

Design Guidance for the Royal Sussex County Hospital

Spatial analysis of building layout and use patterns in the A&E department.

CLIENT ROYAL SUSSEX COUNTY HOSPITAL
LOCATION BRIGHTON
YEAR 2004

The Accident and Emergency department at the Royal Sussex County Hospital was recently refurbished but is likely to undergo further work due to the construction of a walk in centre on the premises and increase in demand for services in the department with GP referrals increasing patient numbers.

Intelligent Space were brought in to provide evidence on how the A&E department is currently being used and how the reorganisation would impact on the A&E and neighbouring departments. This first stage of work was to identify how the department is being used and how well the current design supports the care process. This was to identify the base line by which changes to the department can be compared and to provide guidance on how the department could better support care within the A&E and provide strong linkages to the new walk in centre.



What we did

Intelligent Space gathered evidence on the movement and locations of staff, patients and visitors in the A&E and adjacent departments through a series of comprehensive surveys. This information was combined with spatial analysis of way finding and surveillance to show how the current building layout affects movement and supports or hinders the care process. The final report included a series of recommendations to guide future development work at the hospital.

Benefits include

- Provision of a base line survey from which changes to the department can be compared against.
- Identification of short term and long term strategies to improve the department. These include both physical improvements to the department as well as low cost strategies that will provide large benefits.

Related work by Intelligent Space

- Design Guidance for Safer Hospitals for the Home Office, 2003. Analysis of building layout, crime and movement in Accident and Emergency departments.
- The impact of the built environment on care within Accident and Emergency Departments for NHS Estates, 2003.
- Support Services in A&E Departments for NHS Estates, 2003.
- Spatial Analysis of Critical Care Wards for NHS Estates, 2002.