites)

Client:

South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue

Services:

Mechanical & Electrical

Main Contractor:

BAM Construction

Value:

£1.3 million

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THE BRIEF

To design, supply and install full M&E services at two new fire stations - Birley and Parkway – with non-negotiable move in dates as the fire authority was shutting the old Mosborough, Darnell and Mansfield Road Fire Stations within one day.

To ensure all services were highly efficient and reliable to complement the emergency work it carries out.



OUR APPROACH

As the fire stations were new build projects, we had the opportunity to make them class leading in terms of its M&E services.

This was viewed as crucial given the emergency work the fire service carries out and how every second is vital when responding to 999 call outs.

The strict deadlines imposed for the project completion and handover required us to plan intensely, covering all eventualities that could be accounted for.

We continuously analysed the timetable so we were always ahead of schedule and planning in advance for crucial elements like labour resources as the May and June holiday period would be beginning at the same time we approached the last part of the programme.

By booking engineers and special commissioners in advance, we avoided being short of key personnel and avoided delays.

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The same approach was taken to ordering the equipment needed.

Advanced orders ensured we wouldn't be waiting for parts, which was vital given we were providing a LPHW heating and plant room, new HRU ventilation systems, air conditioning, small power and data, full lighting, fire alarms, television installations, an air source heat pump at Parkway and solar PV at Birley.

As it was imperative there could be no delay, our in-house BIM team led the projects.

As with all BIM projects, a large amount of design work is carried out at the beginning of the programme - typically much more than traditional 2D designs - but provides significant time savings over the course of the work.

The benefits were enormous as BIM was also being used by the main contractor, BAM Construction.

For example, it meant we could identify in detail the best locations for HVAC systems and avoid any surprises arising on site due to changes in any other specialist fields such as structural steelwork.

It also enabled us to model pipe sizing, cable calculations and basic energy modelling.

Regular BIM design meetings were held to run through the co-ordinated models to understand in advance where clashes may occur or highlight design changes that need implementing.

This gave us a huge advantage in speeding up the process considerably, allowing M&E engineers to work side by side efficiently in order to deliver two faultless schemes.

As a result, we managed to meet all the challenges set and hand over on budget and on time allowing for thorough testing and snagging so the new fire stations could comfortably open on the specified dates.



CLIENTS REACTION

It has been a long time since I have experienced as good of a service from a Mechanical and Electrical subcontractor.

Daniel Walsh
Project Manager
BAM Construction Ltd



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CLIENTS REACTION

The service we received was excellent from start to finish; the upfront design service was punctual and amenable to change with a good level of clear design information issued.

The on-site delivery team were very user-friendly and were problem solvers, not problem finders. We found G&H were accommodating to Client alterations and gave clear guidance on the impacts associated with such changes.

The commercial aspect of the project also ran smoothly, changes were priced and agreed in a timely manner and any ‘contested items’ were openly discussed and agreed amicably. The final account was agreed promptly.

We would like to give a special acknowledgement to the on-site Working Supervisors Paul Holmes and Stuart Handcock who were a pleasure to work with.

*Project Surveyor
Luke Oldroyd
BAM Construction Ltd*



Want to know more?

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