

Marmox Multiboard Specified for Mixed Tenure Development in Islington

An important new residential development in one of the capital's most vibrant areas is making use of Marmox Multiboards in fitting out the bathrooms, as part of a visually striking non-traditional construction solution. The Wharf Road project is being led by award winning housing provider, Places for People and is creating much needed accommodation for those who work or live around the London Borough of Islington. Main contractor, Allenbuild Ltd. from Byfleet in Surrey, is building a total of 98 high quality homes on a very challenging brownfield site.

While the development benefits from excellent transport links, including the Old Street and Angel Underground stations within a short walk, the site is confined by a canal and existing properties as well as a substation. Subsoil contamination also required significant remediation work.

In an effort to optimise the construction sequence and respond to the district's diverse architecture, the project design team opted for the use of light gauge steel framing with a mix of zinc cladding and brickwork for the outer elevations to the well-insulated cavity walls. Internally, the use of the Marmox Multiboards is helping to deliver bathroom interiors, which will be both attractive and durable, while simplifying the fit out for the contractors. The Construction Director for Allenbuild/ Places for People commented: "Allenbuild was appointed as main contractor for this brownfield project, to build 98 apartments



on a very challenging site. The new homes offer a mix of dwelling types ranging from one bed apartments to four bed houses. Tenure includes 19 high specification outright sales units, 44 shared ownership and 35 social rented, all built to our client's interior designers' internal finishes schedules".

Accordingly, Allenbuild's tradesmen consumed close to 200 of the 600mm x 1250mm Multiboard panels in the 12.5mm thick option to line the walls where the vanity units and toilets were to be installed. Marmox Multiboards are manufactured from extruded polystyrene or XPS and offer a range of positive physical characteristics in addition to being fully waterproof. They are both light to handle and easy to cut, while still being able to sustain substantial loadings if required. At Wharf Road they were fixed using the special washers produced by Marmox, speeding up the fixing process. Elsewhere the boards have featured in other domestic, commercial and educational projects across the country. They were even used to replace badly deteriorated ceiling panels high above a public swimming pool in Peterborough where ease of installation and resistance to moist aggressive conditions were paramount.

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