



Key Results

98%

HTM 05 Compliance Rate
Improvement

5 Year

Long-Term Fire Safety
Strategy

45%

Reduction in Fire Incident
Reports

87%

Hospital Staff Fire Safety
Training



LJR Group's Offering

- Full Fire Risk Assessments & NHS Firecode Compliance Upgrades
- Enhanced Fire Evacuation Plans for High-Risk Areas
- HTM-Aligned Fire Safety Training for NHS Staff
- Long-Term Fire Safety Strategy & Continuous Compliance
- Real-Time Monitoring & Performance Tracking



Customer Background

NHS West Hertfordshire Hospitals provides essential healthcare services across multiple sites, including Watford General Hospital, St Albans City Hospital, and Hemel Hempstead Hospital. They deliver a wide range of services, including emergency care, elective surgeries, outpatient services, and long-term patient care.

Given the high-risk nature of healthcare environments, fire safety is critical to protect patients, staff, and the hospital infrastructure. Ensuring compliance with HTM (Health Technical Memoranda) standards, NHS West Hertfordshire Hospitals sought a partner to enhance their fire safety measures and meet the required regulatory standards.



Challenges Faced

- 1. Non-Compliance with Key HTM Fire Safety Regulations**

Fire compartmentation did not meet HTM 05-02 guidelines, increasing the risk of fire spread across hospital wards and operating theatres. Outdated fire suppression systems were failing to meet the latest HTM 05-03 maintenance standards, requiring significant upgrades. Fire alarm and detection systems needed to be modernised to align with NHS Firecode standards.
- 2. High-Risk Areas with Insufficient Fire Safety Infrastructure**

Intensive care units (ICUs) and operating theatres lacked adequate fire containment measures, putting both staff and patients at risk. Ward escape routes were not fully optimised, particularly for patients who required mobility assistance, leading to potential evacuation challenges in emergencies.
- 3. Lack of Specialised Fire Safety Training for NHS Staff**

Less than 20% of NHS staff had received HTM-aligned fire safety training, limiting their preparedness for fire emergencies. Many healthcare professionals lacked awareness of evacuation procedures, especially when dealing with immobile patients.
- 4. Outdated Fire Risk Assessments & Emergency Plans**

Fire risk assessments were outdated, not reflecting current hospital layouts, which impacted fire safety planning. Emergency evacuation protocols needed to be revised, especially for high-risk departments such as ICUs and operating theatres.



"LJR Group has been essential in aligning our fire safety systems with HTM 05-02 and HTM 05-03 standards. Their expertise in fire containment, evacuation planning, and staff training has greatly enhanced safety across our hospitals. We trust them to ensure the safety of both patients and staff."

– Fire Safety Manager,
NHS West Hertfordshire
Hospitals

LJR Group



LJR Group Services delivered top-quality fire safety solutions, upgrading our systems and providing critical staff training. Their work has significantly improved our fire safety infrastructure and preparedness without disrupting hospital operations.

– Facilities Manager, NHS
West Hertfordshire Hospitals

The Solution

Addressing Non-Compliance with Key HTM Fire Safety Regulations

Upgraded Fire Compartmentation: LJR Group upgraded fire compartmentation to meet HTM 05-02 guidelines, preventing the spread of fire across hospital wards and operating theatres. This ensured effective fire containment, protecting both patients and staff.

Fire Suppression System Overhaul: We modernised outdated fire suppression systems, ensuring compliance with the latest HTM 05-03 maintenance standards. This improved fire suppression capabilities and reduced the risk of fire incidents.

Modernised Fire Alarm & Detection Systems: LJR Group replaced outdated fire alarm and detection systems with NHS Firecode-compliant solutions, providing reliable and timely fire detection to safeguard the hospital's occupants.

Enhancing Fire Safety Infrastructure in High-Risk Areas

Improved Fire Containment in ICUs and Operating Theatres: Fire-resistant materials and systems were installed in high-risk areas, such as intensive care units (ICUs) and operating theatres, significantly improving the fire safety infrastructure.

Optimised Escape Routes: We redesigned and optimised ward escape routes, ensuring they were fully accessible for patients with mobility issues and that staff could efficiently evacuate patients in case of an emergency.

Installation of Fire-Resistant Doors & Partitions: Fire-resistant barriers were added to improve fire containment, helping to compartmentalise fire-prone areas and ensuring better protection for high-risk departments.

Providing Specialised Fire Safety Training for NHS Staff

Comprehensive Training Program: LJR Group trained over 850 NHS staff members in HTM-compliant fire safety protocols, ensuring that staff were fully prepared for fire emergencies.

Specialised Training for High-Risk Areas: We provided tailored training for healthcare professionals, including doctors, nurses, and security teams, focusing on:

- Evacuation techniques for immobile patients.
- Safe management of medical oxygen systems during fire emergencies.

Real-Time Fire Drills: We conducted live fire drills to test staff readiness and ensure all personnel were familiar with emergency procedures, particularly in high-risk areas like the ICU and operating theatres.

Updating Fire Risk Assessments & Emergency Evacuation Plans

Hospital-Wide Fire Risk Assessments: LJR Group performed thorough hospital-wide fire risk assessments, ensuring all areas, including high-risk departments, were up to date with current hospital layouts and fire safety protocols.

Revised Emergency Evacuation Plans: We worked with hospital management to revise and optimise emergency evacuation protocols, especially for high-risk departments. These new protocols ensured safe and effective evacuation, particularly for patients with mobility assistance needs.

Summary of LJR Group's Fire Safety Solutions:

Full HTM 05-02 & HTM 05-03 Compliance: Ensured all hospital sites met NHS Firecode regulations.

Improved Fire Containment: Upgraded fire suppression systems, alarms, and fire compartmentation.

Enhanced Evacuation Plans: Optimised escape routes and conducted extensive staff training.

Ongoing Fire Safety Strategy: Developed long-term fire safety plans to ensure continued compliance.

Through these comprehensive solutions, LJR Group Services significantly improved fire safety and compliance at NHS West Hertfordshire Hospitals, reducing risks and enhancing both patient and staff safety.