

# News

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## **Morgan Sindall scores £8.1 million arena contract**

Construction company Morgan Sindall has secured an £8.1 million contract with Ebbsfleet Community Sports Centre Limited to build Mayesbrook Park Sports Arena in East London.

The new arena will be the biggest sports hall in the UK and second largest in Europe. Initially, it will be used as a Games Time Training Venue by the official handball and wheelchair rugby teams.

The project, designed by LRK Associates, features a 5,000m<sup>2</sup> sports hall, a 1,000m<sup>2</sup> gymnasium and changing facilities.

Construction is scheduled to be completed by February 2012.

Peter Jacobs, regional managing director for Morgan Sindall, says: "We have a great track record when it comes to building leisure facilities and our successful completion of the £38 million Basildon Sporting Village in Essex is testament to this.

"Being involved in an Olympic build process is all about leaving a legacy for the local community, which is what Mayesbrook Park Sports Arena will do. It will help to put the area on the global map, as it plays host to some of the world's leading athletes in 2012."

Mike Stimson, owner of Ebbsfleet Community Sports Centre Limited, says: "This is an exciting project to be involved in and a great project for the Olympic Games. The arena will leave a lasting legacy and create opportunities for the local community, the wider community and young, aspiring sports people."

Paul Goodwin, chief executive officer of the British Handball Association whose teams will be training at the facility during the Olympic Games, says: "Mayesbrook Park Sports Arena will provide one of the best handball training facilities in the UK, rivalling the best in Europe. Having a world class facility within a stone's throw of the Olympic Park will greatly enhance our preparation, reduce our travelling time and cost and provide a competitive advantage to our teams.

"The British Handball teams and the Olympic Games will be the catalyst for the growth of handball in Britain, and London will be at the forefront of the sport's growth. I believe that Mayesbrook Park Sports Arena will become synonymous with handball after the Olympic Games and many young people from East London will not only be able to take up the sport at Mayesbrook but potentially become the next GB handball players."

The contract follows Morgan Sindall's recent appointment to build a £26 million centre of excellence for neuroscience research at King's College London.

### **ENDS**

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