



# Case Study



Fosters Care Home



# Fosters Care Home

**Client:** RJ Leighfield

**Contractor:** RJ Leighfield

**Architect:** Living-Architects

**Location:** Reading, Berkshire

**Balconies:** 9 Cassettes®



## Challenge

The main challenge faced at Fosters Care Home was that the concrete slab had already been cast as it was a 'traditional build', meaning an alternative had to be found to our cast-in anchors.

Another challenge was due to the project being a care home for elderly residents the balconies needed to be designed and installed in a way that suited the residents' specific needs.



## Solution

Post-fixed brackets were chosen to allow our innovative 1-piece arms to be attached to the building. This meant our Glide-On™ Cassette® could be quickly and easily installed and keep deflection to a minimum.

To ensure residents had enough space to move easily, the balconies were designed with large projections. This meant that wheelchair users could turn 360° and make proper use of their balconies as required by lifetime homes criteria.

The doorsill interface also had to be taken into consideration ensuring balconies were installed flush and that the decking was level with the internal flooring. This made the balconies more accessible for residents with limited mobility.







### Step 1

Post-fixed brackets were fixed through the existing slab. These were then back filled with grout to ensure voids didn't affect the structural performance.

### Step 2

Cassette® balconies were preassembled offsite, including the balustrades, decking & soffits.

### Step 3

Cassette® balconies were transported with balconies 'nested' onto each pallet making transport both cost effective & safe. Balconies were pre-slung offsite ready for installation upon arrival.

### Step 4

Once lifted into position, the Cassettes® simply Glide-On™ to the pre-erected support arms, before completing the mechanical fixings.







# NBS Specification

## Fosters Care Home

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Manufacturer</b>        | Sapphire Balconies Ltd 11<br>Arkwright Road Reading<br>RG2 0LU<br><br>0844 88 00 553<br>sales@sapphire.eu.com<br>www.sapphire.eu.com |
| <b>Reference</b>           | Glide-On™ aluminium Cassette® balconies with Crystal® frameless, structural glass.   |
| <b>Balcony anchor</b>      | Top-fix anchors incorporating thermal breaks.  |
| <b>Arms</b>                | Top-fix anchors incorporating thermal breaks.  |
| <b>Cassette® structure</b> | Standard 400mm modular Glide-On™ Cassette® balconies   |
| <b>Soffits</b>             | Top-fix anchors incorporating thermal breaks.  |
| <b>Deck finish</b>         | Enjura WPC composite decking fixed with hidden clips.  |
| <b>Toprail</b>             | 22 x 22mm (nominal) 'U' shaped satin anodised aluminium capping to top of glass.   |
| <b>Guarding</b>            | 21.5mm clear toughened laminated structural glass panels PVB interlayer.   |
| <b>Base fixing</b>         | Mechanically fixed to Cassette®  |
| <b>Fascias</b>             | Polyester powder coated aluminium fascia trim to conceal glass fixings/edge of balcony frame   |







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