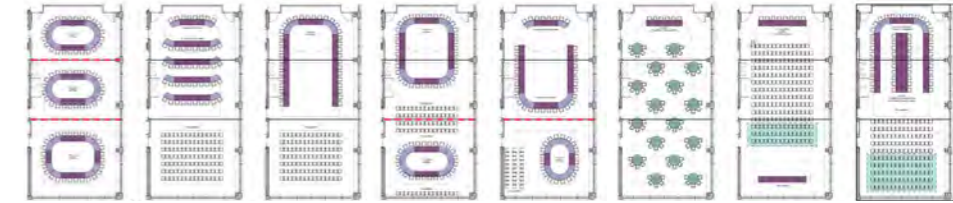


Crawley Civic Office

PROJECT PROFILE



Client Crawley Borough Council (CBC)
Location Crawley
Size / Cost Office 7,185 sqm NIA / £ 38 Mio
Completion 2023
Team Developer - Westrock
Cost - Gardiner & Theobald
Architect - Cartwright Pickard
Services - Griffiths Evans
Structures - Elliott Wood
Furniture Agent - Showcase



Brief Development
Client Advisory
Workplace Consultancy
Specialist Advice
Interior Design

WORKPLACE

Dating from the 1960's, the original Town Hall fronted the Broadway, a wide central boulevard, built for the new world of the motorcar. The existing building had been extended numerous times and had reached the end of its useful life. With a very limited floor to ceiling height and a restrictive structural grid, the council staff had become fragmented and insular, with poor facilities, no communal spaces and some entrenched behaviours, unable to be aligned with modern workplace culture.

We were asked to share 'best practice' and 'lessons learnt' from our experience in the public sector and analyse the council's organisational structure and space utilisation / vacancy statistics. We worked closely with the senior management team, HR and customer services directors and undertook a staff consultation process in order to enable us to formulate the new brief for a re-imagined and consolidated workplace. Once we achieved cabinet approval, our proposals were used as the basis of the council accommodation fit-out element within a brand-new building.

Working to support the council, we provided direct input to the wider masterplanning team, led by Cartwright Pickard Architects to provide an entirely new 9-storey Civic Building, a new

landscaped urban piazza and a significant amount of new housing. Consolidating the council-occupied areas on the lower floors of the new office allows the council to benefit from rental income of the offices above, lowered running costs and reduced carbon emissions.

"There is a very positive feeling about the new home of the organisation - a big contribution to recruitment, retention and staff wellbeing. The Project has benefited considerably from your experience and challenge."

Nigel Sheehan, Head of Partnership Services, CBC

Civic Design and Flexibility

We designed the public and democratic spaces to be usable all through the day by doubling up functions. The civic double height foyer with its sculptural stair and public facilities, serves both the ground floor customer services centre and the first-floor conferencing functions. We used flexible furniture, movable walls and modular timber cladding to subdivide the council chamber into three committee rooms and enable flexible uses such as training rooms, a lecture hall, a ballroom or for awards ceremonies.