



Summary

The hospital wanted to extend its Wi-Fi to give patients access to entertainment and allow them to communicate with family and friends. The Wi-Fi would also allow staff to cut down on paperwork, reducing time and administration costs.

The hospital benefits from a Wi-Fi network that enables:

- Patient safety monitoring
- Asset tracking
- Digital mobility
- Hosting of clinical systems
- Legacy interoperability
- Secure and reliable network

"GCL have worked sensitively around our staff and patients and are not intimidated by changes to the scheduling due to hospital requirements and circumstances. GCL were highly professional in their planning and approach to the project. We will be very happy to recommend them throughout the Trusts."

Mr Alistair Nelson, King's Lynn Hospital Trust Estates & Facilities

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Case study: King's Lynn Hospital

Enhancing the Wi-Fi system throughout the hospital – to improve medical treatment and patient experience



The Requirements

The Queen Elizabeth Hospital provides healthcare services to West and North Norfolk in addition to parts of Breckland, Cambridgeshire and South Lincolnshire. It has a catchment area of more than 750 square miles and 331,000 people.

The Trust wanted to extend their limited Wi-Fi to allow patients to stay in contact with family and friends as well as keeping entertained. In addition to this, they wanted to encourage the use of technologies to reduce paperwork and help doctors and nurses with their medical administration.

They were also following the recommendations of a report commissioned by the government and Martha Lane Fox to improve the use of online technology in the health service. The hospital needed the guarantee that:

- The new Wi-Fi would provide a fully working site network
- Safety would be paramount
- There would be minimum disruption
- It would be completed on-time and budget
- The Health & Safety Care Act was met

The Challenges

This project presented GCL with a number of challenges including:

- Working around staff and patients
- Flexible scheduling
- Potential asbestos hazard
- 3000m of containment delivered through patient areas
- Material requisition to specific areas

The Solution

The hospital was active, with numerous patients passing through the corridors, so GCL's experience working in busy and occupied areas was appreciated.

Physical safety barriers were deployed to provide exclusion zones. Galvanised cable baskets and trunking were used at high level for routing cables necessitating the 'working at height' regulations to be employed. Specially qualified engineers with suitable personal protective equipment worked within ceilings where asbestos may have been present.

Moreover, project planning with the inclusion of clinical staff was critical to ensure that works were completed during the prescribed periods that the wards were vacated, so that patient care was not compromised.

Benefits to the Client

The hospital now has a modern, cost-effective cabling solution, and will benefit from:

- Wi-Fi connection in all areas
- Reliable Wi-Fi connection
- Better service for staff and visitors
- Improved patient experience
- Tightened security
- 'Future-proofing' – adaptable in future
- Children on wards accessing school work

To find out more, speak to one of our dedicated team on 020 3906 6070