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BUSINESS

New directors fuse £300,000 deal

Birmingham-based Fusion Building Consultancy claims to be reaping the benefits of appointing top-flight directors to its board, having landed a £300,000 Private Finance Initiative contract with an Essex Hospital.

Headed up by director Gavin Stephens and Fusion's latest arrival, director, Pollie Jelfs, formerly associate director at CB Richard Ellis, the PFI survey is being conducted on behalf of Broomfield Hospital and Mid Essex Hospital Services NHS trust.

Fusion's role is to survey and assess the state of the existing building stock at Broomfield Hospital and forecast the maintenance costs for five and ten-year periods.

Using this information Mid Essex Hospital Services NHS Trust can then create the tender document for a PFI.

Broomfield Hospital is one of a series of successful PFI instructions gained recently including the HMS Drake Naval base, Plymouth, RAF Newton, Leicestershire and student accommodation in Nottinghamshire.

Ms Jelfs said: "The



Gavin Stevens and Pollie Jelfs, both directors at Fusion

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Pollie Jelfs

Broomfield Hospital contract is a very complex and time consuming exercise, including asbestos, mechanical and electrical surveys plus a detailed report on the condition and state of repair of the

fabric of the existing buildings. "Extreme care is required to ensure all short and long term issues are identified for the PFI consortium and with our wealth of experience in this sector combined with the

personal hands on approach from directors, we anticipate it will be a future growth area for Fusion."

Fusion Building Consultancy was established in May 2002, and has an annual

turnover approaching £1 million, with clients throughout the UK.

■ Housing refurbishment specialist Lovell has been chosen by Sandwell Homes – the arm's-length management

organisation which manages Sandwell Council's housing stock – for a housing modernisation scheme worth £807,000 at Stanhope Road, Smethwick.

Lovell is working on a 25-week scheme which involves the refurbishment of 44 one-bedroom flats in low-rise blocks.

The properties, which have been empty for 18 months, will be upgraded with new roofs, gutters and downpipes, uPVC double-glazed windows and doors, new central heating systems and new kitchens and bathrooms.