The design and build of a new state of the art indoor municipal pool facility in Exeter, including a main national/county standard swimming pool and a learners’ pool with supporting facilities together with dry sports facilities, including:

- Main & Learner Pools with moveable floors
- Confidence Water pool
- 100 spectator seats
- Café (50 seats)
- 150 station Fitness Gym
- Small studio at 70m²
- Main studio at 250m²
- 380m² Health Suite including Spa
- Changing Facilities
- Soft play area

**Key design standards to be implemented:**

- The first Passivhaus leisure centre in the UK
- Building Biology IBN best practice guidance in healthy design
- Best practice guidance developed under the Technology Strategies Board’s (TSB) ‘Design 4 Future Climate’ programme

**Key benefits by implementing these strategies will be:**

- 70% saving on energy costs when compared to a current good practice pool
- 50% reduction in water use
- Outstanding internal water and air quality
- Excellent day light levels
- Healthy, uncompromised, uplifting, comfortable indoor climate
- Lower maintenance costs due to better quality building fabric
- Resilience from predicted future climate change

**Architectural Concept**

The general massing of the leisure centre is divided into two programmatic entities: wet and dry. These two zones are ‘cupped’ together in a form, naturally generated by the curves of Paris Street and Cheeke Street, which wrap around the site. The retail pedestrian Street at the North of the building is purposely continued in the direction of flow into and through the building, past the reception to the café with views of the pool halls, as a destination point. This sense of connectivity extends beyond the site towards Princesshay, to create more permeability through the area and it generally improves pedestrian friendly linkages between the site and its surroundings.

Gale & Snowden Architects have been involved since the inception of the project and are providing design and consultancy services for RIBA Stages 0 to 6. At the outset the practice helped to obtain funding from the Technology Strategy Board to assess the impact of future climate on a leisure centre in various locations in the city of Exeter. Gale & Snowden were then commissioned as part of the multidisciplinary Design Team to lead the project regarding low energy Passivhaus design, incorporating healthy building principles (Building Biology), computer modelling and designing for climate change adaptation and as the Architects for the envelope of the building.

**Budget:** £26m - **Completion:** 2018