

# FURNESS GENERAL HOSPITAL - MATERNITY UNIT

## CASE STUDY



Sector: Healthcare

Client: Vinci

System: Alucobond Cladding,  
Secret Fix Soffits & Covers

## PROJECT OVERVIEW.

The South Lakes Birth Centre is the brand-new Maternity Unit at Furness General Hospital. It has been built to replace the existing Maternity Unit which was originally constructed in 1984. Clinical practice and technology have moved on significantly in the past 30 years, and the facilities therefore needed to be significantly upgraded in order to provide the best possible care for visitors. The project began in September 2015 and took 15 months to complete.

## THE SOLUTION.

On this prestigious healthcare project, JWD supplied a dynamic, modern and aesthetically pleasing external rainscreen façade system. This included specially coated Alucobond Panels along with 'secret fix' architectural aluminium soffits and column covers.

One of the main challenges faced during installation was the sheer size of the cladding panels. Each modular weighed in at 128 kg, representing some of the largest that can be produced in the UK. In addition, health and safety was a key priority as the project was taking place adjacent to a live working hospital. In order to ensure the safety of all patients, staff and visitors, diversions were put in place on surrounding footpaths and roads whilst the works were carried out, although full access to all parts of the hospital was maintained at all times.

One of the building's stand out features is the side elevation which incorporates an innovative 'architectural crease', created using the PVDF finish from the Alucobond panels. In addition, the characteristics of this specially manufactured finish enable the panels to look many different colours depending on the angle of the light and this effect is further accentuated by the 'architectural crease' design.



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