

Easthorpe Court
Bradford, West Yorkshire

Sector: Social Housing
Medium Rise
Refurbishment



One of the blocks of flats at Easthorpe Court after refurbishment

Client:
Accent Foundation part
of Accent Group Ltd

Building Type:
Wimpey No Fines Flats

Project Size:
43 Properties / 2191m²

Product:
External Wall Insulation &
Render Finish

Project Background:

Accent Group own over 19,000 properties across the country and are firmly committed to providing residents with excellent homes and top quality services which they have been investing in for over 40 years.

Accent Foundation manages the group's homes in the North East, North West, Yorkshire and the Humber. As part of the group's "**Strategic Plan**" and vision of "**making a difference...improving homes, communities and lives**" Accent Foundation began a refurbishment programme at Easthorpe Court. Internal refurbishment of 43 flats within two blocks was carried out first followed by new roofs. The programme then moved on to finding a solution for the external refurbishment to improve their thermal performance and give their appearance a much needed face-lift.

Client Requirements:

The flats were constructed using Wimpey No Fines concrete, which has inherently poor thermal performance, therefore Accent Foundation decided to specify an external wall insulation system which would improve both the thermal performance and external appearance.

Design Solution:

Structherm's "High Build" External Wall Insulation (EWI) was chosen as the preferred system. It consisted of a layer of 50mm thick, high performance Phenolic insulation boards. These were fixed in to the no fines concrete using specially selected fixings to ensure there would be no failure of the system in years to come. Two layers of 3mm basecoat render with glass fibre reinforcing mesh embedded were then applied. To complete the system the client chose a high performance through coloured Acrylic render finish with Macerend brick effect render detail in between and alongside some of the windows to provide a modern and fresh look to the blocks.

Results:

- Thermal performance has improved greatly with the U value of the walls dropping from 1.26W/m²K to 0.30W/m²K.
- The fresh, contemporary design of the buildings along with new roofing, soffits, guttering and rainwater down pipes has transformed the appearance of the blocks into modern and attractive buildings.



Easthorpe Court after refurbishment showing brick effect render detailing between windows