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Hitting the roof

The Royal United Hospital's new Pathology Laboratory and Mortuary has reached a significant stage in its construction, with the completion of the roof structure.

Howard Jones, Director of Estates and Facilities at the RUH, tightened the last bolt on a beam which bears the signatures of representatives from the hospital user groups, the Trust and the project construction team.

A number of staff who have been involved in the project to date, along with the design and construction teams were invited to a small 'topping out' ceremony, to celebrate this important milestone.

After this, the internal works will start to gather pace and once the external brickwork is complete and windows are in place the site will look a lot different.

Howard Jones said: "It is time to pause and celebrate the excellent work of the design and construction team and to recognise that this is part of a wider development plan for the RUH. We look forward to using the new pathology lab and demolishing the old, which will allow us to build a new car park for patients and visitors."

The new pathology laboratory is innovative in design and will be recognised as one of the best of its kind in the country.

David Snell, Kier Operations Director said, "Work is going really well and it's great to be able to celebrate the topping out with so many people who will be working here and to show them – many for the first time – what they can look forward to. We are on schedule to handover the project for occupation in early 2014. We have particularly enjoyed the excellent working relationships with the Trust during this exciting contract."



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