

Engineered concrete-framed Kevin Street Garda HQ opened by Minister Flanagan

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The Minister for Justice and Equality, Charles Flanagan TD, has officially opened Kevin Street Garda Station DMR South Central Headquarters in Dublin 8.

Protected structure

Atkins is part of the team which successfully delivered the recently completed Garda divisional headquarters, replacing the existing adjacent Kevin Street Garda station, which is a protected structure, formerly called St Sepulchre's Palace, which was built in the 1600s and was being used as a garda station up until recently.

This building is an impressively engineered concrete framed structure which cantilevers over Bride Street and has a five-storey steel-frame-glazed internal atrium. This building brings character to the area and is a great new addition to the Dublin city centre landscape.

This is the latest project where Atkins has provided the Office of Public Works (OPW) with civil and structural engineering consultancy. The project includes 6,840m² of office space with a 5,400m² waterproof double basement.



Spectacular bespoke granite stone cantilever stair

One of the most impressive architectural and structural elements of the building is a spectacular bespoke granite stone cantilever stair which spans the full height of the atrium.

The new facility includes offices, conference facilities, vehicular testing, garage/workshops, stores, public reception, prisoner processing areas, plant, ESB sub-station, landscaped roof terrace and associated ancillary spaces. Some of the other exceptional features on this project include the curved curtain wall, state-of-the-art offices and conference facilities.

Martina Finn, technical director, Atkins, said: "This project is a very important addition to the locality. There were some challenges on the project including the fact that the site is an area of archaeological significance and an architectural conservation area.

"Along with that we had to ensure that the existing station remained live and operational for the garda and the general public at all times during the works with health and safety at the fore of all design and construction solutions.



Close collaboration with the OPW

"Through close collaboration with the OPW at all times throughout the project, we were able to deliver a successful result. The final building provides a great example cutting edge architecture and engineering design, which is a great addition to Dublin city centre."

AJ Browne, project manager, Atkins, said: "Atkins is delighted to be involved with delivering this successful project for the OPW. From the project outset and at all design stages, Atkins and OPW worked closely together to ensure that the Kevin Street Garda Station Headquarters will be a major asset for the local residents and wider community."

Gerard Harvey, assistant principal architect, OPW, said: "The new Kevin Street Garda Headquarters is a contemporary building designed to reflect the public face of the gardaí as a modern police force and represents a new modern phase in the relationship between the gardaí and the city.

"The design has a civic quality responding to the specific site context of its historic surroundings. The building is energy efficient and sustainable with universal access for all. The OPW would like to acknowledge and thank the Atkins team for their professionalism and hard work to assist in the delivery of this project."

