

NHS Northern Care Alliance: Oldham Community Diagnostic Centre and Endoscopy

This brand-new NHS facility in Greater Manchester needed to ensure patients felt as relaxed as possible during each stage of their diagnosis and treatment. To assist, its design scheme provided a soothing, beach-inspired palette of colours, complemented by flooring from across three Polyflor collections.

Location: Salmon Fields, Oldham, Greater Manchester

Products Used: Palettone PUR, Forest fx PUR, Polysafe Verona PUR

Sector: Healthcare

Oldham Community Diagnostic Centre (CDC) and Endoscopy, part of the NHS Northern Care Alliance (NCA), spans an area of 1,800 m². It is the second of two building phases which, when combined, form one of the largest facilities of its kind in England.

The location of this purpose-built facility is Salmon Fields in Royton, Greater Manchester, a short distance from the Polyflor sales and marketing offices. It comprises three procedure rooms, four consulting rooms, a spacious waiting room, recovery areas, and various ancillary accommodations.

A well-considered building design allows patients to move smoothly between locations at each stage of their visit.

As specialists in healthcare buildings and clinical environments, MTX Contracts Ltd., Wilmslow, managed on-site construction.

Day Architectural Ltd., Manchester, was responsible for the interior design, led by Lloyd Payne, Senior Technologist.

NCA required a calm, inviting atmosphere

that provided patients with a sense of tranquillity and healing.

Payne was subsequently inspired by the serene beauty of the beach, assembling a colour palette which incorporated its natural elements.

As a central feature, he opted to create a bespoke graphic wall in the reception area. This eye-catching geometric design features shades reminiscent of refreshing ocean waters and lush coastal vegetation.

Elsewhere on the walls, neutral tones reflect the purity and cleanliness of a medical facility. Furthermore, they allow brighter colours to stand out, thus creating an ambience upon entry, intended to redirect the thoughts of possibly nervous patients.

As with all healthcare environments, safety was paramount. First and foremost, the specified flooring had to meet the requirements of Health Technical Memoranda and Health Building Notes, with aesthetic qualities being a secondary consideration.

Payne was already familiar with Polyflor products,

having previously worked with several flooring collections, and therefore gained a strong understanding of the most suitable options.

He also acknowledged that the prominent use of Polyflor within nationwide NHS facilities was a welcome reassurance.

Overall, Polyflor provided Payne with peace of mind in all regards: durability, sustainability, ease of cleaning, slip resistance, and a complementary design. Across the building's six zones, he specified the following Polyflor shades to heighten its surrounding décor:

- Palettone PUR, Linen Air (8635)
- Forest fx PUR, Oiled Oak (2990)
- Polysafe Verona PUR, Dolphin Grey (5203)

Vector Flooring Ltd., based in Oldham, was responsible for all required subfloor preparations and flooring installation.

Upon completion, Oldham CDC and Endoscopy commenced patient treatment in December 2024. Now fully operational, the facility will offer an increased number of endoscopy procedures each year, easing pressure on neighbouring Oldham Royal Hospital.

“ The project’s overall design creates a soothing ambience that subtly channels the calming sensations one experiences by the beach. This connection to nature was supplemented by a trio of Polyflor flooring shades, which matched our chosen colour scheme seamlessly. This satisfaction was furthered by the assurance of working with a trusted brand within the healthcare sector.

Lloyd Payne, Senior Technologist, Day Architectural Ltd.

