

Liverpool based developer LSHP Ltd has just secured planning approval for the building of a major new Neighbourhood Health Centre for Kensington, in the heart of Merseyside's largest Renewal Area.

The new centre will provide a wide range of health services for the local community, including two GP's surgeries, ante-natal and baby clinics, paediatric audiology and vaccinations, minor surgery, dental services and a pharmacy, amongst other things.

Planned as part of Liverpool Primary Care Trust's drive to provide more health services near to where people live, the building will help the health service to better serve the needs of its local communities and reduce health inequalities. It is also a real landmark in the regeneration of the area.

The new health centre will be the very first building to be constructed in the Kensington area, following a major demolition works took place in the area in 2009 covering a total of 5,531 properties.

Designed by Liverpool-based architects, Taylor Young, the building's stunning, contemporary style will include inscriptions over the building's entrance that resonate with Liverpool's history as a city. There are also plans to highlight the building as a centre for health and wellbeing by backlighting the message 'Love Life' by night.

Graham Pink, Chief Executive of LSHP Ltd said, "We are delighted to have received planning permission for this important new community-based health centre. As a company, we are absolutely committed to providing buildings which contribute to the health and wellbeing of whole communities.

"The centre will also be a real landmark for Kensington, as it is located on a prominent junction and along with the new road will be the first tangible evidence of regeneration following the demolition works in the area, and we believe it will be a huge asset for everyone living or working in the community."

Gideon Ben-Tovim, Chairman of Liverpool PCT said, "This will be the tenth new primary care facility that LSHP Ltd have provided for us as part of our Out of Hospital programme, which aims to introduce a wider range of services in local health facilities that are modern, friendly and easily accessible.

Formed in 2004 as a Public Private Partnership, LSHP Ltd covers the Liverpool and Sefton areas as part of the NHS Local Improvement Finance Trust, which is a major Government initiative designed to stimulate investment in primary care and social care facilities.

As a leading provider of new buildings for healthier communities, the company has already successfully developed a total of seven community centres in Liverpool and a further three in Sefton, including a new health centre, library and sixth form facility due to open at Childwall Fiveways in the autumn and the recently opened South Liverpool NHS Treatment Centre in Garston.

With a further three currently under construction, this represents an investment of £70 million into some of Merseyside's most deprived communities since 2004.

Gideon Ben-Tovim, Chairman of Liverpool PCT adds, "LSHP's unique knowledge, expertise and commitment to partnership working has enabled us to make real improvements in our delivery of primary care to communities across the city, and this project is a strong example of that."

The building work for Kensington's new Neighbourhood Health Centre is due to start in January, and the centre is expected to open its doors to members of the public in Liverpool in early 2013.

For more information about LSHP Ltd, please visit www.lshp.co.uk