Werneth Primary Care Centre, Oldham brought a number of existing GP practices together under one roof to provide a centre aimed at the health and well-being of 20,000 patients in the area. The centre allows its patients access to a wide range of health services in a state-of-the-art environment. noraplan is a popular choice within healthcare projects, due to its resistance to abrasion, cleanability and resistance to stains including blood and iodine. The use of noraplan acoustic can also reduce the impact of trips and falls by up to thirty per cent. The acoustic material also provides excellent footfall sound absorption of up to 20db.

The building itself has gained great acclaim for being officially “the most environmentally friendly primary healthcare building in the UK¹”. The centre’s unique sustainability credentials include an under floor heating system, which powered by pumps absorbs heat from the outside air. This system was fully compatible with the noraplan rubber floor coverings. With the project gaining recognition for its environmental credentials, nora was the perfect choice for the health centre, having its own credentials including BRE A+ rating and the Blue Angel Award for low VOCs. The design of the building incorporates solutions that minimise its initial and on-going effect on the environment. The hard-wearing and durable nature of nora rubber floor coverings gives the floor a long life span, contributing to the long term preservation of the property’s value and saving some of the earth resources.

Using noraplan also means that the floor can be cleaned using the nora diamond cleaning pads. This system uses just water to give the floor a deep clean and give a new appearance. Because the system does not use cleaning and care agents this further contributes to the hygienic indoor air quality, and makes it even more environmentally friendly.

¹Oldham Chronicle, November 2011: online.

The use of nora floorcoverings has not only created a comfortable, hygienic and aesthetic environment it has worked with the eco-friendly stance of the building to ensure it is a unique and innovative health centre for the environment and its patients.

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