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Project Benefits

- 15% staff savings
- Consolidation of pathology services
- 12.6% savings in overall operating costs
- Conversation of an existing hospital laundry
The 2015 Lord Carter report recommends that significant savings can be achieved by the NHS if pathology services are delivered through shared regional hubs. Many of the 44 Strategic Transformation Plans now propose a regional approach to improve performance and reduce costs. This case study looks at the project that South of Tyne Pathology undertook with Galliford Try to bring general pathology services from three trusts into a single automated facility after the recommendations were first made by Lord Carter in 2009.

Project Overview
Galliford Try and Ryder Architecture were appointed through the ProCure21+ Framework to transform a disused existing 1970s bespoke laundry building. By fully refurbishing the existing double height laundry hall we provided a state-of-the-art, open planned, automated laboratory which was overlooked by a mezzanine level which housed a management and administration suite.

Stakeholder Engagement
The brief was developed through a rapid programme of collaborative dialogue. A series of workshops with pathology staff from all three Trusts were held, with a senior member of staff taking single point of responsibility for decision making, this ensured that consistent direction and programme were maintained.

Facts and figures
- Total Area: 8754m²
- Out-turn cost: £9.054m
- Construction Period: 53 weeks
- £23.46 annual operation budget (12.6% reduction)
- 15% Staff cost saving due to improved technology and streamlined operating policies
- Key functional content:
  - Automated lab
  - Histology and Cytology labs
  - Containment Level 3 (CL3) rooms
  - Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) labs
- The Hitachi Cobas 8100 automated flow system was a world first installation
- Pre-Construction Costs: 10%
- Risk Allowance at GMP: 2%

“The team understood our complex requirements and worked closely with the stakeholders to create a first-class regional pathology facility. The modular approach has allowed the facility to be scaled to suit individual equipment requirements and readily adapted as science and technologies continue to develop.”

Chris Charlton, Pathology Service Manager