

# PUTTING THE END USER FIRST



R&S Projects Management have transformed a run-down youth centre in Bath into a state of the art community venue for young people in a 1.4m refurbishment. The project was initiated to help Bath & North East Somerset Council's youth service improve the life chances of young people and children. The Council, myplace organisation, architects, and young people themselves developed high quality proposals which were then brought to life by the team at R&S.

The new venue now offers far more than a traditional youth centre, and whilst designed with the needs of young people in mind, offers facilities for the entire community, including a community cafe, music studio, ICT suite and many sports facilities. Sporting opportunities available will now range from boxing, basketball and trampolining through to street dance and martial arts. Services offered include drug and alcohol

support services, sexual health advice, training and employment advice, and counselling services, ensuring a holistic approach to youth services that is truly innovative. It is fully accessible for young people with disabilities and includes a special sensory room that will stimulate senses such as touch and sight.

R&S have an impressive track record in keeping the needs of the end user in mind during construction projects and this is at the heart of much of their success in refurbishment projects in the Education and Healthcare fields. Their use of the latest in product innovation and the teams' experience ensure the highest quality of work for the client but more importantly creates the right environment for those using the venues.

***"We take a great deal of care to understand the specific requirements of our clients, whatever their sector,"*** says Dayle Bayliss, Construction Director at R&S.

***"Our teams are carefully selected to ensure that we not only adhere to the highest professional standards, but that we demonstrate care and sensitivity to the needs of the end users. We're delighted to have been part of the Southside project and we know that the building will provide a myriad of opportunities for local young people."***



## THE BUILD

The construction project began in August 2010, and there were unique challenges to be faced during the build, as Dayle explains:

***"This has been a very complex 36 week project with diverse challenges – for example the existing site has a pre-cast concrete structure requiring comprehensive alterations – but we are delighted to have been involved in a scheme that really will benefit the whole community. The National Lottery has been involved from feasibility to construction, and we were particularly pleased to have been able to showcase our progress to the Lottery team when they visited the site."***

