

Planning Approval for New Housing Partnership Offices

For immediate release

04 November 2008

Supported by strong recommendations from the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames and design panel, planning approval has been granted for new Richmond Housing Partnership Offices on Waldegrave Road, Teddington.

Providing 5,200 sq/m of open plan office accommodation with a reception area and exhibition space, the new head office building will also incorporate a café, opening onto a landscaped rear courtyard.

Designed by bptw partnership, the three storey scheme incorporates a setback top storey with a corner canopy which marks the building's entrance and retains the perimeter of the adjacent library, a valuable element of Waldegrave Road's mixed streetscape.

The expressed frame forms a strong rhythm with brickwork and terracotta infill panels and continues on the southern façade as an outrigger providing louvres. The plan form is arranged around a courtyard and offers excellent natural lighting and cross ventilation. Surpassing the 20% renewable energy requirement, the roof is fitted with photovoltaic panels and the building will achieve a BREEAM 'Excellent' rating.

Planning approval for the scheme marks the successful culmination of the design competition for the head office, won by bptw in autumn 2007. Focussed on the provision of a sensitive response to its surroundings, it is anticipated that the design of the new offices will develop a public identity within the community, adding value and vitality to the existing streetscape.

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