



Taylor Maxwell

Building Materials Advisory & Supply Specialist

Cladding Systems

Case Study – Gebrik at Lorna Lodge Social Housing, Manchester

Another Gebrik Project in Manchester

When Richardson Projects were instructed to construct new teenage parent accommodation in Manchester, they once again turned to Taylor Maxwell Cladding.

Taylor Maxwell provided over 550sqm of Gebrik insulating brick cladding system for the construction of Lorna Lodge in Wythenshawe, South Manchester.

This was not the first time that Taylor Maxwell and Richardson Projects have worked together on behalf of Manchester Methodist Housing Group.

Gebrik supplied by Taylor Maxwell was also used in the award winning construction of Olivia Lodge in East Manchester. The success of this development led to Richardson choosing to install Gebrik again.

Lorna Lodge consists of 16 flats, associated offices and administration services. The construction methods saw Gebrik panels fitted on to a proprietary system, Panablock. This provided good thermal insulation and allowed quick, easy construction.

Panels of 1350mm x 675mm Gebrik were then screwed straight into the Panablock, with each panel using just nine screws for installation.

Brian Fairhurst, Site Manager for Richardson Projects, explains: "We chose to install the Gebrik system again following the success of our last project. It is much quicker than traditional brickwork and provides a good insulation with thick polyurethane backed panels. Also, there are no problems generally associated with traditional wet trades and the uniform brick finish looks very impressive."

Each individual panel of the Gebrik system

arrives durably embedded with high quality 18mm thick clay brick slips, cast to form composite panels. Spaces are formed in the polyurethane for joining the brick slips, and an aluminium profiled section with a drip to prevent water accumulation protects the base of the system. Even though Gebrik can be used below ground, in the case of Lorna Lodge the system was used above a traditional brick course.

The principle of the Gebrik system is to provide a dry-fix, water tight, natural brick finish with improved insulation. The system is impervious to water, yet still allows the wall to breathe, and it can be fixed mechanically to flat, vertical and horizontal walls of new or renovated buildings.

Mr Fairhurst added: "Taylor Maxwell arranged

for installation advice but the system is so quick and easy to use, it saves expensive scaffolding time, and it took a small team very little time to apply the pointing mortar by using a mechanical pointing facility.

"Furthermore, as we were working on a small site, there were storage issues that were eased by the system being manufactured off-site and delivered as and when we needed it."

Peter Bragg of Taylor Maxwell Cladding, said: "We were delighted to be working again with Manchester Methodist Housing and Richardson Projects, and we were able to offer our advice and guidance to both the architects and the contractors. The project was completed within timescales and the finished building has a stunning appearance."



The Gebrik Insulated Brick Panel System

Following research by Taylor Maxwell into construction solutions that keep the number of on-site components to a minimum, as well as those that could be modified on-site if necessary, or supplied pre-fixed to larger panels, it became apparent that a factory assembled system would result in better quality and greater productivity with reduced construction related costs.

The system Taylor Maxwell chose was Gebrik, invented and patented in Belgium. It has been used to clad over 40,000 different buildings across Europe with over 2,000,000sqm of façade surface.

Taylor Maxwell distributes Gebrik throughout England, Scotland and Wales, and can provide technical back up and installation advice, often working closely with the architects at planning stage.

Basic installation:

- Screw and wall plug installation requires no particular temperature conditions
- Starter rail acts as a level and protects system from UV rays and rodent damage
- System can be "buried" up to 140mm (2 brick courses)
- Each panel has pre-located fixing panels
- Foaming chamber protects against water penetration and acts as a binder and packer
- System supplied stack bond or stretcher bond
- Pointing can be traditional sand cement joint mortar with additional waterproofing or, in case of smooth bricks, a ceramic mortar applied off a float.

Information on Gebrik is available from all Taylor Maxwell sales offices.



Windows fitted into existing spaces in Gebrik



Stack or stretcher bond, easy to mortar



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