



# Case Study



**SAPPHIRE**

Birmingham Athlete  
Village, Plot 8 & 9

*“The Willmott Dixon team are very happy with the up front design, delivery of the product, and quality of the installation. Very good to work with.”*

Director, Willmott Dixon





# Birmingham Athlete Village, Plot 8 & 9

**Client:** Willmott Dixon Construction (Midlands)

**Contractor:** Willmott Dixon Construction (Midlands)  
Structal (UK) Ltd

**Architect:** Corstorphine & Wright (Birmingham)

**Location:** Perry Barr Campus, Birmingham

**Balconies:** 64 balcony lifts



## History

Based on the former Perry Barr Campus of Birmingham City University, Birmingham Athlete Village is a significant redevelopment of the area, named in honour of the 2022 Commonwealth Games that took place in the area. The ambitious scheme aims to provide over 960 new apartments to local residents, 312 of which have been designated affordable housing status.



## Streamlined by Innovation, Delivered by Sapphire

Our customer aspired to transform the former Perry Barr campus site of Birmingham City University into a vibrant new development in honour of the 2022 Commonwealth Games. This ambitious project aimed to create a cohesive community space to revitalize the neighbourhood. The vision was to not only provide functional living spaces but also to enhance the overall aesthetic appeal of the area, making it an attractive destination for the end user. The development, and the wider Commonwealth Games, were envisioned as a catalyst for further economic and social growth in Birmingham, highlighting Willmott Dixon's commitment to fostering community and innovation.



However, a significant hurdle in realizing this vision was the need to rationalise the balcony masterplan. The initial designs could have proven to be costly, posing challenges in achieving a unified aesthetic across the development. The balconies, essential for the success of the project, needed a strategic redesign to align with budget constraints without compromising on quality or design integrity. By rationalizing the balcony layouts and materials, the customer aimed to streamline construction costs, striking a balance between functionality, affordability, and aesthetic unity. This approach was critical in overcoming financial barriers and achieving the aspirational goals set for the redevelopment of the Perry Barr campus.



# NBS Specification

## Birmingham Athlete Village, Plot 8 & 9

**Manufacturer** Sapphire Balconies Ltd 11 Arkwright, Road Reading, RG2 0LU  
0344 88 00 553  
[support@balconies.global](mailto:support@balconies.global)  
[www.balconies.global](http://www.balconies.global)

**Reference** Glide-On™ aluminium Cassette® balconies with vertical bar balustrades

**Balcony anchor** Cast-in anchors incorporating thermal breaks

**Arms** 2-piece galvanised steel

**Cassette® structure** Standard 400mm modular Glide-On™ Cassette® balconies

**Soffits** Polyester powder-coated aluminium-controlled draining soffits

**Deck finish** MyDek aluminium decking fixed with hidden clips

**Toprail** 60 x 30mm sloped top aluminium capping to the top of vertical bar balustrades

**Guarding** 40 x 12 mm vertical bar balustrades

**Base fixing** Mechanically fixed to Cassette®

**Fascias** Polyester powder-coated aluminium fascia trim to conceal edge of balcony frame



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