



BACKGROUND

The construction of a new £47m Urgent and Emergency Care Centre (UECC) at Scarborough Hospital marked a significant milestone for healthcare provision across the region. As the largest capital scheme ever undertaken by York and Scarborough Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, the success of the development was underpinned by the contributions of key project partners—including Howard Civil Engineering.

To support this landmark development, we were engaged by Integrated Health Projects (IHP)—a joint venture between Sir Robert McAlpine and VINCI Construction—to undertake a £6.4m package of civil engineering works. Building on our successful collaboration with VINCI at Huddersfield Royal Infirmary, we delivered an extensive and technically demanding scope of works that created the foundations and framework for the new facility.

Howard Civil Engineering played a pivotal role in delivering the new facility, completing a 50-week programme of critical groundwork and structural works that earned high praise from the client. Our standards also contributed towards an overall project performance which received a glowing report from the Considerate Constructors Scheme.



SCOPE OF WORK

- **Enabling and Site Logistics** Extensive enabling works and live-site service diversions across a functioning hospital estate. Temporary relocation of the existing helpad to maintain continuity of emergency operations.
- **Drainage and Civils Infrastructure** Installation of new surface and foul water networks, including two large geo-cellular attenuation tanks. 1,600m of deep drainage (up to 5m), 1,000m of service ducting, and over 2,000m of kerbing.
- **Structural Works** Construction of a three-storey reinforced concrete (RC) frame for the new A&E ward, including two reinforced lift and stair cores requiring complex temporary works. Delivery of approximately 4,000m² of concrete across foundations and superstructure.
- **External Works** Construction of a new car park to facilitate compound setup and support hospital operations during delivery.



PROJECT CHALLENGES

Managing works in a live hospital environment required careful planning and operational expertise. Works were sequenced to maintain uninterrupted access for ambulances, patients, staff, and visitors while navigating extensive existing underground services.

The two stair/lift cores were adjacent to features that had to be retained, demanding carefully engineered temporary works solutions to enable safe installation.

Howard Civil Engineering also managed a Programme Critical Path, with accelerated delivery of RC cores critical to meet an ambitious client programme; additional resources and equipment were deployed to fast-track this activity.



SPECIALIST EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES

Temporary Works Engineering

Bespoke schemes were developed to enable safe formation and installation of the stair/lift cores in constrained conditions.

Fast-Track RC Delivery

Targeted resource ramp-up and optimised pour sequencing to shorten durations on key structural elements.

OUTCOME

Howard Civil Engineering delivered a technically demanding £6.4m package over 50 weeks, earning strong client commendation for proactive, professional delivery. The completed UECC now provides robust, modern emergency and acute medical facilities for the region.

Gary Connor, Senior Construction Manager at VINCI Construction, was impressed with Howard Civil Engineering's support on the project, commenting:

"While Howard Engineering has been on site, the team has been extremely proactive. I would definitely use Howard Civil Engineering on other projects."

In addition to this strong endorsement, Howard Civil Engineering were proud to be part of a project team recognised for its outstanding performance under the Considerate Constructors Scheme. IHP achieved a flawless 100% score across all quality categories in the report by the Considerate Constructors Scheme. Inspectors noted the exemplary collaboration between IHP, the NHS Trust's Capital Projects team, and the contractors involved.

This success of the UECC project reinforces Howard Civil Engineering's growing reputation as a trusted delivery partner on complex, high-profile healthcare infrastructure schemes. Our ability to deliver high-quality outcomes under complex conditions continues to set us apart—making us a contractor of choice for major civil engineering schemes across the UK.

