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## Liverpool John Moores University celebrates completion of £20million Tom Reilly building

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This multi-million pound development project marks the first phase of a ten-year master plan for the university's city campus and becomes the fourth major project that Austin-Smith: Lord has designed for Liverpool John Moores University, following the RIBA Awards-winning Aldham Roberts building, Peter Jost Centre and Avril Roberts Learning Resource Centre.

Located on Byrom Street, the Tom Reilly building, the new home to the university's psychology and sports science departments, has been designed to reflect the faculty's status as one of the UK's leading sports science schools and includes state

of the art research facilities including an Olympic-standard 60-metre running track and specialist teaching and research laboratories.

The project has taken just two years to complete.

Ossie Airewele, project director at Austin-Smith: Lord, said: "For such a complex mix of uses on a challenging site, this has been an incredibly fast-track project.

"The challenge was to integrate two departments into one space that would be fit for a range of uses, whilst remaining flexible to adapt to the university's changing needs."

The end result is a building that sits comfortably in the urban landscape, whilst also acting as a clear gateway to LJMU's City Campus. It's another positive symbol of the university's investment and commitment to the development of Liverpool's knowledge sector.

Externally the elevation is split into three layers, which respond to the landscape and the organisation of the building. In addition, the creative use of light, translucency and colour gives the facade a continuously changing appearance as the building responds to environmental conditions.

A coarsely textured plinth provides the interface with the landscape, followed by a perimeter of translucent glass planks. The final layer is a black cladding, which has been articulated with dramatic cantilevers.

The environment is a key concern for LJMU, the Tom Reilly building was built using sustainable construction techniques with materials that carry low embodied energy, meaning there is low use of carbon dioxide from extraction of source to delivery and installation on site. Additionally, much of the building is naturally ventilated.

### All media enquiries

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