



Northampton Criminal Justice Centre

Managed integration into a business park setting

The site for the Northampton Criminal Justice Centre was located near prestigious office buildings within a business park context. The design approach presented a number of challenges both as a result of the tightness of the site and its setting. NORR's design solution was to incorporate a quality office aesthetic, backed up with a robust public consultation strategy to alleviate public concern.

The facilities had to be highly resilient, for day-to-day use and for future provision as the county was predicted to significantly grow in numbers over the next 20 years. It was also the replacement structure to consolidate activity from six existing prisons, some over a century old. NORR developed a highly efficient custody suite designed using flow analysis and mapping existing custody records to ensure optimum flows and throughput of detainees. An office space was incorporated, linked by a common vertical core to be used by the Crown Prosecution Service and investigative police departments, bringing them closer to the detainees and delivering real efficiency savings. The resulting three-story landmark building has an open, friendly façade that fits right in with its business park locale without displaying any overt security features. Natural light pours through numerous large windows and skylights and bright optimistic colors improve morale in the interior. NORR succeeded in achieving the rigorous security standards, operational requirements and energy efficiencies that were primary objectives for the Northampton Criminal Justice Centre.

CLIENT	Northamptonshire Police
PORTFOLIO	Justice
CATEGORY	Detention and Correction Center
SIZE	53,820 SF (5,000 SM)
LOCATION	Northamptonshire, UK
DATE	2012
SERVICES	Architecture Interior Design

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Justice

Justice facilities demand multi-faceted design to uphold and express the legal process, and achieve efficient and functional operations, while maintaining a safe and secure environment. Our experience in the design of judicial buildings spans more than 30 years across all levels of government including courthouses, police and fire facilities and detention and correctional centers.

Multi-Faceted Design to Meet All Users' Needs

Our Justice Center of Excellence continually advances design through research, technology and practice. We believe the key to effective judicial building design is a clear understanding of complex programs and changing processes to support all participants. Working collaboratively with users and stakeholders, we use both traditional and new techniques of visualization and simulation to communicate and collaborate in the design process.

Courthouses

The design of a new courthouse must be accessible, dignified, safe and functional. Detailed design of public circulation, waiting areas, settlement rooms, holding quarters and judicial chambers is undertaken to support the needs of the courts system. NORR has completed more than 50 courthouse projects including programming assessments, standards development, accessibility studies, renovations and new-build designs.

Police and Fire Facilities

The design of police and fire facilities must respond to the increasing demands for service and security in an evolving world. Our Justice team works with multiple police and fire service organizations across the globe to realize designs that achieve efficiency, functionality, integrate technology and provide a safe environment for officers, firefighters and the public that is integrated into the community they serve.

Detention and Correctional Centers

The design of a new detention or correctional center, or overhaul of an existing facility, must emphasize elements such as rigorous security standards, operational requirements, enhanced rehabilitation potential and adaptability for future growth and services. We manage all elements in close partnership with the client and community.

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