

# MARIE CURIE

## CASE STUDY

**CLIENT:** Marie Curie Hospice,  
Birmingham, UK

**SECTOR:** Healthcare

**PROJECT:** FireMaster® Fire Curtain Barrier  
installation

**APPLICATION:** Cross Corridor Separation  
and Doors and Windows



**coopers**

EST. 1983

LEADING THE WAY IN FIRE PROTECTION

# COOPERS HELP MARIE CURIE TO CREATE VIBRANT, OPEN PLAN ENVIRONMENT

## WHAT WAS THE CLIENT LOOKING FOR?

Marie Curie, the cancer charity dedicated to caring for patients with terminal illness and takes pride in providing vibrant, homely, hospice care facilities for patients and their families. Key to Marie Curie's principle of providing the best possible quality of life is their first class facilities where patients can feel at home.

When designing their latest, state of the art hospice in Birmingham, Marie Curie specified the need for the building to have a heart from where all things would resonate. From this central hub, three corridors would lead guests to the hospices' accommodation, living and leisure facilities.

However, for the hospices design to comply with fire regulations, planners had to provide fire protection that would guard against fire and smoke channelling along these corridors, spreading to other areas of the building. Whilst non load-bearing fire walls and fire doors would enable the building to meet fire regulations, the physical partitioning would contradict the principle of an open plan, central hub, causing the hospice to resemble a conventional hospital.

## HOW DID COOPERS HELP?

Coopers solution was to install FireMaster® fire curtain barriers at the entrance of each corridor to guard and protect against the spread of smoke and fire. A non-invasive alternative to traditional walls and fire doors, each FireMaster® fire curtain barrier was installed to remain sympathetically hidden within the ceiling to deploy in the event of a fire to compartmentalise the reception and contain both the smoke and fire.

“ By installing Coopers FireMaster® Fire Curtain Barriers, Marie Curie were able to do away with traditional fire protection to achieve a homely, vibrant environment ”

The FireMaster® fire curtain barriers are approved to protect and contain fire for up to 2 hours, but to also avoid any threat of smoke and hot gases seeping through side guides at the edges, each barrier was fitted with an unique smoke sealing system.

## BENEFITS

By installing Coopers FireMaster® fire curtain barriers, Marie Curie were able to achieve their desired, open plan reception area, thus creating a central focus for the new hospice. Additionally, Marie Curie were able to meet their guiding vision of providing their patients with a homely, vibrant living space away from the feel of a traditional hospital environment.

From concept to full commission, Coopers worked closely with the projects main contractor Wilmot Dixon as well as Marie Curie to guarantee that the architectural, open plan designs met with stringent fire regulations to achieve building control approval.

Furthermore, moving away from traditional walls and fire doors, Marie Curie were also able to free up valuable corridor space to provide occupants with unrestricted freedom to move around the building without becoming impeded by heavy fire doors.

## KEY BENEFITS

- Facilitated the desired open plan design
- BSI PAS 121 approved
- Manufactured by Coopers in the UK under ISO 9001
- Full project management available
- CE Marked



Coopers Fire Ltd,  
Edward House, Penner Road,  
Havant, Hampshire, PO9 1QZ  
United Kingdom

**Phone:** +44 (0)2392 454 405

**Fax:** +44 (0)2392 492 732

**Email:** [info@coopersfire.com](mailto:info@coopersfire.com)

**Web:** [www.coopersfire.com](http://www.coopersfire.com)

Coopers Fire Ltd has a policy of continuous product improvement.

As such we reserve the right to change design and specifications without prior notice.

Please check our website for the latest information