

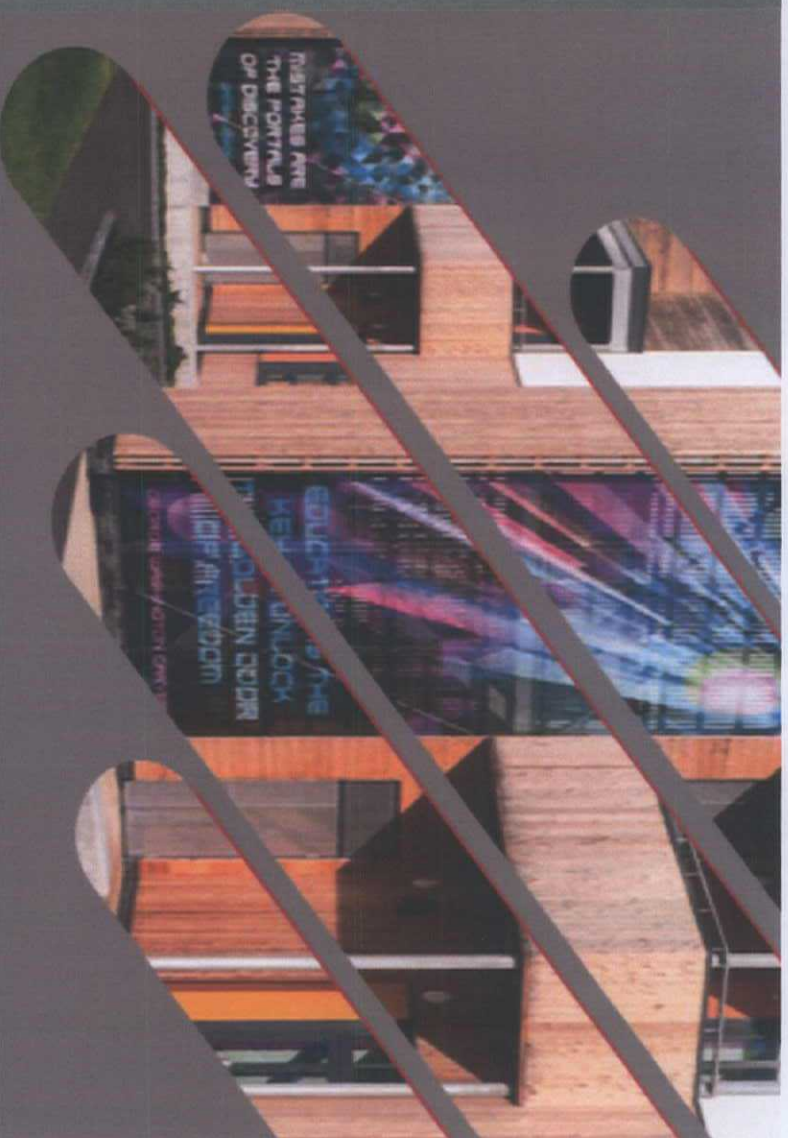
Design and Access Statement

Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board,

Prince Charles Hospital,

Gurnos Road,

Merthyr Tydfil,



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1 - Introduction

This Design and Access Statement (DAS) accompanies an application by Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board, Prince Charles Hospital for the installation of 2nr. single-storey *Portakabin Limited* buildings to be located within the curtilage of the site.

Here on in the application shall be referred to as Prince Charles Hospital.

Prepared in accordance with National Planning policy guidance to achieve a high quality design, the scheme also considers the development need and overall site characteristics.

This document should be read in conjunction with the accompanying drawings and documents.

This application seeks permanent permission.



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2 - Site History

Prince Charles is medium sized general district hospital located in Merthyr Tydfil and managed by Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Healthboard.

A valuable part of the community since original construction in the 1970's it offers a high standard of healthcare and is a significant employer. A long planning history is associated with this site, ongoing construction has taken place throughout the years with the addition of numerous buildings. Most recently, a phased master plan has been put into action to continue improvements to meet the standards of modern healthcare.

The hospital is located in Gurnos and is characterised by a mixture of buildings varying in scale and material appearance.

A number of demountable buildings are present across the site including an example immediately behind the proposed development site.

Planning History:

- **P/19/0196** | Erection of a temporary two storey Portakabin, Unit 3, to provide a multi disciplinary training unit
- **P/17/0086** | Temporary kitchen unit (with plant above). Road works to include re-configuration to parking, road alignment, landscaping and footways

3 - Site in context



Proposed development site in relation to the wider area



Proposed development site in close context

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3.2 – Photographs of Proposed Development site



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4 - Design Principles and Context

4.1 – Use

This application seeks permanent planning permission for the installation of 2nr single storey Portakabin buildings to be used as a decant office accommodation.

As a medium district hospital, a multitude of disciplines and procedures take place each day with increased pressure to seek solutions to streamline daily activities to improve patient focus.

Evidence of nationwide pressure on NHS services are well document and Prince Charles Hospital is no exception. Experiencing unprecedented use of services throughout the winter period has led to the trust actively exploring improvement opportunities.

One such opportunity was identified within the maternity ward which requires decant of the existing office accommodation. Despite being displaced it remains a vital requirement and thus alternative space is required.

Currently the hospital is put to full use with no alternative locations in which to place the office space, hence it is proposed that 2nr Portakabin buildings are installed.

Internally, configuration will reflect as closely as possible the current provision and is to be sited within the hospital grounds to maintain

accessibility. The units will be utilised by ten members of existing staff and eight additional staff.

The Portakabin buildings will be an integral part of the hospital's ability to provide ongoing patient care.

4.2 – Amount

The *Portakabin Limited building* has an overall combined internal floor space of 119.85m². This meets the requirements of functional office accommodation for the staff using the facility. See the enclosed Plan and Elevations attached to the application.

4.3 – Layout

The *Portakabin Limited buildings* will be located within an unused grass area of the hospital site. Located away from site boundaries ensures it does not encroach on any residential properties in the local area.

Internally, the layout comprises of an open plan office in each building both with a toilet and kitchenette.

4.4 – Scale

The *Portakabin Limited buildings* have the following overall dimensions;

TN154: 14.8m x 3.9m with an overall height of 2.9m (see plan & elevation drawing).

TN184: 18.4 m x 3.9m with an overall height of 2.9m (see plan & elevation drawing).

4.5 – Landscaping

Due to the nature of the scheme landscaping is not considered necessary.

4.6 – Appearance

The *Portakabin* buildings are manufactured and prefabricated at *Portakabin*, New Lane, Huntingdon, York.

External walls are of a durable one-piece construction with high-performance, low-maintenance plastisol-coated galvanised steel cladding to offer protection against fire, extreme weather and accidental damage. The roof deck is of one-piece construction and is impact resistant.

Internally, the polyester-coated galvanised steel ceiling is designed to prevent condensation problems and has a low-maintenance finish.

The walls are of vinyl-faced plasterboard, providing a wipe-clean finish. The prefabricated nature of the buildings results in minimal impact on the environment in terms of both construction and use.

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4.7 – Access

4.7.1 – Vehicle and Transport links

The site location is accessible via the network of private hospital roads and does not currently include any parking provision. As the scheme will not displace parking the current provision remains unchanged.

Good transport links are present in the surrounding area with a bus stop located on the adjacent highway only a short distance from the hospital.

4.7.2 – Access

The proposed *Portakabin Limited* buildings will be installed as close to the ground as possible to negate the need for any stepped or ramped access.

5 – Conclusion

The *Portakabin Limited* building was chosen as a result of the flexible solution it provides. It can be installed quickly enabling our client to provide interim office accommodation in a specifically fitted out building much more quickly than a traditional build. It can also be easily removed with little impact on the existing site features. The nature of this building will have minimal impact on the environment with regards to its construction and use.

This proposal is essential to enable to the hospital to provide effective office accommodation which will ensure the longer term plan is implemented efficiently.

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