Somerset bathroom firm lands London School of Economics contract

A Somerset bathroom manufacturing firm has secured a £1.6m contract to supply a student accommodation scheme for the London School of Economics.

Highbridge-based Offsite Solutions will make 641 ready assembled shower units or pods for the Glengall Road development in Southwark and main contractor EQUANS.

The project will provide 676 student rooms and studios in a 15-storey building, as well as commercial space.

Amenities will include a gym, external courtyards, cinema room, laundry, and shared kitchens for the cluster flats.

Offsite Solutions said the latest and third in total it has agreed with EQUANS, would bring the total value of projects the firms have collaborated on to more than £5m, and the number of pods supplied to more than 2,000.

The fully finished glass reinforced plastic (GRP) showers — fitted in Offsite's factory in Isleport Business Park — will start arriving on site in Spring 2023, with deliveries to continue until autumn.

The deal comes after Offisite won a £2.2m contract to supply the redevelopment of the <u>former Elizabeth Arden perfume</u> <u>factory</u> site in the capital, which is being turned into flats.

The firm — which reported a <u>record order intake in July</u>, with nearly £40m of new contracts secured — recently delivered more than 1,000 pods for a £200m student accommodation and regeneration scheme for the University of Leicester.

Managing director James Stephens said: "We are delighted to be working on our third offsite manufacturing contract for EQUANS. The robust qualities and low maintenance properties of GRP reduce operating costs over the building life cycle, making these pods ideal for retained assets such as student housing and build-to-rent schemes."

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