



THE FINALISTS 2025



HEALTHCARE
DESIGN AWARDS

**Welcome to our special book showcasing the best applications for
The Healthcare Design Awards 2025.**

The health and care market has seen great change in the last few years, with learnings from the rapid response to the COVID-19 crisis feeding into the approach to facilities design, including embracing standardised and flexible models.

Building designers are also paying more attention to the user experience, creating world-leading health and care facilities that help to nurture and support health and wellbeing.

This book provides an overview of the best entries received in this highly-respected competition, which was launched by valuation, consultancy, and surveying specialist, Pinders, back in 1991.

Organised by Nexus Media Group, which also publishes Healthcare Property magazine, the awards recognise innovation and excellence in the design of health and care facilities.

Whether it's a new-build, extension, or regeneration project, The Healthcare Design Awards celebrate projects that do not just demonstrate good design, but are making a real, positive impact on people's lives, whether they be patients, staff, residents, or visitors.

And this year there have been a record number of entries across the six categories:

- Best Architectural Design
- Best Interior Design
- Best Exterior Design
- Best Specialist/Dementia Care Design
- Best Acute Design
- Best Primary Care Design

Each entry is being carefully judged by a panel of leading industry experts which includes **Lindsay Hammersley** and **Melissa Magee** (Carless + Adams); **Jenny Buterchi** (PRP Architects); **Gary Reed** (HC-One); **Rick Savage** (Savills); **Kerry Southern-Reason** (Care Home Interiors); **Chris Poole** (Sanctuary Care); **Ewan Graham** (Hawkins Brown); **Cath Lake** (P+HS Architects); and **Chetan Chauhan** (RDT Architects). A full list of this year's panel is available on the website.

They will be recognising those stand-out projects which are setting a benchmark for future design best practice across the sector.

And the winners will be announced at a grand ceremony at The Royal Lancaster Hotel in London on 13 February.

The event will include a networking reception and four-course lunch and will bring together the companies and suppliers behind these incredible projects, including contractors, architects, M&E professionals, care sector operators, NHS and private healthcare trusts, and estates and facilities leads.

Read on to find out more about the entries and for information on how to join us at the ceremony, visit healthcaredesignawards.co.uk

Short-Listed
Finalists

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Best Architectural Design



Aspen Wood

Aspen Wood is a new 40-bed, £35m learning disability (LD) low-secure forensic inpatient unit for Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust.

It delivers two 20-bed bespoke LD inpatient wards subdivided into four five-bed living units with full OT/support spaces; therapy and sensory rooms including de-escalation/immersive therapy spaces; and low/high stimulus areas.

The new building is set in its own landscaped oasis and the external design is both integral and symbiotic with the architecture, including the creation of blue/green biodiversity areas, helping to rewild a brownfield site.

The project involved extensive brief development and stakeholder engagement as well as design innovation to meet the intrinsic balance of safety vs therapeutic design delivered in a sometimes-challenging environment.

The new building is also part of the trust's long-term redevelopment of the Ashworth site into the Maghull Health Park, and marks a new benchmark for the design of inpatient forensic LD settings both nationally and internationally.

Sensory design was key and, in the absence of any compliance, guidance notes or precedents, the team had to draw on learnings from other sectors, namely SEND schools. Through intensive service user engagement and clinical workshops, the team was able to identify and capture the key spatial triggers that pre-empted LD 'meltdown' and design spaces and environments to counter this.

This process informed the design of Aspen Wood, including the name and design innovations – such as the biophilic approach, siting, transition zones, one-way open circulation routes, visual markers and landmarks, the immersive therapy room, and the integration of artwork.

No one size fits all, with every individual presenting unique characteristics and sensory triggers. As such, the design developed to create living clusters, each with the potential to function independently, but covered by the same nursing team. Multiple access routes were built in case of future pandemics.

The design approach was truly 'person-centred' and creates a therapeutic environment for challenging service users, as well as delivering on building standards around safety and security.

PROJECT OWNER

Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust

ARCHITECTS AND INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Gilling Dod Architects

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Integrated Health Projects (IHP)

OTHER CONTRACTORS

AJP

Hoare Lea

SKW

iteriad

Rider Hunt



Dyson Cancer Centre

An innovative facility designed around a sensory healing and wellbeing environment for patients, families, and staff, the Dyson Cancer Centre at Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust (RUH) opened its doors to patients in April 2024 to provide cancer services to over 500,000 people in the South West of England.

The trust was delivering oncology care from outdated building stock, which was no longer fit for purpose, and needed to create a new facility to reflect the standard of care provided and better respond to advances in cancer treatment and increased service demand.

While the hospital site was large, there was very little space for future development. A plan was needed to identify buildings most in need of replacement, opportunities to free up land, and ways to improve efficiency and accessibility sitewide.

Forming part of the wider 10-year strategic estate plan for the RUH designed by Arcadis, the team was reappointed to bring to life the vision for the cancer centre, which called for a new state-of-the-art facility for cancer diagnostics and treatment.

Situated on the hospital's entrance plaza, the solution co-locates all elements of the non-surgical cancer pathway under one roof, while also providing specialist

provisions such as bariatric facilities and isolation rooms, demonstrating an understanding of the diverse needs of different patient populations.

Set over three storeys, the 6,200sq m facility includes chemotherapy and daycare, outpatients, radiotherapy, nuclear medicine, medical physics, a 22-bed inpatient ward, pharmacy, family accommodation, a wellbeing information and support hub, and a staff hub.

The co-location of healthcare professionals, advanced equipment, and a dedicated research lab address the needs of staff for efficient workflows, collaboration, and access to cutting-edge resources.

The interior design concept sought to bring the outside in, focusing on how a connection to nature provides a therapeutic, supportive, and uplifting environment for patients, staff, and visitors.

Taking inspiration from the local area, the theme 'Land, Water and Sky' creates a journey through the building with references to the botanical gardens around Bath.

PROJECT OWNER

Royal United
Hospitals Bath NHS
Foundation Trust

ARCHITECTS AND INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Arcadis

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Kier Construction

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Red Twin Limited

Hydrock

WSP UK Ltd

Integral Engineering
Design

JLL

MSAFE

Nicholas Pearson
Associates

Callidus Group

**PROJECT OWNER**

gbpartnerships

**ARCHITECTS
AND INTERIOR
DESIGNERS**

LSI Architects

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Galliford Try

Edenbridge Memorial Health Centre

The £13.5m Edenbridge Memorial Health Centre in Kent is an integrated hub providing the local community with much-needed treatment facilities including GP services and daycare facilities, as well as minor procedures.

The 2,180sq m centre has been designed to put the health and wellbeing of local people and their community first, putting healthcare at the heart of the community, while also responding to the clinical needs of a modern primary healthcare building.

Developed on behalf of gbpartnerships, and in partnership with Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust, Edenbridge Medical Practice, and Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group, the centre replaces facilities at both Edenbridge Medical Practice and Edenbridge Memorial Hospital, which had become unfit for purpose and unable to support future service models.

The centre has been designed in line with the key service principles set out in the 'Strategic Case - Local Care Hubs in West Kent' paper commissioned by West Kent Clinical Commissioning Group in August 2018.

The aim of the building is to empower people to have a more active role in their own health by putting the needs of people and their community at the centre of the design.

This was achieved by successfully navigating a hugely complex multi-stakeholder process as a direct result of the nature of the clinical model, where the building was bringing together multiple services.

Patient rooms and areas where staff will be spending significant periods of time have been positioned to benefit from windows to provide views out.

The layout has been planned to allow those clinical pathways to work effectively, while providing staff with an outstanding environment to work in that helps to maximise efficiency and effectiveness, minimising circulation where possible, and ensuring required accommodation is provided in as small a footprint as possible.

To protect the privacy and dignity of individuals, the circulation design has considered the movement of patients, staff, and goods by maximising the separation of these flows, both vertically and horizontally.



Melwood Grange

Frontier Care has developed a unique proposition, built on a set of strong values to improve and provide better care facilities for the elderly population.

Melwood Grange care home, built for leading care occupier, Quantum Care, is an exceptional example of how these new spaces can provide a higher level of care and how they can enhance the communities they serve.

Completed in 2024, Melwood Grange provides residential and dementia care for 73 residents. Using high-specification materials and maximising natural light, the home is welcoming, spacious, and positive, meeting residents' needs while fostering a sense of community.

By providing large, expansive spaces, residents can enjoy multiple social activities. At Melwood Grange, these spaces include a unique social area at the front of the site, known as The Hub, offering residents, staff, and visitors dedicated facilities and spaces including a cinema, cafe, gym, salon, spa, and activity area.

To access The Hub, corridors have been designed utilising natural light and wide spaces, and the landscaped ground-floor garden provides a connection from the area to the ground-floor day space.

Throughout the building, natural light is maximised and large second floor bedrooms have integrated en-suite bathrooms and spacious dormer windows.

Embracing the challenge of a 9m slope from front to back, upper-level garden spaces enhance the living experience for residents and optimise the site's natural landscape.

The ground-floor garden provides planted borders, a patio, seating areas, and a central grassed area. The first-floor garden is split into eastern and western areas, providing level access from the first floor, and offering raised planters and seating areas to the east and a more sensory garden to the west.

On the upper second floor, a modest-sized patio area is provided for residents, with views down into the first-floor eastern and western gardens.

PROJECT OWNER

Quantum Care

ARCHITECTS

Harris Irwin Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

What-If

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Lawrence Baker



Trent Bridge Care Home

Trent Bridge Care Home is a luxury new facility offering residential, dementia, and respite care located in West Bridgford, a town south of the city of Nottingham.

With a unique interior design, focusing on the location near sports facilities, Trent Bridge Care Home is one of a kind.

The design was developed with the residents who would be living there in mind, resulting in a home which is truly community focused, making it an attractive, welcoming place with plenty of room for community groups, meetings, and events.

Offering 72 bedrooms arranged over five storeys with a rooftop terrace on the sixth floor, it is set on a comparatively small and irregular-shaped site.

Four residents' communities are created, one per floor, above ground floor level. Each community has a maximum of 18 residents and these are supported by their own open-plan lounge/dining room and separate quiet lounge. In addition, each floor has an assisted bathroom, assisted WC, and ancillary rooms.

The home also boasts communal facilities on the ground floor including a bistro café, activity room, garden lounge, hair and beauty salon, and a cinema/multi-purpose room.

Each community has access to the outdoors with a range of spaces, whether that be from a secure large balcony off the lounge/dining room, the ground-floor communal gardens overlooking the activity of the carpark, or the communal rooftop terrace which has views across the Nottingham skyline and directly into Trent Bridge Cricket Ground.

The residents' lounge and dining rooms have been located in a central location where the two 8/10-bedroom wings meet for ease of wayfinding.

The interior has been thoughtfully designed with dementia in mind, with short corridors, lots of natural light, and destination points, as well as utilising colour, light texture, and materiality to support the care needs of the residents.

PROJECT OWNER

Tanglewood

ARCHITECTS

C Squared
Architects Ltd

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Care Home
Interiors Ltd

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Sandycroft
Construction

Torsion Construction



Whitstable House

Whitstable House is a new, purpose-built care home offering a 'home for life' for those who require long-term care, including those with physical frailty or dementia, while also offering short-term care for others who require assessment, rehabilitation, or respite before returning home.

Built with residents at the heart of the design, it is situated in a picturesque location overlooking the Thames estuary and conveniently placed next to a GP surgery.

The first phase of the two-phase project comprises of 101 'care suites' within the Vanguard Integrated Community Healthcare Centre.

The 27sq m suites are larger rooms than those found in traditional care settings and are equipped with a kitchenette, dining area, and social space with seating so residents' families and friends can spend quality private time together in privacy and comfort.

The key focus of the unit's design is assisting and supporting residents to successfully transition back to home or into the care home.

The technical design has considered all possible needs, including the provision of oxygen supply to individual beds, wheelchair access to load washing machines independently, and acoustic monitoring in the bedrooms.

Carless + Adams' design also took advantage of the location and ensured the stimulating, natural views over the estuary were one of the main elements. To enhance, complement, and encourage the outside views, a huge living wall was part of the design concept and creates an impressive and therapeutic welcome.

The central core links three wings, is four storeys high, and is where the main lounge is situated. Residents are encouraged to use the outside space as part of their recovery programmes and for positive green therapy. Whitstable House illustrates how a private care operator and the NHS have worked to provide care for local communities and reduce

PROJECT OWNER

The Graham
Care Group

ARCHITECTS

Carless + Adams

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Catalyst Interiors

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Apex Contractors
Limited

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Best Interior Design



Evelina Day Surgery, Evelina Children's Hospital London

The new Evelina Day Surgery Unit will enable 2,300 more surgeries to take place every year.

Art in Site's aim was to use art, interior design, and wayfinding to help first-time and repeat visitors to have a good experience in hospital – by making them feel looked after, well informed, and reassured.

After thorough consultation, children chose the theme of 'outer space' for the interiors as they said that having an anaesthetic was like going into orbit!

They also requested that the 'Evelina Gang' – a series of illustrated characters by Japanese Manga artist, Kiriko Kubo, which are already embedded in the hospital's interiors – travel with them.

Art in Site worked with NASA and the UK Space Agency to engage with the children in two open-access events to help explain Space, the planetary system, the geology of rocks, asteroids and space travel.

They gave the team a bank of space facts to accompany patients across their journey, which have all been brought to life through illustrations of the Evelina Gang, along with bold, colourful shapes evoking the cosmos and planets.

Key interior design elements include:

- Welcoming and inclusive: Patients learn the names of galaxies according to different cultures – 'Silver River', 'Straw Thief', and 'Winter Street'. Children encounter cosmological myths and stories from around the globe which sends a message of belonging.
- Explaining: Patients wait in one of several assessment cubicles, where moon-themed information panels explain the next steps.
- Distracting: Each cubicle has lunar artwork and facts.
- Entertaining: Circulation spaces feature the planets, with awe-inspiring, sometimes hilarious facts.
- Zoning out: Rooms feature bright colour and illustrations to distract children as they are put under anaesthetic.
- Zoning in: In recovery, patients wake to lower-stimulation artwork from constellation ceiling tiles.

PROJECT OWNER

Evelina Children's Hospital London

ARCHITECTS

ADP Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Art in Site

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Morgan Sindall

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Gradus



Lavender Fields Care Village

Lavender Fields Care Village is a combination of retirement bungalows, a sizable care home, and sprawling grounds, offering a strong connection to nature that benefits mental wellbeing.

The interior design approach is heavily influenced by the surrounding nature. Upon entering the Communal Hub, residents and visitors are greeted with a natural palette of olive greens, neutrals, and pops of lavender, creating a harmonious connection with the extensive gardens.

The care home is divided into three wings, each with unique communal space decor and themed activities to aid wayfinding for residents with dementia or visual impairments.

Each wing is further divided into themed sections: The Garden Area which continues the 'bringing the outside in' ethos; the Library Area, which provides a relaxing space for reading; the Agricultural Area which appeals to residents with a farming background; the Office Area, which accommodates an area for writing letters to family; and the Fashion Area, which attracts residents who enjoy caring for their appearance.

The interiors, while beautifully modern, are also designed with practicality in mind.

Essential elements include correct Light Reflective Values for flooring and wall finishes; impervious-backed and anti-microbial carpets and upholsteries; fire-retardant fabrics; anti-slip vinyl flooring; and healthcare-specific furniture.

These invisible-yet-effective design elements enhance residents' daily lives, making Lavender Fields a functional and luxurious place to live.

PROJECT OWNER

Lavender Fields Care Village

ARCHITECTS

DEN Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Catalyst Interiors

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Firecrest Construction



Lovett Care – Fairfax Manor

Situated in the town of Harrogate, Fairfax Manor provides luxury living with exceptional residential, dementia, and respite care.

The objective of the project was to create a space which offers high-quality, person-centred care in a safe and comfortable 'home-from-home' environment, with spacious living areas, impressive interior design, and extensive amenities.

Inspired by the rich history of Harrogate, and the natural surroundings, the design reflects both the area's heritage and the lifestyle needs of the residents.

The interiors combine sophisticated, five-star, hotel-style luxury with a warm, inviting feel. Spacious living areas, furnished with the finest materials, offer a serene and comfortable setting.

The 90 en-suite bedrooms are designed as personal sanctuaries, each with a wetroom and elegant furnishings that balance style with functionality.

To enhance safety and peace of mind, Fairfax Manor features a state-of-the-art call bell system with PIR sensors, ensuring prompt and discreet assistance for residents, while providing reassurance to families and staff.

Ultimately, the design creates a harmonious blend of luxury, history, and practicality – an environment where residents feel both at home and well cared for, while enjoying the highest standards of comfort.

Fairfax Manor is not just a care home, but a true haven where residents can live with dignity, security, and peace of mind.

PROJECT OWNER

Lovett Care

ARCHITECTS

TDA Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Bernard Interiors

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Walter Thompson



MTI refurbishment at the Royal Hospital Chelsea

In 2009, a new state-of-the-art care home and hospice opened at The Royal Hospital Chelsea.

Originally designed on the early 2000s hospital model, a key requirement of the refurbishment was to make it feel less like a clinical facility.

Delivered in six phases and across three floors while the building was occupied, the £5m revamp supports 116 pensioners and includes a dedicated dementia ward.

The interior refurbishment included: new wall, ceiling, and floor finishes throughout; a new reception; enhanced lighting; provision of an end-of-life suite; the creation of a new library, tea area, and residents' break-out areas; new kitchens; and a destination dining facility with aesthetics based on Sir Christopher Wren's renowned Great Hall.

Design interventions also include bespoke furniture, specialist dementia mirrors, circadian lighting, and textured vinyl tiled floors.

To create a warmer aesthetic in the Long Wards, a custom carpet was designed with inset 'rugs', breaking up the long corridors and assisting with wayfinding.

The dementia ward features artwork and inset wall features, with provision made for the addition of 'memory tablets' to each door.

Existing bedroom doors were reclad to cover integrated hospital windows, enhancing resident privacy. Previously slippery linoleum floors were replaced with new textured vinyl tiles, suitable for infection control purposes and able to be easily replaced if damaged.

In the registered wards, open shelving gives residents the opportunity to decorate their own entrance, and the Long Wards display the famous Pensioner uniforms, or 'Scarlets' as they are known.

Throughout the project, the team made reference to the history of the site and the building, with original chairs, tables, and motifs repurposed and artwork from the hospital's archives reframed and installed throughout.

A spokesman for the project team said: "Within the MTI there was an opportunity to reflect the proud heritage of a beloved institution."

PROJECT OWNER

The Royal Hospital
Chelsea

ARCHITECTS

PJMA Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Park Grove Design
Ltd

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Kind & Co

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Cunnington Clark Ltd

Emmaus Consulting

Zeal Projects



Outram Fields Care Home

As you enter Outram Fields Care Home in Sheffield, the warmth and intimate atmosphere is almost palpable. While this is a commercial building where certain factors need to be met for safety and security reasons, first and foremost this is someone's home, so the design team wanted to reduce the impact of these elements as much as possible.

First impressions count, and the reception and central communal hub are bold yet elegant, bright, and welcoming, with a yellow colour scheme paired with richer brown and gold hues.

The private dining room is a grand, rich, and luxurious space that offers an opulent feel and a space to gather on special occasions. The café bar space is divided into informal seating hubs to encourage relationships and interaction.

Other features include a cinema with a bespoke confectionery stand, retro noticeboard, and artwork featuring quotes from movies, as well as a hair and beauty salon decorated in a sleek and chic scheme of champagne and black.

Each floor is home to a community with a shared lounge diner paired with either a quiet lounge or a library lounge.

There are no dedicated activity rooms, bistro tea rooms, or simulated potting. Instead, residents can choose where they take part in activities.

Through the design, the team aims to break the stigma of moving into a care home as a negative experience. It also considers visual, cognitive, and physical impairments, as well as promoting independence and wellbeing.

Each communal lounge or dining room has access to outdoor space and there are terraces on the upper floors.

The team also looked to create barrier-free furniture layouts within resident-facing areas. And within communal lounges, furniture layouts and fretwork screens break the large open space into defined areas, while allowing natural light to percolate the space.

PROJECT OWNER

The Cinnamon Care Collection

ARCHITECTS

Harris Irwin Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Catalyst Interiors

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Pacy & Wheatley Construction Ltd



Welwyn Grange Care Home

Hiedi Lazenby Design was commissioned to deliver an architectural interior design scheme for Welwyn Grange Care Home, a luxury 104-bed new-build care facility, to include the highest standards of dementia design with the needs of residents, visitors, and staff at the forefront.

Key elements of the design brief included:

- A desire to reflect in the overall design both high-end luxury and a homely look and feel.
- To design multiple and innovative communal areas, thematically designed to enhance residents' wellbeing and their quality of life.
- To incorporate in the space planning and finishes the latest and best practice in 'dementia design'.
- To take into account how residents might better interact with their visitors and the wellbeing of staff.

To meet this brief, an impressive entrance area incorporates a welcoming hotel-style lounge area with feature pendant lighting within an innovative ceiling design.

The attention to detail in communal areas sets the home apart. For example, the spaces around the lift lobby on each floor are individually designed, with unique thematic touches. One such area is dedicated to a 'garden' theme, following biophilic design principles to include a full-scale faux 'living wall' and gardening-themed artwork and accessories.

The luxury feel is further delivered through a carefully designed lighting scheme to include separate wall lighting, feature pendant lights, and co-ordinated free-standing floor and table lamps.

Communal lounges and dining areas have extensive balconies, with bespoke seating overlooking the landscaped gardens.

Unusually, the development includes a floor dedicated to bedroom suites. Each of these incorporates an en-suite bedroom, dining area, kitchenette, and lounge.

Bedrooms include fully fitted furniture and individually designed, upholstered 'profile' beds.

PROJECTS OWNER

Ardal

Wellbrook

ARCHITECTS

Condy Loffthouse
Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Hiedi Lazenby Design

MAIN CONTRACTOR

CField Construction

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Chessmann
Consulting

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Best Exterior Design



Darcy House Care Home

Darcy House Care Home is located in Darley Dale, a picturesque village overlooking the Derwent Valley in Derbyshire.

It provides residential, nursing, respite, palliative, and dementia care for 78 elderly residents.

Split over three floors of accommodation, the main entrance to the home is accessed at ground floor level from a pedestrian bridge leading from the car park and situated over a feature garden.

The secure sunken garden has stepped stone gabion retaining walls, a feature sculpture with seating, and wildflowers, trees, and potted plants.

Externally, there is also a secluded viewing platform offering panoramic views to the South West.

There are multiple private and communal terraces on the first and second floors and private resident patios on the ground floor.

The outdoor spaces offer gardening opportunities, including sheds and greenhouses, formal and informal gardens, and planting beds, with a seamless design between the building architecture and the landscaping.

The outdoor areas were designed with the very specific site constraints in mind, providing gently sloping paths where required for ambulant and non-ambulant resident use.

Handrails and balustrading ensure resident safety and accessibility.

PROJECT OWNER

Care Concern Group

ARCHITECTS

vestar* architecture
+ design

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Lynn Barker Interiors

MAIN CONTRACTORS

J. Tomlinson

Corramore

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Gerry Pounder
Associates

Swan Paul Partnership



Highfield Care Home

This project involved the demolition of an existing care home and its replacement with a new, modern facility in the grounds of Scarthingwell Park.

The primary aim of the new design was to create a facility that met and exceeded local market needs, with an increase in bedrooms and enhanced focus on elderly and dementia care, while also delivering a scheme that unites beautifully within its surroundings of estate parkland and an adjacent Grade II-listed church.

Externally, the new building footprint creates an open space intended to resemble a traditional courtyard and landscaped in a manner reminiscent of country estate gardens.

The design maximises the commanding views of the surrounding rural landscape to the south and east, and responds more sensitively to the historic context of the site.

The carefully considered use of external space has maximised the connection between the interior and exterior, allowing residents, staff, and visitors to enjoy the outdoors, even during inclement weather.

On warmer days, the gardens are an inviting place to socialise in the multiple open and covered seating areas, to find an oasis of calm to read, or to simply take in the fresh air and admire the sculptures and the views.

On cooler or wet days, the interior benefits from a huge amount of natural light flooding the building, so everyone can savour the views from the communal rooms, as well as bedrooms where windows generally have a sill height low enough to allow views from a seated position.

Existing trees were not disturbed by the building work and are regarded as a huge asset to the overall beauty and tranquillity of the gardens.

This fabulous, stimulating space promotes a sense of freedom, but also fosters movement and activity for residents, which is an enormous benefit to both mental and physical health.

With sustainability in mind, planting and landscaping provides sheltered areas around the garden, with planting kept away from the building to avoid overshadowing and loss of light during winter months.

PROJECT OWNER

Barchester

ARCHITECTS

Harris Irwin Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Barchester

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Clegg Construction



Pears Maudsley Centre for Children and Young People

The £65m Pears Maudsley Centre for Children and Young People brings together ground-breaking clinical services and translational research in a joint venture between the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust, Kings College London, and the Maudsley Charity.

Completed in February 2024, the pioneering centre has been designed to care for some of the UK's most vulnerable young people experiencing anxiety, depression, OCD, self-harm, eating disorders, trauma, and autism.

Embracing an evidence-based approach, early and extensive engagement with the trust and young service users found that young people, specifically with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and neurodiversity, placed a high value on choices between spaces – especially light, open, and quiet areas full of greenery.

Critical to the centre's success is its innovative tiered design. This not only counterbalances the building's height and scale, but also enables clinical floors to connect to four large outdoor terraces with access to the garden spaces specifically requested by service users, including a rooftop exercise space with views of London's skyline.

Significant improvements have also been made to the existing external spaces, with increased bio-diversity and more functional zones. The entire sloped site has been made far more useable for both staff and patient families, with meadow spaces, seating, and secluded gardens.

Combined with light-coloured copings and stonework, which are also picked up on the neighbouring building, the external spaces are harmoniously blended across the site, providing better entrances to existing buildings, improved safety, and lighting.

The planting and paving for all external spaces has been selected to feel natural, have low ongoing maintenance regimes, and wherever possible to bring a light, airy, and natural feel to the surrounding spaces.

Built-in external seating and planters are made from a combination of concrete and wood to look natural and support the robust requirements needed for a mental health hospital.

PROJECT OWNER

South London
and Maudsley NHS
Foundation Trust

ARCHITECTS AND INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Arcadis

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Integrated Health
Projects (IHP)

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Growth Industry
Limited

WSP

Troup Bywater
+ Anders

AECOM



Portsdown View

Portsdown View Care Home exemplifies innovation and excellence in care home design, offering a home-away-from-home experience that prioritises choice, dignity, and holistic wellbeing.

At the heart of this ethos lies the garden – a thoughtfully designed outdoor space that embodies the commitment to enhancing the quality of life for residents, families, and staff. This sensory-rich environment offers opportunities for relaxation, connection, and therapeutic engagement, representing a transformative approach to outdoor living in care settings.

The sensory garden has been crafted to foster mobility, interaction, and emotional enrichment for residents of all abilities.

Designed with age-friendly principles in mind, it features level pathways, accessible planting, and restful sheltered seating areas, gazebos, and private patios.

The garden is more than a physical space – it is a hub for activity, offering spaces for alfresco dining, family picnics, and community events, such as barn dances and petting zoo visits. These features enhance the daily lives of residents and foster meaningful connections with loved ones and staff.

The spaces promote physical health and mobility as well as activity, with potting sheds and interactive installations as well as textured plants, fragrant flowers, and bird feeders.

The external environment also embraces the design team's overall sustainable approach, with energy-efficient lighting, rainwater harvesting, and responsibly sourced materials for pathways, furniture, and installations.

In addition, the garden extends beyond its role as a resident-centric space to serve as a bridge to the broader community, encouraging intergenerational engagement through family-friendly activities, seasonal events, and collaborations with local organisations.

The garden is not merely an outdoor space – it is a testament to the transformative power of design.

PROJECT OWNER

Connaught Care

ARCHITECTS

Hay Associates Limited

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Three Nine Designs

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Dalton Homes Ltd

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Kilworth Flooring and Interiors

The background is a dark charcoal grey. A thin green line starts from the top center, goes down to the right, then vertically down, then horizontally left, and finally diagonally up to the top left. A thin purple line starts from the top right, goes down to the left, then vertically down, then horizontally left, and finally diagonally up to the top right. The text is centered in the lower-left quadrant.

Best Specialist/ Dementia Care Design



Bowgreave Rise Care Home

Bowgreave Rise Care Home is a new, purpose-built scheme which is home for up to 45 older people, some of whom may have dementia.

The development was built on vacant land behind an existing care home which had become tired and dated. When the project was completed, the residents were moved from the old care home into this scheme, allowing for a future extra care building to be realised on that site.

The scheme is L-shaped in plan, providing two household wings over the three storeys of the building. In addition, the ground floor contains a hairdresser, training/meeting room, catering kitchen, and staff areas.

There are 45 single-bed units with en-suite shower rooms and call systems. Each household is arranged in a cluster of nine bedrooms, each of which share an assisted bathroom, common living room, and dining space.

Three of the five common living rooms also have external patios or raised terraces to provide uninterrupted views across the mature Lancashire countryside.

When residents require more quiet space for conversations or to sit and contemplate, the design provides sitting spaces at the end of each corridor with expansive glazing which further connects residents to nature outside.

Each bedroom is designed with a bespoke oriel window bay that projects from the main façade to alleviate any sense of confinement and further strengthens the sense of openness and connection with the natural outside environment.

The interior design utilises colour for wayfinding purposes, including painted reveals to each of the recessed entrances to the bedrooms.

This ensures that when a resident looks down the corridor, they will quickly and easily identify which door leads to their own room.

Central to the success of the design is the thoughtful application of HAPPI principles, ensuring the building is not just functional, but also uplifting for its residents.

The design promotes independence and social connection with features like colour-coded wayfinding, expansive corridors, and the creation of private-yet-connected households which foster a strong sense of community.

PROJECT OWNER

Lancashire County Council

ARCHITECTS

PRP

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Eric Wright Group

OTHER CONTRACTORS

TACE

Scott Hughes Design

Eddisons

Envirotech

Bowland and Tree Consultancy Ltd



Cygnet Hospital Sherwood

Cygnet Hospital Sherwood is a new purpose-built psychiatric intensive care unit (PICU) and acute hospital for men in Nottinghamshire.

Service users and staff were heavily involved in the design of the 44-bed facility, deciding on furnishings, artwork and colour schemes. The choice was a biophilic design for the men to feel connected to the natural environment.

The clinic was also located in a more discreet part of the ward to afford people dignity when receiving their medication – a move decided as a result of direct feedback from patients.

The design also recognised how the environment is a crucial element in the delivery of positive outcomes for service users, their safety, and the safety of staff and the wider community.

The team purposefully designed the building in such a way that it has a homely, not clinical, character, and enables patients to maintain their privacy, dignity, and control, while fully supporting their security and safety.

The use of different floor finishes, fabrics, fittings, seating, storage units, and other means of partitioning spaces assisted in creating smaller areas for a more domestic feel.

Care was taken in the design and furnishings to reduce the impact of noise reverberation and to promote infection prevention and control. All of the furnishings are comfortable in style, while being safe and robust. Fixtures and furnishings in spaces where patients are not continually supervised by staff are anti-ligature.

The layout of the ward is also key, with good sightlines and visibility for staff. External areas were planned and laid out so they are as easy as possible to observe and do not provide opportunities for hiding or concealment.

External spaces are also orientated to maximise sunlight and maintain privacy.

The open planning of communal areas within the ward has enabled good sightlines, and the single point of entry to the hospital further promotes safety.

PROJECT OWNER

Cygnet

ARCHITECTS

Smytheman
Architectural

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Cygnet Design Team

MAIN CONTRACTOR

BDP Construction

OTHER CONTRACTORS

JC Consulting

Peacock and Smith



Darnley Court

HC-One's Darnley Court care home in Glasgow is the first example of a new, innovative approach to specialist dementia care communities (SDCCs) to be opened in Scotland.

As part of the design, families of residents and colleagues were consulted from the start of the process, choosing the fabrics, textures, and themes across the home.

As people with dementia are more likely to become stressed by increasing levels of stimulation, Darnley Court's SDCC has been designed to minimise exposure to unhelpful and irrelevant stimulation that constitute 'environmental clutter'.

Low-arousal designs provide a blank canvas of gentle, calming shades of colours upon which 'natural cues', such as wall furnishings, decoration, and colour schemes, are added.

Darnley Court's environment also does not have murals or 'fake' images as these can be confusing, frustrating, and misleading for people living with dementia.

Instead, the home has implemented what are known as 'life stations' – rooms and areas with distinct uses which spark memories and give residents living with dementia real purpose in their daily lives.

In the bedrooms, designers introduced three schemes that evoke positive connections with nature.

Neutral tones were selected to create a sense of comfort and familiarity, and subtle patches of natural tones have also been introduced to infuse spaces with a personal touch.

In the lounge and dining areas, the team drew inspiration from the British countryside, with a collection of design schemes that incorporate colour psychology to help those with dementia find solace in a familiar and tranquil environment.

Part of the SDCC rationale also looks to use people's interests and pastimes in order to ensure they have a quality of life that is familiar and meaningful. There are multiple lounges, each with a unique theme or activity, as well as a library and games lounge, and a garden room.

PROJECT OWNER

HC-One

ARCHITECTS AND INTERIOR DESIGNERS

HC-One

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Clark Contracts



Hamberley Neurocare Basingstoke

Hamberley Neurocare provides personalised care for people living with neurological conditions, such as brain and spinal injuries, stroke, and early-onset dementia, supporting adults of all ages.

Its purpose-built 28-bed facility in Basingstoke is ideally located to support the nearby Hampshire Hospitals Foundation Trust. Features include a ground-floor entrance, accessible en-suite rooms, a physiotherapy gym, lounges, and landscaped garden access.

The first floor has additional resident spaces, therapy rooms, and more lounge areas, while the second floor is dedicated to staff.

Each one of the spacious en-suite bedrooms is fully soundproofed with independently controlled underfloor heating.

The one-bedroom, self-contained independent living apartment on the first floor also allows people to develop their independence in a home-from-home environment and includes a large, light, and airy open-plan kitchen diner and a spacious bedroom with an en-suite wetroom.

Access to all areas of the home, including outdoor environments, is designed to be fully wheelchair accessible and caters for those with all levels of mobility.

Externally, the architecturally landscaped gardens provide a safe and tranquil environment, with seating and planted areas with river views, creating an outdoor habitat for residents to enjoy and interact with nature.

The use of balconies and terraces, along with feature glazing, brings quality light and green space within the building and maximises the view to the gardens.

Sustainability is addressed through optimal site positioning and massing strategies and a 'fabric first' methodology.

Renewable energy solutions include combined heat and power, all-electric laundry driers and hobs, and smart building technologies which enable ongoing monitoring of energy and water consumption.

PROJECT OWNER

Hamberley
Neurocare

ARCHITECTS

RDT Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Park Grove Design
Limited

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Lancer Scott Limited

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Fed3 Projects

TPM Landscape

Harniss Building
Services Solutions

Ward Associates



North View

North View is a new 150-bed, £106m adult acute mental health inpatient unit at North Manchester General Hospital.

The new hospital is one of the first multi-level mental health units with roof gardens in the North of England and one of the first in a new series of net-zero carbon, all-electric hospitals being built nationally.

Site visits to two recent multi-level units in London were undertaken just prior to the COVID outbreak and these helped to reassure staff on the viability of multi-level mental health units through the provision of modern roof gardens.

The team then focused on planning the ward typologies. A variety of options were tested, but the aim was to ensure each ward had direct level access to its own garden area; flexibility was intrinsic in the design; the building was safe; there was lots of natural light; and it allowed for speedy staff response in the case of any incident. Each ward also had to be as similar as possible to ensure familiarity among staff.

These criteria led to the ward design of the 'tick' shape, which groups the day spaces and gardens in the heart of the ward and the bedrooms down two arms.

The building concept was further developed by following the journey of a service user being admitted as an inpatient for the first time, with a welcoming public realm arrival space and views to the external landscaping.

This biophilic approach was key, with the building form taking cues from biophilic design principles so that within the secure building zone there are a series of private outdoor garden and enclosed courtyard spaces.

The different levels of the building also allow for an integrated landscape approach so there are green spaces at lower and upper ground level and up to roof level.

The interior design strategy also draws on dementia and autism design principles.

PROJECT OWNER

Greater Manchester
Mental Health NHS
Foundation Trust

ARCHITECTS AND INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Gilling Dod Architects

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Integrated Health
Projects (IHP)

OTHER CONTRACTORS

iteriad

Curtin

Watermans

DAY PM

Rider Hunt

Skelton Ward

WSP

Ramboll UK

GL Hearn

Turley

RPS

Cundalls

Lucentia Design

Creative Concern

Placemarque

The image features a dark, almost black, background. Two thin, bright lines are drawn across the upper portion of the frame. A green line starts from the top left and extends diagonally down towards the center. A purple line starts from the top right and extends diagonally down towards the center. These two lines meet at a point near the center, forming a sharp angle. From this meeting point, two vertical lines extend downwards: a green one on the left and a purple one on the right. The text 'Best Acute Design' is positioned in the lower-left quadrant of the image, rendered in a clean, white, sans-serif font.

Best Acute Design



Northern Lincolnshire and Goole Urgent and Emergency Care Centre

Designed during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, new emergency departments, same-day emergency care, and acute assessment units align the accommodation and clinical pathway across both the Diana, Princess of Wales Hospital and Scunthorpe General Hospital sites.

Having control over the adjacencies, activity, and links between each department within the pathway helped the clinical team develop a cohesive and collaborative environment, with accommodation and a staffing model that allows the units to flex acuity levels when required.

Integral to the emergency departments, bespoke staff bases take the form of touch-down benches, positioned and designed to give staff maximum visibility into assessment rooms while encouraging the staff to stay active within the department.

The layout straddles the line between the traditional options of 'ballroom' or 'linear' department layout, making efficient use of circulation. This novel concept was

brought to the team by the clinical leads, who then worked with the design team and supply chain to refine the final product through a series of digital prototypes.

The internal wayfinding, artwork, and decoration incorporate a clear palette of colours and symbols to give consistent theming across both sites. The signage is designed to give clear information about the clinical pathway in order to manage expectations and reduce aggression towards staff.

A series of digital sky installations throughout the departments also provide relief within a deep-plan environment, where access to natural light is restricted.

At each of the two sites, the new-build areas of the emergency department link seamlessly with the adjacent IAAU. This gives significant benefits to patient streaming from a single walk-in entrance.

Re-use of existing areas also minimises the carbon impact of the development.

PROJECT OWNER

Northern Lincolnshire
& Goole NHS
Foundation Trust

ARCHITECTS AND INTERIOR DESIGNERS

P+HS Architects

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Kier Construction

OTHER CONTRACTORS

WT Partnership

Mott Macdonald

**PROJECT OWNER**

North West Anglia
NHS Foundation

**ARCHITECTS
AND INTERIOR
DESIGNERS**

Murphy Philipps
Associates

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Graham Construction

Theatre Block, Hinchingsbrooke Hospital

The new theatre block at Hinchingsbrooke Hospital replaces existing surgical facilities that were constructed using Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) panels, which are time expired and no longer compliant with modern guidance.

The 2500sq m new-build development is arranged over two floors plus a roof plant area providing the following accommodation:

- Ground floor: A shell and core area to accommodate pathology and pharmacy services.
- First floor: Seven new theatres (general, obstetric, and laminar flow), admissions, and 10 recovery bays with support and staff spaces.

The new theatres were developed through early discussions with the estates and clinical teams during an intensive 12-week consultation period.

Therapeutic design is based on clear wayfinding to reduce stress and the development of the interior environment to provide delight and interest. This is vital for patients, but also supports staff in their care delivery.

The design has been undertaken to integrate art within patient areas which is compliant with infection prevention and utilises the funds available to the best effect.

The team also aimed to provide a continuity between the external and internal design concepts, which supports the overall new hospital wayfinding scheme with a clear colour strategy.

The building and the internal fitout follows a standardised approach, with each theatre having the same layout.

The project has been delivered collaboratively using Revit and exchanging .ifc information regularly. The project also fully complies with P22 BIM requirements and includes asset data information in the operation of the building following handover.

The scheme is also surgical robot and laser enabled in all theatres.

The project sets exemplar standards for the use of Modern Methods of Construction (MMC), sustainability, and efficiency in design, exceeding NHS targets for BREEM 'Excellent' and net zero carbon.



Waddeson Wing, Stoke Mandeville Hospital

The new gynaecology and children's emergency department has brought a fresh experience to Stoke Mandeville Hospital.

The new 4,000sq m wing combines a ground-floor children's emergency department (CED) with first-floor maternity and gynaecology services (MAT). There is also an internal plantroom on second floor.

Waddeson Wing sits comfortably within the site and internally connects seamlessly with the adjacent buildings. There is a single-storey link corridor to the existing accident and emergency department and Claydon Wing maternity building.

Regular consultation with patients and staff informed the design, creating spaces which are easy to use, private where important, and naturally lit where possible.

The ground-floor paediatrics unit was designed to be easily accessible from the main entrance to the hospital, with an energetic space including an interactive motion wall in the waiting area, pops of colour, light-hearted art, and generous bed spaces to house children as well as parents.

External planting, mainly shrubs and climbers, is designed to provide shade, privacy, and views to a more natural surround.

Moving paediatrics into the new space not only provided a dedicated area for children, but also frees up much-needed capacity for adult patients in the existing emergency department. It also reduces overcrowding and improves infection control.

Upstairs, the gynaecological experience is more serene, with calm colours, natural woods, and clear signage.

An offsite modular construction approach was chosen and the building includes solar panels and high-performance insulation. The structure is also designed to enable a future second-floor extension.

PROJECT OWNER

Buckinghamshire
Healthcare NHS Trust

ARCHITECTS

Hunters

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Hunters

Art in Site

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Western Building
Systems



PROJECT OWNER

North Cumbria
Integrated Care NHS
Foundation Trust

ARCHITECTS AND INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Gilling Dod Architects

MAIN CONTRACTOR

GRAHAM
Construction Ltd

West Cumberland Hospital Phase 2

The West Cumberland Hospital Phase 2 project comprises a two-storey inpatient ward extension, new main entrance, and rehabilitation courtyard garden.

Delivered by GRAHAM Construction through the ProCure22 framework, the building demonstrates innovation in healthcare infrastructure, constructed using load-bearing insulated pre-cast concrete sandwich panels on the external walls and DeltaBeams for the internal structure.

This build up, including the use of hollow-core flooring, maximises efficiencies and helped the scheme achieve the NHS target of 70% Modern Methods of Construction (MMC).

The building features specialist wards and units that cater to a diverse range of healthcare needs, including a specialist palliative care unit and stepdown community ward on the ground floor, which offers private rooms and access to a tranquil courtyard.

Children and young people's wards feature upgraded rooms with en-suite facilities and access to an external terrace, consisting of hard landscaping for toys, cars,

and games. A care of the elderly ward has been designed with dementia-friendly features and includes six four-bedded bays, eight en-suite side rooms, and communal spaces to promote social interaction.

In the stroke rehabilitation unit, there is an outdoor rehabilitation area, private family room, and a mix of single rooms and bays to accommodate varying patient needs.

The building is a racetrack design intersected by a hospital street, all centred around a private internal courtyard. All of the bedrooms feature a window overlooking the expansive landscape beyond.

All rehabilitation, support, staff, and visitor accommodation is on the inner circle of the racetrack, providing access to the courtyard where possible while patient single bedrooms are either an inboard or nested en-suite design, ensuring the patient maximises the benefit of large windows and staff benefit from the unrestricted access around the patient bed for care. A new main entrance also provides a new focal point to the site.

Externally, there is a rehabilitation and reflection courtyard garden.

The background is a dark charcoal grey. A thin, bright green line starts at the top left, slopes down to the right, then drops vertically down to the bottom edge. A thin, bright purple line starts at the top right, slopes down to the left, then drops vertically down to the bottom edge. The two vertical lines are parallel and separated by a small gap.

Best Primary Care Design



Hamberley Neurocare Southampton

Hamberley Neurocare Southampton is a 57-bedroom neurological rehabilitation facility in Nursling.

Designed with innovation and comfort in mind, the home provides two wings of accommodation that extend from a central bar.

Residents' bedrooms are provided within these wings, with 12 bedrooms to the eastern wing on each of the three floors and 10 bedrooms to the western wing on the ground and first floors.

All bedrooms have an en-suite wet room with interconnecting doors wide enough to accommodate residents' needs. To support residents with more severe care needs, 22 bedrooms have designated fitted hoists to connect the bedrooms with the en-suites.

Each group of bedrooms also has its own lounge and dining areas, nurse stations, sluices, and storage, as well as an assisted bathroom with a spa bath and assisted shower complete with tracked hoist.

In addition to the dayrooms, there is a communal ground-floor café with adjoining private dining room, while an upper-floor activity room and hair salon provide engaging activities.

The home also benefits from medical consulting rooms, physiotherapy rooms, and a therapy gym equipped with cutting-edge rehabilitation equipment.

Complementing these is a rehabilitation suite located to the south-eastern corner, allowing residents the opportunity to prepare to return home. The suite is fully accessible with a bedroom, bathroom, and kitchen-living-dining room complete with a rise-and-fall kitchen worktop.

Landscaped level gardens allow more mobile residents access to fresh air, while the less able are provided with views towards the gardens, and the upper floors have access to a level terrace.

Corridors are wide and easy to pass, which also extends to the garden pathways.

PROJECT OWNER

Hamberley
Neurocare

ARCHITECTS

Harris Irwin Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Park Grove Unique
Interiors

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Highwood



North Bristol Community Diagnostic Centre

North Bristol Community Diagnostic Centre (CDC) is situated in a perfectly convenient community location, adjacent to the Asda Cribbs Causeway Superstore, providing easy access for the local population.

With great transport links, neighbouring amenities, and ample free parking, the facility measures 27,000sq m and is set across two expansive floors which are home to MRI, CT, endoscopy, X-Ray, ultrasound, echocardiogram, and health screening services.

Having taken 11 months to complete, the new CDC started life as a completely blank shell, which was stripped back to its foundations in readiness for the significant work to get underway.

This involved installation of a new, bespoke power supply to support the state-of-the-art imaging technology, a new mezzanine level to accommodate all services, and a vaulted ceiling which provides an open and spacious reception area.

The design team worked closely with staff and key stakeholders to create an excellent patient pathway, while also taking onboard patient feedback to include features such as sky lights, coloured LED lighting, and dementia-friendly colours and finishes.

The corridors are wide and spacious, giving a sense of space and movement in every part of the building.

And, with windows only located in the reception area, clever design has been applied to all interior rooms to ensure that patients feel comfortable while attending appointments.

Moving through the building is easy, with a calm atmosphere that is enhanced through sympathetic colours and smart finishes that give a sophisticated finish and high-quality look and feel.

With an almost unrecognisable refurbishment of a section of the neighbouring Asda superstore, the centre's heating and cooling needs are primarily met by a Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF) air conditioning system with heat recovery, allowing adjacent spaces to benefit from simultaneous heating and cooling, enhancing energy efficiency.

PROJECT OWNER

InHealth

ARCHITECTS

CSM+ Architects

MAIN CONTRACTOR

M&O Building
Contractors Limited

OTHER CONTRACTORS

MESH Construction
Consultancy



Northumbria Health and Care Academy

The Northumbria Health and Care Academy, set in the grounds of the Northumbria Specialist Emergency Hospital, provides a centre of training excellence for nursing, midwifery, and allied health professionals.

The 8,000sq m building also features conference/meeting facilities and office space, and creates an exciting opportunity to strengthen the health workforce while also providing a state-of-the-art primary care facility for the community.

Working in partnership with Sunderland University, Northumbria NHS Trust has described the scheme as 'a trailblazing partnership launched to deliver the NHS workforce of the future'. The partnership means the academy is the first facility of its kind in the North, and only the second in the country.

Stakeholders from the nursing school, trust, and the GP practice worked with the developer and designers over two years to create bespoke spaces for education, training, and primary care delivery.

Extensive engagement with end users of the ground-floor primary care facility has created a state-of-the-art provision with a range of consulting room sizes and dedicated digital consulting spaces.

In addition, the new academy offers teaching facilities including a simulation ward, consultation room, community bedsit, immersive suite, and state-of-the-art classrooms with video conferencing.

The developer, Assura, made a huge commitment to social impact in relation to the project, ranging from workshops with local people to funding for services such as social prescribing and also contributing to onsite improvements such as a walking trail, including planting to support biodiversity and improve the overall wellbeing of staff.

In addition to being BREEAM 'Excellent', IWBI WELL Gold accreditation is targeted in the hope that this building will be the first 'Gold' accredited healthcare building in the UK.

PROJECT OWNER

Assura

ARCHITECTS AND INTERIOR DESIGNERS

P+HS Architects

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Meldrum

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Carl Dean Associates Limited

Wilson Gray

ARP Associates Limited



The Bevan Health and Wellbeing Centre

Located in Tredegar, Wales, the new Bevan Health and Wellbeing Centre is a modern integrated health centre that preserves the 1904 Tredegar General Hospital in the fabric of the new site, honouring its historical significance and Tredegar's link to the birth of the NHS and Aneurin Bevan's legacy.

Procured under the 'Building for Wales' framework, Arcadis' architectural team collaborated with the health board to create an accessible, high-quality health and wellbeing resource centre, co-locating two GP practices, community dental services, a pharmacy, outpatient clinics, and health and social care staff under one roof.

A therapeutic environment has been achieved through a combination of architectural design and thoughtful integration of natural elements, including an emphasis on natural light and open spaces, which creates a welcoming, light, and airy environment for patients and staff.

The design also links the centre to the historic park and grounds at Bedwellty House to provide patients with an active biophilic wellbeing landscape, with a central courtyard and views to the exterior bringing elements of nature into the building. The retained heritage building also includes local art, which fosters a sense of connection and belonging for patients and visitors.

Retaining and carefully preserving the original 'heart room' of Tredegar General Hospital pays homage to the site's historical significance and creates a unique focal point.

The centre sets a new standard for healthcare development, embodying two key principles that can inspire future projects: the successful integration of heritage preservation, community engagement, and patient-centric design, and a focus on holistic wellbeing extending beyond medical treatment to encompass mental, emotional, and social health.

It is also highly energy-efficient, with the team repurposing the existing structures of the original hospital where possible, while enhancing the buildings' thermal envelope to reduce long-term energy costs.

The project team also addressed the site's unique geological challenges through ground stabilisation, ensuring a safe and sustainable foundation while minimising environmental impact.

PROJECT OWNER

Aneurin Bevan
University Health
Board

ARCHITECTS AND INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Arcadis

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Kier Construction

OTHER CONTRACTORS

AECOM

RVW Consulting

RPS Consulting
Engineers Limited

Lee Wakemans
Limited

Gleeds Management
Services Ltd

Curtins

Nathan Wyburn

The image features a dark background with two decorative lines. A green line starts at the top left, slopes down to the right, and then continues vertically down to the bottom edge. A purple line starts at the top right, slopes down to the left, and then continues vertically down to the bottom edge. The two lines meet at a point on the right side of the page.

All Finalists



Acer Lodge

Acer Lodge in Blackburn is a senior living care home with 70 bedrooms and a seven-bed assisted living unit along with communal facilities including lounges, a hair salon and gym, and landscaped gardens.

The property has a canalside frontage and each floor has its own external terrace on the northern corner of the building, taking advantage of the views over the canal to the town centre beyond.

The design team wanted to create a development that provided a great place to live for the residents. And this meant making the best use of space and providing communal facilities that help to build a sense of community within the property.

Flexibility in the layout was also important, so the design uses Zephyr X's design brief which standardises layouts, construction methods, and finishing specification.

Due to the long-term nature of the development, the lifecycle of the building materials used was key, with the team opting for finishes which can be easily maintained, are readily accessible, and are designed to last.

Laid out over three floors, the ground floor provides eight bedrooms and three apartments, while the first floor has 20 bedrooms. On the second floor there are 20 bedrooms and four apartments, with 22 on the top floor.

PROJECT OWNER

Zephyr X

ARCHITECTS

AP Architecture
Limited

INTERIOR DESIGNER

Jill Jackson

MAIN CONTRACTOR

LNC Property
Developments
Limited

Nominated for Best Specialist / Dementia Care Design



Aspen Wood

Aspen Wood is a new 40-bed learning disability (LD) low-secure forensic inpatient unit for Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust.

It provides two 20-bed wards subdivided into four five-bed living units alongside OT/support spaces, therapy and sensory rooms, de-escalation/immersive therapy spaces, and low/high stimulus areas.

The new building is set in its own landscaped oasis.

The design was informed by service users, their families, and members of staff. It aimed to balance safety with the creation of a more supportive and therapeutic living environment, setting a new benchmark both nationally and internationally.

Through this intensive service user engagement and clinical workshops the design team was able to identify and capture the key spatial triggers that pre-empted LD 'melt-down' and design spaces and environments to counter this, including using a biophilic design approach which includes green lightwells, living walls, and reference to nature in the interior design; one-way, open circulation routes designed to aid wayfinding and avoid stressful interactions; and a café/social forum space to give incentives and motivation to come off the ward.

A key driver throughout was the understanding of the vast spectrum of acuity across LD service users, with every individual presenting unique characteristics and sensory triggers.

As such, the design developed to create small living clusters, each with the potential to function independently, but covered by the same nursing team.

Externally, the landscape environment responds to the organic form of the architecture, providing a series of adjacent smaller private enclosed 'zen' courtyards and gardens within a larger estate garden.

PROJECT OWNER

Mersey Care NHS
Foundation Trust

ARCHITECTS AND INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Gilling Dod Architects

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Integrated Health
Projects (IHP)

OTHER CONTRACTORS

AJP

Hoare Lea

SKW

iteriad

Rider Hunt

Nominated for Best Specialist / Dementia Care Design



Ashton Meadows

Ashton Meadows Nursing Home is a new-build 68-bed care home set over basement, ground, and two upper floors.

The building is situated in a residential area and the planners were keen that the front façade give the appearance of two dwellings, with a glass link between them.

Sustainability features included within the build contract include solar panels, a green roof, a combined heat and power unit, and LED lighting throughout.

An enhanced finishes pack was also instructed part way through the contract, which significantly improves the internal look and feel.

The client also requested the ceiling heights be increased to further improve the internal environment.

The resulting design narrative is a stroll through the green charm of Coombe's historic landscape, nestled between Hampton Court Palace, Richmond Park, and Wimbledon Common, in a rolling hillside of historic manors, mature grounds, and old woodland.

Influenced by the palace, the design endeavours to create a space that combines the serenity of the landscape with the local history of innovation and elegance, while providing an uplifting environment that surrounds residents in homely comforts.

Corridors on each floor are carefully designed with seasonal colours, and within each floor the three wings that come off the central hub area have their own design theme.

Ceiling heights have also been increased on the ground floor and walls panelled to give a feeling of quality and refinement.

The natural light offered on the ground-floor corridor highlights the natural charm of Coombe and a walk through the three wings – Riverside, Woodside and Hillside – offers a varying atmospheric feel.

The first-floor corridors take inspiration from nature, while second-floor circulation spaces derive from the history of the local area, evoking the landmarks, artworks, and notable people of Wimbledon, Kingston upon Thames, and Richmond.

PROJECT OWNER

Ashton Meadows Limited

ARCHITECTS

ADG Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Design LSM

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Building Construction Partnership

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Aero Property Consultants

Nominated for Best Interior Design



Astley View Care Home

Astley View is a new residential home located in Chorley, Lancashire, and is the first care facility to be built in the area in over 15 years.

Rooted in Evermore Care's commitment to blending comfort with cutting-edge care technology, the facility is a meticulous collaboration between social care experts and architects, ensuring the highest level of care.

The home has been designed over three storeys, with spacious accommodation in bedrooms and day spaces for 90 residents. Each floor considers the individuality of the residents, while providing a flexible, dynamic, and calm setting for residents and staff alike.

Each resident enjoys a spacious 55sq m area, with wide corridors, floor-to-ceiling windows, and patio doors for ground-floor rooms.

The inclusion of en-suite wetrooms, with automatic lights and optional grab rails and shower chairs, enhances privacy and independence. Acoustic monitoring systems are in place to ensure restful sleep and a reduction in falls.

For staff, there are spacious changing rooms, separate male and female shower facilities, and a high-standard staffroom equipped with a kitchenette, dining area, relaxation seating and 60in television.

The commercial kitchen and laundries are also well equipped and spacious, and there are dedicated rest spaces for the kitchen and laundry team.

For visitors, the home features a large reception area, private dining rooms, a crafts room, and a vibrant 'market street' concept with shops, a beauty salon, cinema, and ice cream parlour, fostering community engagement and social inclusion - a first for Lancashire.

This approach illustrates how elderly care facilities can combine modern design with compassionate care, serving as a model for sustainable, dignified living environments across Lancashire and The North of England.

Nominated for Best Architectural Design

PROJECT OWNER

Evermore Care Homes

ARCHITECTS

vestar* architecture
+ design

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Teal

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Stubbs Construction

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Betton Consult

Ashden



Astley View Care Home

Astley View is a pioneering residential home located in Chorley, Lancashire – the first care home built in the area in over 15 years.

The design reflects a deep understanding of providing a caring environment to meet the needs of the increasingly complex level of care needed in care homes. The team has created a therapeutic environment both inside and outside the building, assisting the team to focus on personalised care, with exceptional lifestyle activity to support inclusion and reduce loneliness.

Floor-to-ceiling windows, balconies on upper floors, and patio doors on the ground-floor bedrooms ensure that residents enjoy natural light and captivating views, fostering a connection with the surroundings.

Access to green spaces is a priority, with landscaped gardens, patioed gardens, and six external terraces providing serene outdoor retreats. The central courtyard with a corridor of trees offers a strong visual impact and privacy for courtyard-facing rooms.

In addition, the trees and wider landscaping have been designed to a large width to ensure privacy for courtyard-facing rooms.

Accessibility was also key, with gently sloping paths where required for ambulant and non-ambulant resident use, and defined colours to support residents with dementia.

All external doors are level access to external amenity spaces for both residents and less able visitors to the home. The main entrance and all resident patios and terraces are accessible in line with operator requirements and regulations, with the wellbeing of residents the primary consideration.

Nominated for Best Exterior Design

PROJECT OWNER

Evermore Care Homes

ARCHITECTS

vestar* architecture
+ design

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Teal

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Stubbs Construction

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Betton Consulting

Ashden



Bentley Grange Care Home

Bentley Grange Care Home is a new, purpose-built luxury care home, which was completed in early 2024 for Maria Mallaband Care Group (MMCG).

The interior design approach offers exceptional and personalised residential, dementia, and nursing care, taking into consideration residents' varying levels of physical and cognitive abilities.

The home features a uniquely designed entrance and bistro. Instead of using a neutral palette, the design team chosen some vibrant colours and various layers of textures to give a 'wow' first impression and a distinctive, lively, and welcoming feeling, rather than an institutional or clinical vibe. The bistro also serves as a lively community hub for dining and socialising.

In most of MMCG care homes, including Bentley Grange, the bistro, private dining room, hair salon, and therapy suite are open to the community. This provides an opportunity to bring people together and help everyone living in the home continue to maintain their lifestyles and meaningful relationships.

Another new and unique feature at Bentley Grange care home is a rooftop bar on the second-floor terrace offering a stunning open view and a social atmosphere.

For the communal rooms, the team opted for several smaller rooms instead of fewer larger ones, to create cosy and homey environments.

As a dementia design specialist, Frontier also paid particular attention to the sensory needs of residents, choosing colours, patterns, and textures which are aesthetically soothing and interesting without being overwhelming. They also avoided using wavy lines and bold geometric patterns, which can cause sensory overload and visual distortion.

Lifestyle rooms have been designed to create engagement. By giving the room a purpose, you create more social interactions – for example there is a working oven in the activity room.

The grandchildren's room is particularly successful as these are specially designed for young visitors to engage with different generations through play, making them a fun destination point in the home.

PROJECT OWNER

Maria Mallaband
Care Group

ARCHITECTS

TDC Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Rebecca Hartley
Interiors

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Lawrence Baker

Nominated for Best Interior Design



Bowgreave Rise Care Home

Bowgreave Rise Care Home is a new, purpose-built scheme which is home for up to 45 older people, some of whom may have dementia.

The development was built on vacant land behind an existing care home which had become tired and dated. When the project was completed, the residents were moved out of the old care home into the new facilities, allowing for a future extra care building to be realised on that site.

The scheme is L-shaped in plan, providing two household wings over the three storeys of the building. In addition, the ground floor contains a hairdresser, training/meeting room, catering kitchen, and staff areas.

There are 45 single-bed, en-suite shower rooms with nurse call systems, and each household is arranged in a cluster of nine bedrooms, each of which share an assisted bathroom, common living room, and dining space.

Three of the five common living rooms have external patios or raised terraces to provide uninterrupted views across the mature Lancashire countryside.

When residents require more quiet space for conversations or to sit and contemplate, the design provides sitting spaces at the end of each corridor with expansive glazing which further connects residents to nature outside.

Each bedroom is designed with a bespoke, oriel window bay that projects from the main façade to alleviate any sense of confinement and further strengthen the sense of openness and connection with the natural outside environment.

The interior design of the scheme utilises colour for wayfinding purposes, including painted reveals to each of the recessed entrances to the bedrooms. This ensures that when a resident looks down the corridor, they will quickly and easily identify which door leads to their own room.

Central to the success of the design is the thoughtful application of HAPPI principles, ensuring the building is not just functional, but also uplifting for residents, promoting independence and social connection with features like colour-coded wayfinding, expansive corridors, and the creation of private-yet-connected households.

PROJECT OWNER

Lancashire County Council

ARCHITECTS

PRP

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Eric Wright Group

OTHER CONTRACTORS

TACE

Scott Hughes Design

Eddisons

Envirotech

Bowland and Tree Consultancy Ltd

Nominated for Best Architectural Design



Burwood Grange

Burwood Grange is a 64-bedroom care home just three miles from the historic town of Weybridge.

Located on a stunning site surrounded by mature trees, consideration was given to environmental factors from the outset of the design process.

The building's orientation and form were designed to best provide usable spaces for the residents both internally and externally, and to limit exposed elevations to direct sunlight where possible. Sustainable energy source solutions were also considered, such as the use of air source heat pumps and suds drainage in the form of rain gardens.

The internal layout, decoration, and space planning was developed to provide open-plan spaces at key destination points on each floor.

Focused on wayfinding, shared spaces are located to take advantage of the views from the building, while also helping to break up corridors between the care groups. The home is designed to be fully accessible and many residential areas are provided with direct access to external gardens or generous terraces, while a first-floor bridge links the home to an upper level of gardens.

Dementia design is a key focus of the internal layout and decoration, providing multiple routes around the building and linking the internal and external spaces.

The dementia wing also features a 'memory lane', linking the additional amenity spaces such as the bar, games room, and cinema back to the residents' bedrooms within each household.

From the outset, the home was designed to deliver a comfortable living environment for its residents and visitors, with large windows in the rooms to maximise the natural light to fill the spaces.

Dacre Lassauniere, general manager at Burwood Grange, said: "Nothing in the design of the building and grounds at Burwood Grange has been overlooked. There are so many thoughtful design touches which provide the perfect backdrop for us to deliver specialist resident care and experiences while also helping to make life easier, more comfortable, and pleasurable for our residents."

PROJECT OWNER

Barchester

ARCHITECTS

Harris Irwin Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Barchester

MAIN CONTRACTOR

McGoff

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Holden and Lee

Nominated for Best Architectural Design



Burwood Grange

Burwood Grange is a 64-bedroom care home near Weybridge in Surrey.

Located on a stunning site, surrounded by mature trees, it provided specific design challenges such as its location within the green belt, its dramatic change in level, and the planning requirements to replicate the scale and height of its previous use as a garden centre.

The building's orientation and form were designed to best provide usable spaces for the residents, both internally and externally.

The home is designed to be fully accessible and provides level access to its landscaped gardens. This is achieved through the incorporation of a link bridge between the first floor and upper garden area. An external platform lift and direct staircase also provide access from the lower garden area.

All ramps and paths are designed to feature gentle slopes to be comfortable for wheelchair use.

Generous, first-floor external terraces also offer access to external space, resulting in some amazing views over the surrounding gardens.

Furthermore, the site layout is largely driven by the 'H' shape of the building footprint. This creates intimate courtyards, enabling the generous garden spaces to feature smaller, individual areas.

Each household care group has access to its own garden space linking to the wider gardens beyond. This enhances the flexibility of the gardens' use and brings the outside into the building, creating a strong connection between the internal and external spaces.

Nominated for Best Exterior Design

PROJECT OWNER

Barchester

ARCHITECTS

Harris Irwin Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Barchester

MAIN CONTRACTOR

McGoff

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Holden and Lee



PROJECT OWNER

Hamberley Care Homes

ARCHITECTS

Pozzoni Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Park Grove Design

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Lawrence Baker

Cambridge Grove

Cambridge Grove is a 72-bed luxury care home situated in Fulbourn, Cambridgeshire, offering residential and dementia care for the older community, as well as short breaks for respite and convalescence. The site lies adjacent to Cambridge Road, with access at the entrance to Capital Park and the NHS Fulbourn Hospital close by.

The brief for this project was to provide an innovative design for a care home for the older community, with very high levels of care accommodation designed specifically to support residents with varying levels of care needs, including dementia.

With a range of hotel-style features and facilities, and a well-thought-out design, residents can live as independently as possible.

With a diverse mix of building styles, sizes, and massing in the local area, the contextual analysis was expanded to include various districts within Cambridge, with a focus on recent developments in and around the historic city. This broader exploration helped to shape the design, guiding decisions relating to rhythm, scale, and proportion.

Key design elements were drawn from this context, including a strong vertical emphasis on window proportions, and the use of dormer windows integrated

into the roof. These features not only reduced the perceived height of the building, but also broke up the roofline, contributing to a more articulated façade that better complemented the surrounding architecture.

The building's mass is broken up by creating a hierarchy of varying heights and diminishing roof forms. The roofline is also punctuated with a series of projecting box dormers, which are designed with a contemporary aesthetic using modern materials.

The resulting building is arranged across three floors, with additional services located in a partial basement level.

The internal design was based on best practice guidelines which follow the order of public to semi-private, then private spaces when entering the home.

The entrance foyer is designed to be warm and inviting, and leads directly into a central community plaza featuring a range of amenities including a bistro café and bar.

Nominated for Best Architectural Design



Claremont Manor Care Home

Claremont Manor Care Home is a new development from Maria Mallaband Care Group which opened in March 2024.

The scheme makes good use of the site, with the shape of the floorplan allowing a sheltered courtyard to be created which enables views from many of the bedrooms into the garden area.

The residential wings branch out from the central reception area in three directions, with the bedrooms arranged along short sections of the corridor and removing the feeling of long institutional walkways.

Regular 'destination spaces', such as sitting areas with feature décor, café lounges, and plenty of day spaces, help to create a homely, comfortable feel.

Day spaces, lounges and dining rooms are located at prominent corners of the building to allow them to be easily accessible by all residents and to make best use of the views over the gardens. Expansive windows allow these areas to be flooded with natural daylight and ventilation.

The gardens to the east and south side of the building are strategically placed to make the most of morning and afternoon sun, and there are communal patio and garden areas where organised games and activities can take place.

Private patio areas to the ground-floor bedrooms allow residents to have their own personal outdoor space, and the building itself creates a barrier between the gardens and carpark.

In total, the building offers 71 bedrooms split between residential and dementia care.

The bedrooms are contemporary, freshly decorated, and finished to an exceptionally high standard throughout. Each space benefits from its own walk-in ensuite/shower room and all have high-quality décor and furniture including wardrobes, desks, sitting chairs, and televisions.

Communal areas are vibrant, stylish, and fun places to meet and include a fully-equipped cinema room, hairdressing salon, private dining, activity rooms, and movement rooms, along with numerous cafés and lounges.

PROJECT OWNER

Maria Mallaband
Care Group

ARCHITECTS

TDC Architects Ltd

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Rebecca Hartley
Interiors

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Lawrence Baker

Nominated for Best Architectural Design



Claremont Manor Care Home

Claremont Manor Care Home is a recently completed care home for Maria Mallaband Care Group.

The primary objective of the project was to design and construct a state-of-the-art luxury care home facility that meets the needs of older people, providing a safe, comfortable, and engaging environment for residents while bearing in mind their varying levels of physical and cognitive abilities. The home had to also be functional for people living with dementia, creating safe surroundings that can enable them to find their way around easily.

Initially a lot of time and consideration was given to the function of the living spaces and how they worked together throughout the home.

Claremont Manor has a central hub that is open to the community, with the bistro, private dining room, hair salon, and therapy suite all giving the opportunity to bring residents and visitors together.

Communal rooms have been designed to create engagement. By giving the room a purpose, the team has created more social interactions – for example in the activity room, which features a working oven and serving area for residents wanting to maintain their living skills. The grandchildren’s room is particularly successful, specifically designed for young visitors to engage with different generations through play.

The look and feel of a care home is also incredibly important, and this is maximised by making the care home feel as homely as possible through architectural details such as fireplaces, chimney breasts, and bookcases.

The design team also sourced fabrics which are not only a specialist healthcare grade, but also tactile and soft to touch. The lounges are also layered with accessories, including table lamps, books, and plants.

Back-of-house amenities were also central to the design, and good-quality staffrooms are provided with coffee machines and phone charging facilities. LED lighting is used throughout with sensors.

PROJECT OWNER

Maria Mallaband
Care Group

ARCHITECTS

TDC Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Rebecca Hartley
Interiors

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Lawrence Baker

Nominated for Best Interior Design



Cygnet Hospital Sherwood

Cygnet Hospital Sherwood is a new state-of-the-art, purpose-built PICU and acute hospital for men in Nottinghamshire.

Facilities at the 44-bed hospital include en-suite bedrooms, spacious communal areas on each ward, quiet lounges, dining rooms, activities of daily living kitchens, a multi-faith room, a fully-equipped gym, multiple meeting and therapy rooms, designated family areas, and de-escalation and seclusion areas.

Service users were at the heart of the planning and design process, with feedback sought from those with lived experience to build a service that would be compassionate and provide the optimum environment for high-quality care. The environment, design character, space requirements, and graphical layouts were all considered.

The building was purposefully designed to be homely, not clinical, and with wellness in mind, allowing patients to maintain their privacy, dignity, and control, while fully supporting security and safety.

Service users' perspectives were taken into consideration when planning furnishings, artwork, and colour schemes, with the team deciding on a biophilic design so that

the men feel connected to the natural environment. And the clinic was located in a more-discreet part of the ward to afford people dignity when receiving their medications.

There was also consistent clinical and operational input into the project to ensure the design was operationally realistic in order to meet the needs of the future service users.

The layout of the ward areas means staff have good sightlines and visibility to best ensure everybody's safety. External areas were planned and laid out so they are as easy as possible to observe and do not provide opportunities for hiding or concealment.

The open planning of communal areas within the ward has enabled good sightlines and the single point of entry to the hospital promotes safety.

To meet sustainability goals, the development has EV points, LED lighting, and solar panels.

PROJECT OWNER

Cygnet

ARCHITECTS

Smytheman
Architectural

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Cygnet Design Team

MAIN CONTRACTOR

BDP Construction

OTHER CONTRACTORS

JC Consulting

Peacock and Smith

Nominated for Best Architectural Design



PROJECT OWNER

Cygnnet

ARCHITECTS

Shack Architecture

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Cygnnet Design Team

MAIN CONTRACTOR

BDP Construction

Cygnnet Hospital Wolverhampton

Interior design was a key element in the overall approach to the delivery of the new Cygnnet Hospital Wolverhampton, a two-ward PICU and acute hospital for men.

While interior design can be overlooked within mental health facilities – as safety and security can be the predominant design ethos – the team wanted to show at Wolverhampton that mental healthcare interiors could also be beautiful while incorporating safe design.

The hospital has been open since July 2024 and a service user who was recently discharged said: "I've been admitted to hospital 20 times in different locations and this is the best hospital I have ever been in."

The core design principle for the interiors was for people to not feel like they have walked into a clinical environment, but to provide a comfortable environment for people at a time of acute vulnerability, which preserves their privacy and dignity, enables control as far as possible, and supports participation in meaningful activities.

This starts from the front reception, where the space is flooded with natural light, with comfortable seating and a fishtank which service users have said is calming. There are also plants and a scent machine to provide a welcoming environment.

The hospital features a long corridor to ensure good lines of sight and visibility. This has been purposefully split into different colours and zones to aid with wayfinding. To break up the corridor, bench seats were installed with upholstery to match the particular colour zone.

All rooms are large and airy, with varied options for seating and activity, and the en-suite bedrooms are spacious with plenty of storage, a desk, and a lockable cupboard for valuable items.

The choice of materials, finishes, and surfaces of fixtures and fittings was made with infection prevention control in mind, and texture was important to reduce the clinical feel of the environment.

While the furniture selected needed to be suitable for the mental health setting, it also offers a varied array of seating options and activities.

Nominated for Best Interior Design



Cygnet Hospital Wolverhampton

Cygnet Hospital Wolverhampton is a new state-of-the-art, two-ward PICU and acute hospital for men.

Facilities include en-suite bedrooms, spacious communal areas, quiet lounges, dining rooms, activities of daily living kitchens, a multi-faith room, fully-equipped gyms, multiple meeting and therapy rooms, designated space for family visits, and de-escalation and seclusion areas.

The hospital was designed compassionately, with service users at the forefront of decision-making.

The core principle was for people to not feel like they have walked into a clinical environment. It was instead designed to provide a comfortable environment for people at a time of acute vulnerability, preserving their privacy, dignity, and control over the environment as far as possible, and ensuring appropriate levels of safety and security while supporting participation in meaningful activities.

This ethos starts from the front reception, where the space is flooded with natural light, with comfortable seating and a fishtank. There are also plants and a scent

machine, and service users' perspectives were taken into consideration when planning furnishings, artwork, and colour schemes.

There was also consistent clinical and operational input into the project to ensure that the design was operationally realistic.

The hospital features a long corridor to ensure good lines of sight and visibility. This is split into different colours and zones to aid wayfinding.

Internal windows were incorporated to bring in natural light to the ground-floor ward corridor. On the first floor, large rooflights were installed to maximise the light and aid circadian rhythm.

To break up the corridor, bench seats were installed with upholstery to match the colour zone. In the corridor and main communal spaces, acoustic panels were installed which reduce noise and stress levels.

Externally, spaces were orientated to maximise sunlight and communal areas within wards are positioned to face the canal side.

PROJECT OWNER

Cygnet

ARCHITECTS

Shack Architecture

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Cygnet Design Team

MAIN CONTRACTOR

BDP Construction

Nominated for Best Acute Design



Cygnets Paddocks

Cygnets Paddocks is a new 28-bed specialist neuropsychiatric rehabilitation service for men.

Facilities include en-suite bedrooms, spacious communal areas, quiet lounges, dining rooms, activities of daily living kitchens, a multi-faith room, a fully-equipped gym, multiple meeting and therapy rooms, designated space for family visits, dedicated physical therapy space, fully-equipped assisted bathrooms, and gardens.

Much of the interior of the hospital contains subtle details that will make a big difference to how patients feel in the space.

The design process involved commissioners, patients, community groups, carers, and acute care staff from an early stage, who contributed to the plans and were involved in naming the three wards. Patient perspectives were also taken into consideration when planning furnishings, artwork, and colour schemes.

The aim was to create a homely environment that would allow for safe, secure care to be delivered, while promoting happiness and wellness among all users of the service. For instance, bedrooms are designed so that occupants can easily personalise them, giving them a feeling of ownership.

Given that some of the service users will have communication difficulties, the interior designers installed evidence-led pictograms on the signage.

All facilities have been adapted to enable those with physical needs to make use of them, while artwork reflects the local landscape on the Widnes site.

Flexibility and adaptability of the spaces was important, and bedroom layouts are varied, with wheelchair-accessible wardrobes and options for either a double bed or a profile bed.

Interior finishes ensure the correct light reflectance point difference of 30 between surfaces, while in communal spaces there are different options of chairs as well as variable table heights.

All furnishings are comfortable and domestic in style, while also being safe and robust. The choice of materials, finishes, and surfaces was made with infection prevention control in mind.

PROJECT OWNER

Cygnets

ARCHITECTS

Shack Architecture

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Cygnets Design Team

MAIN CONTRACTOR

OSP Construction Group

Nominated for Best Interior Design



Darcy House Care Home

Darcy House Care Home, located in Darley Dale, Derbyshire, has been designed over two and three storeys, working with the existing hillside landscape to provide bedrooms and day spaces for 78 residents.

The home provides the highest quality of residential, nursing, respite, palliative, and dementia care for the elderly split over three floors of accommodation, with the lower ground floor providing residential and nursing care, the ground floor providing residential care, and the first floor providing dementia care.

The main entrance to the home is accessed at ground-floor level over a pedestrian bridge from the carpark and over a feature sunken garden.

All floors are accessible through a central lift and a service lift, plus three staircases.

Colours of corridors, rooms, and flooring are contrasting over and above building regulation requirements to provide an elegant, quality, and sophisticated environment, while also providing assistance to those with visual impairments.

All floors have an assisted bathroom with a specialist assisted bath, in addition to each resident bedroom having private en-suite facilities.

External areas have been designed with the very specific site constraints in mind, providing gently sloping paths where required for ambulant and non-ambulant resident use.

PROJECT OWNER

Care Concern Group

ARCHITECTS

vestar* architecture
+ design

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Lynn Barker Interiors

MAIN CONTRACTORS

J. Tomlinson

Corramore

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Gerry Pounder
Associates

Swan Paul Partnership

Nominated for Best Architectural Design



Darcy House Care Home

Darcy House Care Home is a £10m development offering residential, nursing, respite, palliative, and dementia care for 78 people.

The part-two-storey, part-three-storey building was designed to work with the existing hillside landscape, with each floor considering the individuality of the residents and providing a flexible, dynamic, and calm setting for residents and staff alike.

The interior design approach aimed to create both private and communal areas, with music and sensory rooms, a hairdressing and beauty salon, and a café space in the main entrance.

All floors of accommodation have an impeccably finished assisted bathroom with a specialist assisted bath, in addition to each resident bedroom having their own private en-suite facilities.

There is also a 'Sensory Seaside' based on the famous Matlock Baths.

All floors are accessible through a central lift, and colour choice in corridors, rooms, and flooring provide contrast over and above building regulation requirements, providing additional assistance to residents with visual impairments.

Close attention has also been paid to wayfinding and orientation, with dementia care specialists contributing to the design. General signage throughout the home is high quality and clear, using brushed metal with a mixture of icons and words to denote room usage and wing locations.

Specialist care signage has been carefully designed to convey icons, words, and colours so that residents can associate colours with certain spaces, such as toilets and bedrooms.

There are also carefully designed spaces for staff, including a kitchenette and dining and relaxation space, which have been decorated and fitted out to a high standard.

PROJECT OWNER

Care Concern Group

ARCHITECTS

vestar* architecture
+ design

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Lynn Barker Interiors

MAIN CONTRACTORS

J. Tomlinsons

Corramore

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Gerry Pounder
Associates

Swan Paul Partnership

Nominated for Best Interior Design

**PROJECT OWNER**

The London Clinic

**ARCHITECTS
AND INTERIOR
DESIGNERS**

Hunters

MAIN CONTRACTORM&O Building
Contractors Ltd

Diagnosics Centre, 142-146 Harley Street

Hunters' healthcare team was brought in during early 2022 to redesign The London Clinic's rapid diagnostics centre and to ensure the historical charm was maintained while healthcare delivery and circulation was modernised.

This impressive project features a six-storey building at 142-146 Harley Street, which has been beautifully refurbished by The Howard de Walden Estate into a series of modern consulting houses while sympathetically keeping original features. The existing building is Grade II listed and covers around 24,000sq ft with more than 140 rooms.

The design intent was to create a service that provided prompt appointments for early diagnosis covering breast, urology, gynaecology, and dermatology, in an unimposing, calming, and friendly environment.

The focus of the project was to retain and refurbish wherever possible, keeping building materials out of landfill while celebrating the building's history.

The rooms are decorated with fresh spring colours, inspired by the bright yellows of daffodils and the soft hues of blossoms from the client's brand.

Behind the main building, the mews houses showcase the original roof trusses, which were preserved. This brings a unique and eye-catching look to the new staff quarters, blending history with modern design.

The project commenced in April 2023 and included a full refurbishment and fit-out of the basement area creating MRI, mammography, and ultrasound facilities with specialist imaging equipment installed, as well as colonoscopy diagnostic space at third-floor level, with staff facilities contained in the mews areas behind the main building.

The remaining floors received refurbishment work to create consulting rooms, treatment rooms, offices, and ancillary spaces. The 'Kings Speech' Room at first-floor level has been converted to form a welcoming waiting room for clients.

Building works were completed in early February 2024, with the clinic successfully opening its doors later that month.

The building is naturally ventilated, naturally lit wherever possible, and the original flooring was reused.

Nominated for Best Acute Design



PROJECT OWNER

London North West
University Healthcare
NHS Trust

ARCHITECTS AND INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Murphy Philipps
Associates

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Seville Development
Ltd

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Hilton Electrical

Ealing Community Diagnostic Centre

The Ealing Community Diagnostic Centre (CDC) is a pioneering NHS initiative designed to expand diagnostic capabilities outside of main acute services, addressing the urgent need for improved access to diagnostic imaging.

This facility not only alleviates the wait times for essential services, but also enhances the overall healthcare experience for patients and staff.

Looking to the interior of the building, the therapeutic environments were created through colour, resulting in bright and hopeful spaces full of clinician-participated artworks.

The graphic art on the glazing was developed with users by scanning inanimate objects such as fruits and flowers, as well as musical and electrical instruments. This was a positive collaborative experience and achieved the goal of creating calm and playful waiting areas.

By incorporating intuitive wayfinding and patient-centred design elements, the team significantly improved navigation and accessibility, with patient waiting and changing areas colour-blocked to correspond to their respective departments.

Involvement of staff and other key stakeholders was crucial throughout the design process.

The team organised collaborative workshops where users could express their needs and preferences such as workflow and wayfinding, patient privacy, and staff visibility of patients. This feedback directly influenced design decisions, from the layout of clinical spaces to the selection of materials, which ensured that the final design reflects the voices of those who will use the facility.

The integration of therapeutic elements, such as the innovative use of colour, can serve as a model for subsequent NHS projects, emphasising the importance of mental wellbeing for both patients and staff in healthcare environments.

Nominated for Best Interior Design



PROJECT OWNER

London North West
University Healthcare
NHS Trust

ARCHITECTS AND INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Murphy Philipps
Associates

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Seville Development
Ltd

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Hilton Electrical

Ealing Community Diagnostics Centre

The Ealing Community Diagnostic Centre is a pioneering NHS initiative designed to expand diagnostic capabilities outside of main acute services, addressing the urgent need for improved access to diagnostic imaging.

This facility not only alleviates the wait times for essential services; it also enhances the overall healthcare experience for patients and staff.

Involvement of staff and other key stakeholders was crucial throughout the design process, and the team organised collaborative workshops where users could express their needs and preferences such as workflow and wayfinding, patient privacy, and staff visibility of patients.

This feedback directly influenced design decisions, from the layout of clinical spaces to the selection of materials.

In accordance with CDC requirements, the unit features a dedicated entrance while remaining interconnected with Ealing Hospital. Immediately adjacent to the main hospital entrance, access is provided via the stairs and lifts, accommodating for specific user needs.

Internally, the therapeutic environments were created through colour, resulting in bright and hopeful spaces full of clinician-participated artworks.

The graphic art on the glazing was developed with users by scanning inanimate objects such as fruits and flowers, as well as musical and electrical instruments.

By incorporating intuitive wayfinding and patient-centred design elements, the team has significantly improved navigation and accessibility.

This project sets a precedent for future specialist healthcare facilities by demonstrating the effectiveness of user-centred design and collaboration.

Additionally, the integration of therapeutic elements, such as the innovative use of colour, can serve as a model for subsequent NHS projects, emphasising the importance of mental wellbeing for both patients and staff in healthcare environments.

Nominated for Best Specialist / Dementia Care Design



Elm Lodge Care Home

Forest Care's new purpose-built 60-bed luxury residential care home in Hartley Wintney is set within three acres of stunning landscaped gardens in the beautiful Hampshire countryside.

The home has been designed to engage and encourage elderly residents to live as independent and sociable a life as possible, regardless of their physical or mental disabilities, and therefore promote self-esteem, confidence, and general health and wellbeing.

Great consideration has been given to the issue of sight and hearing loss, and the general impairments of old age, as well as consideration for those in the early stages of dementia.

The general building design incorporates large external windows and large glazed walls between corridors and communal rooms, providing plenty of natural light which, in conjunction with clear signage to all areas of the home, ensures easier wayfinding for residents.

Large, glazed areas provide views into clearly identifiable spaces, with views through these rooms and large windows onto landscaped gardens and terraces.

Glare is managed through blinds and sheer curtains, which also enables flexibility to use the space in multiple ways.

Floor finishes throughout have been designed to match tonally between spaces to avoid visual barriers or the impression of steps or holes in the floor, which might restrict access.

Finishes and soft furnishings, while looking residential, are contract quality and enable easy cleaning, while upholstery fabrics on the inside faces of furniture are waterproof and have been carefully considered in terms of assisting with infection control.

Fabrics and furniture finishes have also been chosen to provide contrast to surrounding finishes in order to assist with spatial awareness. Wall finishes in spaces such as ensuite bathrooms and assisted bathrooms have been specified to provide good LRV contrast between walls, floors, sanitaryware and fittings.

To help people find their rooms, bedroom doors have been designed to look more like a front door, with surrounding joinery panels and an individual light fitting.

PROJECT OWNER

Forest Care

ARCHITECTS

Tetra Tech
Southampton

HGP Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Bright Bay Design

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Cove Construction Ltd

Nominated for Best Interior Design



Esmere Gardens

Set to the south of the picturesque Cotswold town of Moreton-in-Marsh, this 60-bedroom care home has been designed to deliver outstanding care to residents.

While all elements of the design are impressive, the interior scheme is particularly exceptional.

Offering a range of care services including residential, dementia, nursing, and respite options, the interior design is mindful of the varying demands of the residents.

With regards to colour schemes, ease of navigation, furniture choices, and the overall look and feel of the space, the design combines a wide-ranging palette of materials and finishes, while maximising the footprint, natural light, and functionality.

The use of blue throughout the communal spaces emits a sense of sunny days and helps to bring the outside in, with pops of orange and gold from the soft furnishings adding to the summery and vibrant feel.

The blend of colours and materials delivers an interior that is both elegant and comfortable, ensuring the residents feel at home.

And, with options to spend time in the beautifully appointed, bright, and airy lounge areas with friends and family, or to relax in the sanctuary of their own rooms, residents can enjoy a beautiful environment that is also designed for ease of navigation.

Aesthetically pleasing furniture designed specifically for elderly individuals with disabilities delivers comfort and ease of mobility, while a GP assessment room enables residents to be examined in the comfort of their own environment.

Other key interior design elements include wider doors into rooms to enable self-propelled wheelchair access; unique en-suite bathroom doors designed for hoist use; an accessible reception and nurse station; and seating areas along the corridor to provide welcome resting points for those with limited mobility.

Lighting is a major design consideration, with levels across the home helping those with low visual acuity and automatic lighting in en-suites and bathrooms making night-time use safer.

Nominated for Best Interior Design

PROJECT OWNER

Taylor & Taylor

ARCHITECTS

Harris Irwin Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Just Imagine
Contract Interiors

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Kori



Floryn House Care Home

Floryn House Care Home is located within Yarnton, a suburb of Oxford, only a short drive to the historic city centre.

The home caters for 73 residents, offering residential, nursing, respite, palliative, and dementia care over three floors of accommodation split into six individual wings, with the ground floor providing residential care, first floor providing dementia care, and the second floor providing nursing care.

Each floor considers the resident individuality while providing a flexible, dynamic, and calm setting for residents and staff alike.

The floor area has been maximised throughout to provide residents with the highest quality of spaces – in particular the second-floor room in roof spaces, which makes the most of sloped ceilings and dormers.

Amenities include a multi-use dining/lounge space in each wing, a versatile activity room and sensory room, private resident cinema, multiple day spaces across all floors, and quiet lounges, as well as a hairdressing and beauty salon, spa-assisted bathroom, and a café.

Externally, there are multiple terraces at first-floor level, seating areas throughout the expansive gardens, planting beds, gardening facilities, sensory gardens, and private resident patios.

Staff have been considered too, with a spacious kitchenette, dining and relaxation seating, and tea-making facilities.

PROJECT OWNER

Care Concern Group

ARCHITECTS

vestar* architecture
+ design

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Lynn Barker Interiors

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Lawrence Baker

Nominated for Best Architectural Design



Floryn House Care Home

Floryn House is a new £8.7m care facility offering residential, nursing, respite, palliative, and dementia care for 73 elderly people across six small wings.

Each of the three floors considers the residents' individuality, while providing a flexible, dynamic, and calm setting for residents and staff alike.

The interiors have been designed to be functional, attractive, and luxurious, with multi-use dining and lounge spaces in each wing, versatile activity and sensory rooms, private cinemas, and a variety of day spaces across all floors.

There is also a hairdressing and beauty salon, spa-assisted bathroom, and a café in the main entrance.

All floors are accessible through a central lift and colours of corridors, rooms, and flooring are contrasting over and above building regulation requirements to provide an elegant, quality, and sophisticated environment, while also giving assistance to residents with visual impairments.

Lounges and day spaces are fitted with TV units and hearing loops, and all floors have an assisted bathroom with a specialist assisted bath, as well as each resident bedroom having their own en-suite facilities.

The interior design approach focuses heavily on wayfinding, with input from dementia specialists. General signage is high-quality and clear, using brushed metal with a mixture of icons and words to denote room usage and wing locations.

Specialist care signage, such as in dementia care wards, has been carefully designed to convey icons, words, and colours so residents can associate colours with certain spaces, such as toilets, bedrooms, and day spaces.

In addition, dedicated staffing areas have been decorated and fitted out to a high quality, with a kitchenette and dining and relaxation facilities.

Stakeholders were involved throughout the design process, helping to create a peaceful and serene setting with an extensive choice of day spaces and activities.

PROJECT OWNER

Care Concern Group

ARCHITECTS

vestar* architecture
+ design

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Lynn Barker Interiors

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Lawrence Baker

Nominated for Best Interior Design



Floryn House Care Home

Floryn House is located within Yarnton, a suburb of Oxford, and provides residential, nursing, respite, palliative, and dementia care for the elderly.

The £8.7m development has bedrooms and day spaces for 73 residents split over three floors and in six individual wings, with the ground floor providing residential, first floor providing dementia, and the second floor providing nursing care.

The high-quality outdoor environments have been carefully considered, boasting multiple terraces at first-floor level, external seating throughout the landscaped gardens, and expansive gardening facilities, including sheds and greenhouses.

There are also sensory gardens, planting beds, potting sheds, and private resident patios for ground-floor bedrooms.

All external areas were designed with the site constraints in mind, providing gently sloping paths where required for ambulant and non-ambulant resident use.

Handrails and balustrading have been introduced to patios and terraces for resident safety and accessibility.

All external doors have level access to external amenity spaces for both residents and less-able visitors to the home.

Commenting on the design, a resident said: "This home is stunningly beautiful. I have my own patio and am thoroughly spoilt with my evening glass of my favourite beverage while listening to the birds."

PROJECT OWNER

Care Concern Group

ARCHITECTS

vestar* architecture
+ design

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Lynn Barker Interiors

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Lawrence Baker

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Neo Projects

Nominated for Best Exterior Design



Glenburnie Lodge

The interior design of the home has been meticulously crafted to foster a dementia-friendly environment, with a strong focus on creating spaces that are both functional and comforting.

The design incorporates thoughtful elements that promote ease of navigation, safety, and a sense of familiarity for residents.

The layout is spacious and uncluttered, with clear sightlines and a flowing connection between rooms and communal areas, ensuring that the space feels open and accessible.

One of the key design features is the strategic placement of bedroom doors, which are staggered to reduce confusion and allow for a more-intuitive flow through the living spaces.

The interior also emphasises the importance of sensory cues, such as carefully selected colours and lighting, which are calming yet distinctive, helping residents to orient themselves within the space.

Warm, neutral tones are used throughout, creating a homely and soothing atmosphere, while contrast in key areas provides clear visual guidance.

The communal areas have been designed to encourage interaction and engagement, with spaces such as the hairdressing and beauty salon, as well as the café areas, thoughtfully positioned to invite residents to spend time outside of their bedrooms.

These spaces are furnished with comfortable seating, soft lighting, and tactile materials that contribute to a relaxed and welcoming environment.

The furniture is carefully selected to ensure both aesthetic appeal and functionality, with pieces that are easy to navigate and suitable for a variety of needs.

Additionally, all bedrooms have been designed with both privacy and accessibility in mind. Each room is spacious, exceeding statutory minimum size requirements, and features level access and an en-suite bathroom for convenience and comfort.

PROJECT OWNER

Wenvoe Care
Homes Limited

ARCHITECTS

Harris Irwin Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Kelly Wilson Interiors
Ltd

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Pendragon Design
and Build

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Chessmann

Nominated for Best Interior Design



Granville Gardens Care Home

Granville Gardens is a 68-bed care home located in the heart of the town of Hinckley in Leicestershire. The all-electric scheme was designed to the client, Octopus Real Estate's high-end specification and is operated by Acacia Care.

The former social club site is now a much-needed turn-key care home and bowls club development, providing an exceptional level of care accommodation and facilities within an area experiencing a shortfall in care provision.

Granville Gardens has been carefully designed to promote the health and wellbeing of its residents and workers and sits well in its position on a main route through to Hinckley town centre.

Taking 18 months to complete, the £8m development offers three floors of accommodation with one floor allocated entirely to the provision of specialist dementia care.

A unique design was proposed, which incorporated all necessary service facilities being sited on the top floor of the development, maximising the space available on the ground floor for resident use.

Utilising this concept, key communal areas and bedrooms could be placed on the ground floor, thereby maximising the number of resident's bedrooms and communal rooms with direct access to outdoor spaces to actively promote residents' feeling of wellbeing.

Aside from the luxury bedrooms with en-suite wetrooms, the development offers a bespoke contemporary reception area, a fully-equipped hair and beauty salon, and high-specification lounges with designer lighting and furnishings on each of the three floors.

Specialist 'spa' assisted bathrooms on each floor have been installed, complete with nurse call systems, providing relaxing yet safe facilities.

Entertainment is also on offer with a surround-sound cinema room, relaxing café for socialising, and a pub, The Bonnevile Arms, all helping to create a sense of community for the residents.

The development is enclosed within landscaped gardens, including a sensory garden with a balcony overlooking a redeveloped bowling pavilion.

PROJECT OWNER

Octopus Real Estate

Acacia Care

ARCHITECTS

Another Kind Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Samantha Lord Design

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Wynbrook

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Edward Cooper Young

Howard Ward Associates

Nominated for Best Architectural Design



Granville Gardens Care Home

Granville Gardens is a new-build 68-bed care home located in Hinckley, Leicestershire, providing 24-hour residential and dementia care for residents in a state-of-the-art setting.

Located in a prominent position on one of the main road links into the town, the development has been constructed on the site of a former social and bowls club.

Externally, the garden provides exclusive and direct access to a new pristine bowling green and pavilion, provided for the private members club as part of the development.

The pavilion was intended to be detached from the main building and of a different scale due to its use. However, by employing similar decorative brickwork and rhythmic façade features, a cohesive design language is maintained.

The outdoor space is not only a place of leisure, but also an opportunity for residents to engage in a beloved pastime, or alternatively just spectate from one of the feature balcony areas. There are also secure, landscaped gardens, including a sensory area, providing an oasis of tranquillity.

The use of 'line of sight' architecture has been utilised as far as practically possible, creating interior views from one space to another and then out to the outdoors, resulting in the spaces feeling larger than they are.

To create external amenity spaces for the upper levels, large feature terraces have been introduced with a southerly aspect to allow views to the bowling green. All lounges and communal areas have also been positioned to gain access to both the garden and the terraces.

For sustainability, four EV charging points were installed as well as a secure cycle store.

The home is Octopus Real Estate's first all-electric scheme and one of the first in the country, setting the precedent for a more sustainable future in the building and operation of care facilities.

PROJECT OWNER

Octopus Real Estate

Acacia Care

ARCHITECTS

Another Kind Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Samantha Lord

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Wynbrook

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Edward Cooper Young

Howard Ward Associates

Nominated for Best Exterior Design

**PROJECT OWNER**

Great Western
Hospitals NHS
Foundation Trust

**ARCHITECTS
AND INTERIOR
DESIGNERS**

Gilling Dod Architects

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Integrated Health
Projects (IHP)

Great Western Hospital, Swindon, Integrated Front Door

Swindon Hospital has redeveloped its emergency department (ED) into an integrated front door (IFD), with phase 1 being the urgent treatment centre (UTC) followed by the recently completed new-build emergency department. A third phase will follow to deliver a same-day emergency care facility.

The clinical model and design was developed with input from stakeholders and focused on creating an efficient clinical flow for patients.

The layouts ensure reduced travel distances between departments and a Changing Spaces room has been included, which has transformed privacy and dignity for patients.

Calming colours are used throughout, with a nature theme in the children's zone and artwork displays donated by children, depicting their NHS heroes.

From the point of arrival, a welcoming reception with dedicated bays greets you, while a separate podium with a patient navigator provides 'quick-fire' triage to direct patients to the most appropriate service, reducing waiting times. At this point,

adults move into the open-plan waiting area with dramatic columns, raised ceilings, and coloured glazing, and children go to a dedicated space with a sky ceiling, bespoke joinery, and activities.

Sustainability was also key, with the scheme achieving a BREEAM 'Excellent' rating, reducing operating costs by 30% based on utilising the majority of its services from the existing estate, careful façade design, and room placement to minimise the need for vent/cooling. Additional requirements are from an energy centre based on air source heat pumps and renewable technology.

Carbon is further reduced in both the efficient footprint and the future flexibility, with potential for four additional floors being added without requiring new foundations or groundworks.

The project has helped to reduce backlog maintenance costs across the hospital estate as well as reducing energy costs.

Nominated for Best Acute Design



Hallmark Willingdon Park Manor Care Home

Located in the Ratton area of Eastbourne, Hallmark Willingdon Park Manor is a new 85-bed home providing residential, nursing, and dementia care, along with an exclusive neighbourhood of nine suites.

Close to the pier and public transport routes, the home's design features seaside elements throughout and luxurious facilities, including an ice cream parlour, cocktail bar, and café.

The home's design seeks to bring the outside in, helping residents to connect with nature all year round, with double-height ceilings, clever use of bifold doors, and a winter and summer terrace with fully-glazed windows.

Meanwhile, outside of the home there are beautiful, landscaped gardens, a greenhouse, and a boat created for children's imaginative play.

Dementia design principles have been followed throughout the home, with typeface, fonts, and colours for signage and icons checked prior to installation. Wallpapers, types and positioning of furniture, and artwork are also used to aid wayfinding.

The home adopted the Montessori approach on the dementia community to encourage residents to engage in purposeful activities and to improve wellbeing.

Meanwhile, in bedrooms, residents living with dementia have furniture with vision panels supporting them to get dressed, and colour-coated taps in their bathrooms so they can distinguish the difference between hot and cold.

There are lots of areas where full-height glass and skylights are used to bring natural light into the home, such as the feature olive tree in the residential community.

In addition, Samsung Frame TVs were installed to improve the home's aesthetic and look like artwork when not in use, and a visual cinema package was installed in the cinema room with a starlight ceiling.

PROJECT OWNER

Hallmark Luxury
Care Homes

ARCHITECTS

DWA Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Chloe Morgan

Aimee Casbolt

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Savista
Developments

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Shackletons

Make By Design

Kempowell Electrical
Services

DBD Kitchens

Nominated for Best Interior Design

**PROJECT OWNER**

Hamberley
Neurocare

ARCHITECTS

Harris Irwin Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Park Grove Unique
Interiors

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Highwood

Hamberley Neurocare Camberley

Hamberley Neurocare Camberley is a dedicated facility providing expert neurorehabilitation and complex care services for individuals with brain injuries, spinal injuries, and complex neurological conditions, including Parkinson's and Huntington's.

There are 58 modern, en-suite bedrooms, a two-bedroom independent living apartment, and a spacious therapy gym equipped with the latest rehabilitation technology.

In addition, to assist safe lifting and transferring residents who have difficulty moving independently, overhead hoists are available in the rehabilitation areas as well as in 22 of the bedrooms and bathing facilities.

The design has been tailored to offer a therapeutic environment for all users, combining well-considered form and function to create a space that fosters recovery, resilience, and renewal. The accommodation also delivers operational flexibility to ensure that residents have access to the most appropriate care for their specific needs.

Accessibility is key to the design. All residents and visitors share the same horizontal and vertical circulation routes, whether able, ambulant disabled, or in a wheelchair.

Additionally, the interior décor has a homely feel with a natural colour palette, creating a relaxing and welcoming ambience. The autumnal tones bring a sense of the outdoors into the interior, and this atmosphere is enhanced by the amount of natural light that comes through the large windows and glazed doors.

All bedrooms have a colour scheme that is calming and functional in that residents can identify the layout. The colour scheme in the corridors ensures visually impaired residents can identify their location.

The lounges and dining rooms are clustered around the intersection of the wings to reduce the distance residents need to travel and to make supervision easier. Additional communal rooms are located around the home, creating differing environments, but also encouraging movement through the home for those who are able.

The ground floor café offers a welcoming, friendly environment for residents and visitors, and provides a further social hub and waiting area for accessing the more specialist services.

Nominated for Best Primary Design



PROJECT OWNER

Imperial College
Healthcare NHS
Trust

ARCHITECTS

Ansell & Bailey
Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Georgia Burt
Architects

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Storm Building

Hammersmith Hospital Oncology Outpatients

Located within an existing building previously used to store medical records, this project at Hammersmith Hospital provides a new outpatient department for cancer services.

The brief was to create a space to include 10 consultation and examination rooms, a treatment room, phlebotomy service, staff room, quiet space, and ancillary support spaces.

Starting with the emotional plan to identify the feeling the design was to evoke, colours and plant imagery were chosen to bring the outside in. Plants were selected for their medicinal benefits in promoting calmness and wellness.

Stakeholder engagement was integral at all design stages, regarding the layout of rooms, choice of imagery, and the colour scheme. As hospital visits can be stressful, efforts were made to avoid overwhelming patients with too much information.

Imagery is echoed across spaces to provide simple connectivity for patients and visitors as they navigate around the building. For example, the chosen plant is used as a stencil in the corridor and then repeated as an image within the room.

The associated colour is a block within the corridor which is easily visible and helps support the wayfinding strategy utilised in the flooring and seating within each room. The remaining palette is kept neutral in grey and white to retain and promote calmness.

The commonality of a simple palette links the area together holistically, with an open reception desk and easily identifiable spaces.

Utilising and improving an existing space within an existing building is intrinsically sustainable as it limits the need for new materials. Materials which were needed were chosen with robustness in mind to ensure longevity and ease of maintenance.

The flooring, which offered a wide range of colours integral to the design, was chosen as it is manufactured with 43%-60% recycled content.

Nominated for Best Interior Design



Haxby Hall Care Home

Haxby Hall Care Home is a purpose-built facility offering residential and dementia care for up to 65 residents, with each resident having their own bedroom.

The design follows Yorkcare Homes' preferred care model, developed after evaluating the local care provisions. This approach ensures that Haxby Hall is well equipped to provide high-quality, tailored care, while aligning with community expectations and needs.

Haxby Hall is designed as two distinct buildings – one facing the High Street, and the other oriented towards the local park and car park. This layout allows it to fit naturally within the narrow, elongated plot, while also addressing practical considerations for safety and accessibility.

The choice of bricks, slate roofing, and stonework aligns with local building materials, helping the facility blend seamlessly into the neighborhood.

This design demonstrates a balance between maintaining a high standard of care and respecting the architectural character of Haxby's conservation area.

Inside, the home has generous space allocations, with 63sq m per resident, and flexible bedroom options catering to different needs and preferences. There are multiple lounges and activity areas on each floor, and dedicated entertainment facilities including two bars, a hair salon, and a cinema.

There is abundant outdoor access with outdoor space on each floor, including private patios and a second-floor terrace. There is also an ornamental pond, bowling green, and outdoor seating areas.

The design prioritises both privacy and social opportunities, making it a place where residents can feel truly at home.

PROJECT OWNER

Yorkcare Homes

ARCHITECTS

Fluid Design

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Bernard Interiors

Yorkcare Homes

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Hobson & Porter

Nominated for Best Architectural Design



PROJECT OWNER

Yorkcare Homes

ARCHITECTS

Fluid Design

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Bernard Interiors

Yorkcare Homes

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Hobson & Porter

Haxby Hall Care Home

Haxby Hall is a purpose-built facility offering residential and dementia care for up to 65 residents.

Inside, the home has generous space allocations, with 63sq m per resident; flexible bedroom options catering to different needs and preferences; multiple lounges and activity areas on each floor; dedicated entertainment facilities including two bars, a hair salon, and a cinema; and abundant outdoor access, with outdoor space on each floor, including private patios and a second-floor terrace.

The design of the 'Haven' dementia care floor reflects thoughtful considerations for residents' unique needs.

Key features include:

- Centralised social spaces: The dining room and outdoor terrace lounge are centrally located and positioned opposite each other, creating a large, accessible social hub.
- Enhanced design for orientation and comfort: The unit uses neutral finishes on walls and floors, healthcare-specific flooring, and painted door finishes that match walls and furniture, aiding residents in navigating and recognising spaces.

- Specialised joinery and finishes: Dining room and lounge areas feature custom joinery, creating distinct, familiar spaces that enhance comfort and ease of movement for residents.

This approach to design prioritises ease of recognition and accessibility, which are essential for residents with dementia.

Taking cues from the surrounding area and historical influences, the interior design retains classic features and palette, with pops of vibrant wallpaper and artwork to give the home its own identity while retaining key features that are part of the Yorkcare brand.

Comfort is also imperative, ensuring there is enough soft seating with bespoke seat heights to help with accessibility.

Nominated for Best Interior Design



PROJECT OWNER

Norfolk and Suffolk
NHS Foundation Trust

**ARCHITECTS
AND INTERIOR
DESIGNERS**

Murphy Philipps
Associates

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Integrated Health
Projects (IHP)

**OTHER
CONTRACTORS**

Relabond

Hospital Rooms

Hellesdon Hospital – The Rivers Centre

Murphy Philipps worked in partnership with Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust and Integrated Health Projects (IHP), the joint venture between VINCI Building and Sir Robert McAlpine, to develop a series of five standardised ward buildings providing 48 new beds for service users and staff, to deliver the trust's vision and future models of care at Hellesdon Hospital, Norfolk.

The design team was tasked with providing three 16-bed male, female, and mixed-gender wards named Sandpiper, Mayfly, and Kestrel.

Standardised layouts enable efficiency with programme and costs, and each ward provides a central courtyard accessible via an open-plan, double-height lounge area. Each ward includes accommodation at ground-floor level and is served by its own upper-level plant room.

De-escalation and seclusion facilities were also created in the male and female wards along with new landscaping, a gym building with outdoor space, a hub with café facilities, and a new main kitchen. An outbuilding extension houses an LV switch room along with a new generator.

The project team aimed to provide modern facilities for both service users and clinical staff.

The integration of landscaping was essential to promote mental health and provide calming environments, as well as creating a visual link from the accommodation.

The aim was also to provide future flexibility for clinical spaces through standardised room solutions.

Various workshops took place between Hospital Rooms and the trust to determine locations of artwork and their suitability for service users. Further sessions and discussions were held with clinical teams to approve each piece of artwork.

Adjacencies within the project ensure functionality and a good user experience for patients, staff, and visitors.

Situated at the Lower Plateau at Hellesdon Hospital, the design takes advantage of changing levels in order to create new extensive landscaping surrounding new-build, low-rise buildings.

Nominated for Best Specialist / Dementia Care Design



PROJECT OWNER

Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust

ARCHITECTS AND INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Arcadis

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Integrated Health Projects (IHP)

Huddersfield Royal Infirmary Emergency Department

The new emergency department (ED) at Huddersfield Royal Infirmary (HRI) is the first project of Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust's extensive reconfiguration programme which seeks to rationalise services across the Calderdale Royal Hospital and Huddersfield Royal Infirmary (HRI) sites.

With relatively limited capital estate investment at the HRI since its completion in the mid 1970s, a significant proportion of existing building stock, particularly its ED, was outdated and at the end of its useful life.

Following detailed studies to determine the hospital's potential future reconfiguration, Arcadis was appointed to carry out a development study to identify the optimum location for a new ED and to design the new facility on a prominent site.

The new building comprises clinical facilities at ground-floor level, together with a rooftop plantroom, and includes dedicated majors, minors, and paediatric facilities, a four-bay resuscitation unit, and two X-ray rooms.

Replacing the existing department, the standalone building has a prominent walk-in entrance and reception area for self-presenting patients where they can check in, be assessed, and be directed to the most appropriate sub department.

A second entrance for those arriving by ambulance enables direct access to the resuscitation suite and major treatment facilities, while a strategically placed link corridor connects the ED back to the existing main hospital.

The reception and main waiting areas have been designed to optimise natural surveillance over the external and internal areas, and glazed screens support infection control and security of reception staff.

Patient safety and operational flexibility has been optimised through the adoption of a standardised assessment/treatment bay design reflecting current Royal College of Emergency Medicine (RCEM) guidance, while careful planning enables efficient double-sided access to ancillary spaces.

New staff support facilities include a dedicated staff beverage bay, additional staff changing areas, a multi-disciplinary team briefing room and a quiet space.

Nominated for Best Acute Design



Kingsclere Court Care Home

Kingsclere Court Care Home has undergone a complete and thoughtful transformation, elevating what was once Fairview House into a luxurious yet homely environment.

Unlike many luxury care homes that may feel more like a hotel or clinical space, Kingsclere Court was designed to evoke a homely, nurturing atmosphere. This was achieved through carefully curated interiors which blend soft textures, soothing colours, and personal touches throughout.

The goal was to ensure that every space is not only aesthetically beautiful, but also supportive of the specific needs of residents, including those with dementia.

The use of colour plays a central role in creating a warm, calming, and cohesive aesthetic. In the bedrooms, from soft, muted tones such as pastel blues, warm greys, and soft neutrals to royal blue and bright yellow, colours have been chosen to promote relaxation. Each room's colour palette is also complemented by matching bedding, curtains, and soft lighting, which together create an intimate and comfortable retreat for residents.

For the common areas, a mix of soothing neutrals and bright tones has been used to create a grounded, peaceful atmosphere, especially for residents with dementia. These colours are easy on the eye and help to create a sense of familiarity and security.

Additionally, materials such as natural wood finishes, soft upholstered seating, and tactile fabrics were chosen to offer both comfort and visual warmth. Items of furniture were selected to be not only aesthetically pleasing, but also practical and comfortable.

In the lounges, multiple seating areas with a range of layouts allow for both group interaction and more intimate, quiet moments. Residents can choose between comfortable armchairs, loveseats, or communal seating arrangements that cater to both social and restful needs.

In the dining areas, an open-plan design ensures that residents feel connected to the kitchen staff, fostering a sense of inclusivity and transparency. Again, furniture is designed for comfort and ease, with adjustable seating to accommodate a range of needs, and tables that offer ample space for socialising. A private dining area is also provided for families to have intimate meals and for special occasions.

Nominated for Best Interior Design

PROJECT OWNER

Netto Care

ARCHITECT

Armin Suljic

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Natalie Vive Kananda

Liz Vive Kananda

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Kananda
Constructions

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Shackletons

Furncare

Mitre



Lavender Fields Care Village

Lavender Fields Care Village has been created as a luxury haven for the retirement community.

The thoughtful design, nestled within the serene Yorkshire countryside, offers residents a blend of luxury living and self sufficiency.

This combination of retirement bungalows, a sizable care home, and sprawling grounds, adorned with lavender bushes, suggests a connection to diverse living, but with a strong connection to nature that benefits mental wellbeing.

The high street replica at the entrance of the care home offers residents easy access to essential amenities, while acknowledging the importance of maintaining a vibrant community atmosphere within the village.

The design of both the interior and exterior spaces has been meticulously planned to enhance the residents' quality of life. Key architectural and design choices focus on accessibility and safety, while still providing an exquisite home to live in.

The village redefines luxury care by incorporating a wealth of amenities aimed at enhancing residents' quality of life, and challenging the traditional stigmas associated with care homes.

Central to this vision is the Communal Hub, which serves as the heart of social activity within the village, and offers diverse options for relaxation and socialisation.

The design was also influenced by the needs and experiences of those living with dementia, creating environments that stimulate thinking and promote memory.

Space was another central theme, with the expansive internal day space far exceeding the industry standard for care homes.

Outside, there are gardens and courtyards, all safe and secure, allowing residents to use them freely or simply enjoy the views from their patio doors and windows.

PROJECT OWNER

Lavender Fields Care Village

ARCHITECTS

DEN Architecture

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Catalyst Interiors

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Firecrest Construction

Nominated for Best Specialist / Dementia Care Design



Leigh House

Leigh House children and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS) unit is a £1.6m day treatment facility which will focus on treating eating disorders.

The service will be the first of its kind in the county to offer a high-intensity alternative to inpatient care, enabling staff to treat young people in the community and for them to stay at home with their families.

The building includes an entrance area and reception, waiting area with beverage bay, an anti-ligature toilet, dining room, family dining room, staff room, family therapy rooms, dispensary room, observation room, group room, creative therapy room, de-escalation and chill-out room, a prep kitchen, and MDT meeting room.

The trust has also refurbished a 10-bed inpatient ward which will support young people who need a higher level of care by adding new en-suite facilities and introducing temperature controls.

The key drive behind the design was partnership, working with service users as well as their families and carers.

The choice of colour scheme and the aesthetics of the building were influenced by the needs of delivery and by evidence-based research.

The design was also developed to be least restrictive to enable as much independent movement and empowerment as possible.

Consideration was given to the current infrastructure by reusing and repurposing fittings and materials.

LED lighting and natural ventilation were also maximised.

PROJECT OWNER

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

ARCHITECTS

In House Projects Team

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Northport

Nominated for Best Acute Design



Marjorie House

Marjorie House was built in an Art Deco style to complement the local environment, and has been carefully crafted to enable residents to lead rich and fulfilling lives.

The home consists of 50 luxurious en-suite bedrooms in a variety of sizes, styles, and with views of Sandbanks, Brownsea Island, and Poole Harbour.

An increased number of lounges and comfort spaces help residents to socialise and engage in a stimulating way. There is a café, hair and beauty salon, and bar lounge, and on each of the three floors there is a dining area, dedicated activity area, lounge, and smaller zones for private and family functions.

The terraced gardens, circular walkways, viewing areas, and balconies enable residents and their families to enjoy the views, while the landscaped courtyard offers opportunities for outdoor activity or relaxation and social gatherings.

The development was designed with sustainability in mind and is equipped with 26 solar panels and heat pumps, as well as electric vehicle and scooter chargers.

Ventilation, insulation, and the use of eco-friendly paints, natural lighting, and acoustic ceiling tiles in the communal areas have a positive effect on all building occupants.

Every room is also equipped with a futuristic call system and there is person-centred, non-intrusive acoustic monitoring, which is proven to reduce falls in elderly care environments.

Internally, the design uses bespoke furniture and colour themes which reflect the local environment.

In addition, Marjorie House is equipped with a large courtyard with golf facilities. Panoramic glass was fitted instead of fencing to enable residents to enjoy the views while taking part in outdoor activities.

PROJECT OWNER

Care South

ARCHITECTS

Faber Technical Ltd

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Bluesky Design Interiors

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Parsons & Joyce Contractors Ltd

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Calcinotto

BREEAM

Nominated for Best Architectural Design



Meadowbrook Care Home

Situated in the town of Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire, Meadowbrook Care Home is a luxurious, purpose-built home offering personalised residential, dementia, and respite care in an environment that prioritises the needs and wellbeing of its residents.

From personal phone lines and daily newspapers, to access to fitness instructors and chiropody services, Meadowbrook adopts Connaught Care's overarching approach.

The home offers a nurturing environment with beautifully decorated bedrooms, inviting communal lounges, and a vibrant activities calendar catering to diverse interests.

Enhancing the lifestyle experience, the home features private dining rooms, a cinema room, a games room, and onsite bistro.

The site benefits from an elevated position with the road access point established as part of the wider site masterplan. This largely dictated the levels of the proposed building, with a mixture of planted crib-lock retaining walls and embankments used to create a level plateau for the building.

Level access is provided both at the main entrance and from the car park, with level gardens around the entire perimeter of the building.

A series of external spaces – both communal and private patios – are provided at ground-floor level, all of which benefit from full-level access with flush thresholds designed.

In addition to this, a range of external planting beds and raised planters have been provided to enable residents to enjoy and maintain the planting beds. Planting beds and trellis screens are used to demarcate and provide privacy between private patio areas.

Communal lounges have been carefully positioned at the two key focal points to provide a strong architectural response and create animated 'node points'. Each of these spaces benefits from covered external amenity space, with full-level thresholds at every external doorway.

Internally, the home has been designed with accessibility in mind from the outset with generously wide corridors, recessed doorways, and wider bays for furniture and seating placement.

PROJECT OWNER

Connaught Care

ARCHITECTS

KWL Architects
Limited

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Three Nine Design

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Lawrence Baker

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Kilworth

Nominated for Best Architectural Design



Meadowbrook Care Home

Meadowbrook in Bishop's Stortford is characterised by its serene interiors, adorned in tranquil blues, greens, and coral accents. This harmonious colour palette creates a peaceful and welcoming atmosphere throughout the home as soft furnishings and natural materials enhance the feeling of relaxation, while vibrant coral accents provide a cheerful touch.

Communal spaces are designed to encourage social interaction, featuring cosy seating arrangements and inviting decor that fosters a sense of community.

Each resident's room is a personalised haven, combining calming colours with elegant details for a soothing and uplifting living experience. Bedrooms include built-in wardrobes to make the floor space larger and PIR lights in the en-suites which turn on when the resident enters to help prevent falls and improve independence.

In communal areas, tonal differentiations between floors, wall, doors, and furniture ensure there is clear visual differentiation so the surfaces and doors can be easily identified. Surfaces are matte finish, rather than glossy, to avoid glare or confusing reflections.

Routes are kept clear of obstacles and hazards. Notices, brochures, and information are offered in large print, while doors have three-dimensional numbers, symbols, and colours/tones to give a range of recognition features.

Signs, particularly around the entrance area, are provided with initial capitals letters followed by lower-case letters. These give words shape so they can be read more easily by people with vision or cognitive impairments.

The design approach has fostered a sense of wellbeing and security, helping to reduce anxiety and improve mood.

A new partnership with air purification specialist, Greentech Environmental, led to the installation of the cutting-edge Pure Air filtration system which operates 24 hours a day to kill harmful viruses and bacteria. This significantly reduces instances of both airborne disease and surface contamination, and will help to futureproof the building against future pandemics.

PROJECT OWNER

Connaught Care

ARCHITECTS

KWL Architects Limited

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Three Nine Design

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Lawrence Baker

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Kilworth

Nominated for Best Interior Design



Melwood Grange

Set in the Hertfordshire countryside, Melwood Grange provides new residential and dementia care homes for 73 residents.

This unique care home also has a social space at the front of the site, The Hub, providing a destination for residents to socialise with family, friends, and the wider community. This has been thoughtfully designed, featuring activity spaces that encourage memory sharing, creativity, and meaningful connections among residents, visitors, and staff.

To foster a sense of continuity in the new care home, and establish it as a vibrant community hub for Royston, What-If drew inspiration from the local area's unique features. This included incorporating the rare Pasque flower, a symbol of the region, and referencing the distinctive Roman stone from which Royston derives its name.

The mystical Royston Caves, Roisia's Stone, the graceful Lady Rose, the lively Kite Festival, and the rare heathland flowers all serve as touchpoints in creating a connection between the care home and the community.

The Hub provides an activities room and kite-making area, while there is also a hair salon and spa, bistro and lounge, a library, and a cinema and jazz bar/café, each with carefully considered colour schemes, fixtures, and fittings, many drawing inspiration from the area's flora and fauna.

Private spaces include large second-floor bedrooms with integrated en-suite bathrooms and spacious dormer windows.

There are also dedicated, high-quality areas for staff.

Interior furnishings, such as seating, wallpaper, and fabrics, were specified in neutral colours, with a plethora of 'extras' including accessories and homely touches like scatter cushions and table lamps. Close attention was also paid to joinery and lighting to give a home-from-home feel across the development.

Bedroom design was based on Royston's meadow flowers, with a white, blue, pink, and yellow colour palette.

PROJECT OWNER

Quantum Care

ARCHITECTS

Harris Irwin Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

What-If

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Lawrence Baker

Nominated for Best Interior Design



Middleton & Dinsdale Medical Practice

Middleton & Dinsdale Medical Practice has finally said farewell to seven challenging years of operating from an unfit temporary building, and is now celebrating its modern and innovative £2m facility.

The collaborative expertise of P+HS Architects and Community Ventures Management implemented valuable feedback from stakeholders to deliver a bespoke new-build facility that has successfully transformed the experience, environment, and services provided within just 10 months – even despite the challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and heightened demand for healthcare services.

To fully capture the essence of the practice and address patient needs, GPs and practice staff were involved throughout the design process, delivering a space that is not only practical and welcoming, but also adaptable to allow future growth, flexibility, and service expansion.

The design includes an essential security strategy and features access control to allow zoned use, enabling out-of-hours services to operate efficiently with minimal access to non-essential rooms. Equally, the centre benefitted from an underfloor heating system with each room having separate controls.

Additionally, the site offers cycle storage and the medical centre offers staff changing and shower facilities.

The resulting building features six consultation rooms, two treatment rooms, a spacious waiting area with a Changing Places facility, admin offices, and staff wellbeing areas.

Externally, considering other agricultural buildings in the area, black fibre cement cladding panels were laid vertically to mimic timber weatherboard and all windows, doors, and curtain wall framing have been powder coated black.

The new build also features high ceilings, large windows, and curtain features, flooding the large space with natural light.

Mindfully designed as a single-story building to blend with local housing, the health centre's layout aligns with the site's NE/SW axis and parallels the nearby Middleton Hall Retirement Village access road. Mature trees to the east and south provide solar shading and privacy, eliminating the need for air conditioning.

PROJECT OWNER

North East and Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust

ARCHITECTS AND INTERIOR DESIGNERS

P+HS Architects

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Community Ventures Management

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Acomb Construction Ltd

Maval Construction

CAS Structural Engineering

Nominated for Best Primary Design



PROJECT OWNER

Simply St Andrews Limited

ARCHITECTS

Yeoman McAllister

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Jenny Robertson

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Simply Develop UK Limited

Morar at St Andrews

Morar at St Andrews is a care home that seamlessly integrates patient, staff, and visitor needs into its structure, all while prioritising therapeutic, aesthetically pleasing environments, sustainability, and user experience.

The building includes a café and lounge seating area, library, music room, private dining area, piano lounge, wine vault, computer station, family areas, and quiet spaces.

Each design choice, from ground floor to the uppermost levels, has been purposefully crafted to maximise wellbeing, improve user experience, and increase community connections, while setting a global precedent for future developments within the care home sector.

Upon entering the building, the user is immediately introduced to the design's intention: a welcoming space with a seamless flow and clear, intuitive wayfinding through different flooring choices.

There are multiple access points to the garden patio from ground level, with an enclosed garden patio seating area complete with pergolas and feature elements.

The design also integrates mechanical ventilation, with a heat recovery system within all the spaces, ensuring continuous fresh air circulation while maintaining optimal temperature control. This sustainable feature also contributes to the building's thermal efficiency, enhancing the comfort and health of residents.

In addition, high-quality insulation maintains a stable, comfortable indoor environment all year round.

As you move up the building, on the first floor there is a zone designed to represent a market street, promoting a sense of community with a variety of unique features including a barber shop, hair salon, cinema, golf clubhouse, Poolman's Lounge, and a gift shop, showing a principal evolution in care home design and providing a dynamic, interactive place that represents the hustle of a community-orientated high street. This was intended to encourage normalcy and social engagement by designing spaces that mirror the assorted activities and amenities typically found in everyday life.

Nominated for Best Architectural Design



Mousehold View Care Home

Mousehold View Care Home in Norwich is a new development from Avery Healthcare. The building offers 77 bedrooms, with care split between residential and memory care.

With elevations engaging with the adjacent public highways and the landscaped gardens, the development offers a bright, modern, spacious environment with a welcoming entrance reception, enclosed courtyard spaces, and highly appointed interior furnishings.

The en-suite bedrooms are contemporary, freshly decorated, and finished to an exceptionally high standard throughout, while communal areas are vibrant, stylish, and fun places – including a fully-equipped cinema room, hairdressing salon, library, activities room, cafés, and lounges.

The building makes excellent use of the whole site and its T-shaped form allows visitors to be welcomed into reception at the end of the building, securely away from the busy street. From reception, there are views straight out through the café and across the landscaped gardens.

The residential wings branch out from the reception area and bedrooms are arranged along corridors designed in short sections broken with décor.

Regular 'destination spaces', such as sitting areas with feature décor, café lounges, and plenty of day spaces, further help to create a homely, comfortable feel.

Expansive windows allow the interiors to be filled with natural daylight and these can be naturally ventilated to allow fresh air to circulate.

Ground-floor dayspaces are situated alongside garden spaces with external doors to encourage residents to spend time outside, and the large gardens to the south of the building are strategically placed to make best use of all-day sun and the site topography.

The overall design of the home reflects current industry-leading thoughts and creates spaces which enhance the everyday experience of the residents and staff who live and work there.

PROJECT OWNER

Avery Healthcare

ARCHITECTS

TDC Architects Ltd

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Avery

39 Design Interiors

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Clegg Construction

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Harniss

Cameron Darroch Associates

Nominated for Best Architectural Design



PROJECT OWNER

Newmedica

**ARCHITECTS
AND INTERIOR
DESIGNERS**

James Totty
Partnership

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Bridgford Interiors

Newmedica Berkshire

Newmedica is a leading provider of NHS-funded and private ophthalmology services, with a network of eye clinics and surgical centres across England.

Everything Newmedica does is guided by its commitment to delivering personal patient care, including in the design of its clinics. An example of this ethos was demonstrated with the opening of one of Newmedica's most recent clinics in Slough, Berkshire.

A key part of providing a positive patient experience is ensuring all of Newmedica's facilities are modern, calm, and comfortable spaces. The layout, décor, branding, fixtures, and fittings at the clinic were all carefully selected.

An important aspect of the design process was ensuring that the patient flow is logical and easy to navigate for patients, but also efficient to manage. Patients arrive at reception, check in and take a seat before they are called into an investigation room for tests. They then return to the waiting area before seeing a clinician.

In the theatre suite, the layout has been maximised to further enhance patient flow.

Considering the best location for each room in terms of treatment processes again keeps it efficient, helps to make each step of the process as easy for colleagues as possible, and helps to guide roles.

Patients need to feel they are in a professional but comfortable environment, and this is reflected in every aspect of the design – from the colour of the walls and artwork to the furniture. The colours and images used were specifically chosen because they are calming, which soothes and helps reduce stress and worry.

The benefit of investing time in clinic design is clear as the majority of patients say that although they had nerves ahead of treatment, they were soon put at ease and felt comfortable once entering the clinic.

Nominated for Best Acute Design



North View

North View is a new 150-bed, £106m adult acute mental health inpatient unit at North Manchester General Hospital.

The scheme replaced the trust's inpatient dormitory accommodation at Park House and forms part of the masterplan for the site which reimagines a multi-faceted and holistic approach to healthcare delivery at the heart of the community.

The new hospital will be one of the first multi-level mental health units with roof gardens in the North of England and one of the first in a new series of net-zero carbon, all-electric hospitals being built nationally. It also forms part of a wider national mental health dormitory eradication programme.

Key to the design objectives was service user experience supplemented by having a safe and secure environment, a building that promotes staff wellbeing, and the use of natural light.

Level access to garden spaces was also a priority and the building has to be anti-ligature, dementia-inclusive, robust, and flexible.

The ward design is a 'tick' shape, which groups the day spaces and gardens in the heart of the ward and the bedrooms down two arms. Excellent lines of sight are achieved due to the alignment of the bedroom arms and, by angling them at 45 degrees to the main building massing, there is a physical connection to the adjacent ward.

The 'tick' format also means lower-ground-floor wards have their main garden in front of the day space between the two ward arms, and upper-ground-floor wards have their gardens behind the day spaces, located on the roof above the back-of-house spaces belonging to the wards below.

The building concept was further developed by following the journey of a service user being admitted as an inpatient for the first time, with a welcoming public realm arrival space connecting with the village green.

Once at the front door, there is a main entrance and reception area with a communal café garden behind. Inside, the routes to wards are full of light with views to the garden spaces.

PROJECT OWNER

Greater Manchester
Mental Health NHS
Foundation Trust

ARCHITECTS AND INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Gilling Dod Architects

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Integrated Health
Projects (IHP)

OTHER CONTRACTORS

DAY PM

Rider Hunt

Curtins

Watermans

Ramboll UK Limited

Ileriad

GL Hearn

WSP

Skelton Ward

Turley

RPS

Cundalls

Lucentia Design

Creative Concern

Placemarque

Nominated for Best Architectural Design



Oat Hill Mews

Oat Hill Mews is a new care home in Market Harborough, Leicestershire.

The home has been designed to facilitate close links to the local community, with artwork, suite names, and other design elements incorporating local landmarks and historic people of note.

One of Oat Hill Mews' stand-out features is the entrance space, which was designed to be a focal point of the home, creating a wow factor for visitors from the moment they walk through the door.

It was designed not only with all of the modern conveniences that residents could want – from a cinema to a hair and beauty salon – but also to provide an extensive range of high-quality care services.

From the physical layout to colour schemes and soft furnishings, the design was considered in line with resident care throughout. For example, each suite has two bistro-style dining spaces, giving residents choice, and close attention was paid to acoustics and room design, especially for residents living with dementia.

The theme of promoting a peaceful atmosphere carries through to the design of the home's Namaste room, which features a carefully selected calming scheme.

Oat Hill Mews is designed to support residents to maintain their independence, and the furniture used throughout was carefully considered as a key tool for independent living.

As well as using healthcare-grade fabrics and waterproof materials with antimicrobial properties, Care UK works closely with its furniture suppliers to ensure the seating options are suitable for older people.

Another way that Oat Hill Mews promotes independent living is through the inclusion of kitchenettes in each suite's dining area.

Oat Hill Mews stands out from other care homes in the local area because of the design's considered balance of luxury and comfort.

Designers also worked closely with Care UK's hotel services team to ensure the dining area supports Care UK's 'Dining with Dignity' approach.

PROJECT OWNER

Care UK

ARCHITECTS

vestar* architecture
+ design

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Care UK

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Clegg Construction

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Frontier Estates

Teal Furniture

Nominated for Best Interior Design



Outram Fields Care Home

Situated in Bradway, to the south of Sheffield, and with easy access to the Peak District, Outram Fields opened in 2024. The residential and dementia care home provides 69 spacious en-suite bedrooms and six luxury care suites comprising a bedroom with en-suite shower room and separate lounge with compact kitchenette.

Residents were at the heart of the design, from the initial concept for the build and exterior space through to room layouts, furniture, furnishings, and colour schemes, plus final finishing touches such as artwork and accessories.

In order to minimise the impact of the home on the local environment and neighbouring properties, the overall height of the building was minimised by the inclusion of a flat, rather than pitched, roof.

With the steepness of the gradient, the building has been positioned with a full four storeys to the north and three storeys to the south. However, due to the sloping gradient of the terrain, the home appears as a single storey to the properties along Kenwell Drive (south).

This approach has resulted in a light and airy environment with views into the tree canopy from the upper floors and plenty of accessible outdoor space.

Materials were chosen to reduce the visual impact of the scheme, with a mixture of zinc and timber selected at higher levels with a darker palette to sit more comfortably within the tree belt.

The building design takes a 'fabric first' approach, focusing on high thermal performance, high levels of airtightness, the control of solar gain, and good levels of natural daylight to reduce the need for artificial lighting.

The scale and floor area of the build, together with the proximity and relationship to the site boundaries, was planned to sit comfortably and respectfully within the existing context.

By varying the roof scape and using a section of carefully chosen materials, the care home achieves the desired intention of harmonising with the surrounding area, and thus provides the community with a much-needed care facility which will also generate a long-term employment opportunity for local people.

Nominated for Best Architectural Design

PROJECT OWNER

The Cinnamon Care Collection

ARCHITECTS

Harris Irwin Associates

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Catalyst Interiors

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Pacy & Wheatley Construction Ltd

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Fed3 Projects



PROJECT OWNER

Enfield Council

**ARCHITECTS
AND INTERIOR
DESIGNERS**

Levitt Bernstein

MAIN CONTRACTOR

John Graham
Construction Limited

Reardon Court Extra Care Scheme

The Reardon Court Extra Care Scheme has been meticulously designed to address the unique needs of its older resident community while considering the roles and requirements of both staff and visitors.

With 70 homes supporting individuals as they age, the building fosters an environment where residents can maintain independence and wellbeing, with access to support as needed.

Design elements cater to the physical frailties, sensory impairments, and cognitive needs of the elderly, ensuring that all apartments are accessible, featuring wider doors, wheelchair-compatible layouts, and spacious interiors for mobility aid storage.

The central communal space acts as the heart of the development, encouraging social interaction and reducing isolation, which is a common issue for older adults.

For staff, ease of access to residents' quarters, and visibility across key communal areas, ensures efficient service and enhances response times in emergencies.

Visitors, including family and carers, benefit from designated meeting spaces, a welcoming entryway, and a secure yet open environment that balances privacy with community engagement.

A therapeutic environment has been achieved through careful attention to interior and exterior design elements.

Each apartment benefits from dual-aspect design and cross-ventilation, bringing ample daylight into homes and connecting residents to the natural world through views of green spaces and landscaped courtyards.

The communal lounge, designed as a standalone structure with expansive windows, opens directly to outdoor courtyards, blending indoor comfort with the healing qualities of nature.

Landscaping incorporates sensory gardens, raised beds, and shaded seating areas, where residents can enjoy various textures, sounds, and scents. Additionally, continuous walking routes without dead-ends allow residents with dementia to navigate the grounds safely.

Nominated for Best Architectural Design



Scraptoft Lane

Scraptoft was originally a three-bedroom detached bungalow situated in the city of Leicester. It was purchased by BSL in November 2023 and the aim was to create a robust supported living environment for people who have a complex learning difficulty or autism.

The accommodation is designed with a sensory-friendly environment in mind and to keep residents safe, while protecting the building from damage.

Lighting has three different settings, while calming colours and noise-reducing features minimise sensory overload.

To reduce windows being broken through challenging behaviours, toughened glass was installed with a blind-operating system to ensure privacy and dignity. The windows also open out from the bottom to reduce ligature risk.

To address additional risks around radiators being taken off and flooring being uplifted and damaged, specialist resin flooring with underfloor heating has been installed, while all wiring and plumbing runs through the attic space and ceilings are double boarded.

Other safety features include lockable and handleless units in the kitchen, recessed architraves, and curved walls throughout.

To maximise space, one of the apartments is 95sq m and the other 45sq m – among the largest supported living units available. Due to the robustness of the accommodation, there should be less need for maintenance.

Additionally, due to the underfloor heating and improved insulation, the property stays warm in the winter and cool in the summer. Both apartments achieved an EPC rating of C.

PROJECT OWNER

Baba Sawan Lodge
Ltd (BSL)

ARCHITECTS

DT Designs

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

BSL Care

MAIN CONTRACTOR

First Choice Builders

Nominated for Best Specialist / Dementia Care Design



Springfield Manor Care Home

Springfield Manor Care Home is a state-of-the-art, 74-bed, three-storey residential facility located in Stoke-on-Trent that completed in 2024.

Offering a wide range of residential, nursing, dementia, and complex care support, Springfield Manor provides a seamless pathway for people 'stuck' in hospital settings to find a 'forever home' in a supportive environment.

The interior of Springfield Manor balances modern aesthetics with a homely atmosphere. Each of the 74 en-suite bedrooms is furnished to provide privacy, comfort, and a personal touch, allowing residents to personalise their space to feel more at home.

The spacious communal areas, such as the café, activity rooms, and lounges, foster social engagement and a sense of community, promoting the emotional wellbeing of residents.

Springfield Manor's design is particularly suited for dementia care, with an emphasis on creating a familiar and secure environment for residents.

The layout of the dementia unit is thoughtfully crafted to ensure easy navigation, reducing stress and confusion. Clear signage, contrasting colours, and visual cues are strategically placed to assist residents with memory loss in recognising key areas such as dining rooms, lounges, and their personal rooms.

The overall flow also minimises dead-ends and confusing corridors, encouraging independent movement while maintaining safety.

All décor follows Dementia Services Development Centre guidelines: chairs include contrast piping and every upholstery fabric is 100% impervious, yet looks as plush in texture as any other upholstery.

Patterns within wallpapers and fabrics are bold, but with no visual issues, and signage includes both room name and a simple logo. Transitions in flooring type retain similar tones to further help residents with visual impairments and dementia.

All communal living spaces have a unique interior scheme while individual bedroom colour schemes have painted door colours matching the interior theme.

PROJECT OWNER

North Bay
Developments

Highgate Care

ARCHITECTS

Jackson Design
Associates

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Hiedi Lazenby Design

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Greenchurch
Developments Ltd

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Keith Simpson
Associates

Nominated for Best Specialist / Dementia Care Design



PROJECT OWNER

Buckinghamshire
Healthcare NHS Trust

ARCHITECTS

Hunters Architects

**INTERIOR
DESIGNERS**

Art in Site

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Western Building
Systems

**OTHER
CONTRACTORS**

Memo Akten

Stoke Mandeville Children's Emergency Department

A new children's emergency department (CED) opened at Stoke Mandeville Hospital in 2023.

As part of the unit, Art in Site developed an art and interiors scheme that transforms the wait experience and patient journey for children and families, addressing the major emotional problems found in typical children's emergency departments such as: long, uncomfortable waits; not knowing or understanding where you are in the process or how everything works; and children feeling bored and frustrated.

In this project, Art in Site looked to demystify the process and developed a series of illustrated characters being treated by kind and friendly doctors.

These characters appear on signage, in a 3D schema of the department in the waiting area, on information slices explaining processes, on digital screens and letterheads, and in the large-scale, hard-wearing, bespoke wallpaper.

Through this thoughtful intervention, children identify with the bold, simply drawn characters and learn to trust clinicians, who appear friendly, playful, and kind.

The team also designed bespoke waiting room furniture, which offers families comfort, privacy, and choice of seating style. The furniture was designed to accommodate a range of ages and seating positions and curved nooks with high backs allow patients and families to curl up in private, whereas longer sections provide space to stretch out and allow parents to sit close to their child.

Integrated USB charging points ensure parents and patients can stay connected to the outside world.

The seating is also arranged so that families are not looking at each other and one end of the department is dedicated to a play area.

The team also installed 'Body Paint' – an interactive projected light installation by Memo Akten, which features splashes of colour that react in real time to body movements and dancing.

For older children, there is a soothing mental health room with soft textures and slowly moving sensory lights that teens can adjust for their own comfort, as well as bean bags to lie down on.

Nominated for Best Interior Design



Templeton Place

Part of the Hamberley Care Home Group, Templeton Place is an 80-bed residential care home located in Nursling.

The person-centred design approach helps identify each resident's needs, with the approach to the interiors facilitating best practice in dementia design and creating friendly, homely spaces that are both functional and inviting.

The spacious layout ensures it is easily accessible to residents, allowing them to flow between the different spaces while staff have good sightlines.

Bedroom doors are staggered to reduce confusion and provide privacy, while communal spaces encourage interaction and engagement, bringing residents out of their bedrooms.

Colour schemes provide interest, but also allow identification of different areas to aid navigation, while back-of-house doors to stores and non-resident areas are decorated to blend with the wall.

Soft furnishings are designed to be easily cleaned and are equally suitable for older people, with appropriate seat height, arm rests to provide leverage to stand, and firm cushioning.

All of the interior finishes provide appropriate contrast to assist residents with diminishing sight conditions and dementia.

At the heart of the design is the desire to create a comfortable, efficient, and well-lit home, providing both private space and a sense of community.

Clear signage, stimuli for hearing, sight, touch, and smell, coupled with other wayfinding mediums, help prevent those residents living with dementia from becoming disorientated.

Elegant furniture and a range of bedroom decors are provided, and ground-floor bedrooms benefit from direct garden access, creating a connection to nature.

PROJECT OWNER

Hamberley Care
Home Group

ARCHITECTS

Harris Irwin Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Park Grove

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Highwood

Nominated for Best Interior Design



The Chase

This project saw the transformation of a former gravel car park and small business premises into a vibrant care home. Developed in close collaboration with Connaught Care, the building layout responds to the site and its road boundaries, with communal spaces strategically located at key node points, emphasising connectivity and engagement.

The Chase features 61 en-suite rooms, designed for both comfort and functionality. Residents also have access to an extensive range of shared facilities, including a bistro, private dining room, spa, gym, cinema, hair salon, and dedicated activity spaces.

In addition, each floor offers lounges, dining rooms with kitchenettes, assisted bathrooms, and nurse stations, while staff benefit from well-appointed spaces including a main kitchen, offices, and changing rooms.

Vibrant décor and functional furniture create an inviting atmosphere, with clear navigation routes to support residents, particularly those with dementia. Feature walls and carefully selected furnishings enhance the home-like ambiance.

The bistro, a focal point of the building, features plush seating and large windows flooding the space with natural light. Other communal areas, from dining rooms to the cinema and activity rooms, are thoughtfully designed with textured fabrics, colourful wallpapers, and nostalgic accessories that inspire engagement and connection.

Communal spaces are also designed for seamless indoor-outdoor flow, with handrails throughout and strategically placed lifts for vertical mobility, while bedrooms feature bright, uplifting décor, patterned upholstery, and bespoke furniture.

Residents can also personalise their spaces with their own furniture and belongings, and each room includes a private telephone, high-speed Wi-Fi for streaming services, and Smart TV as well as a nurse call system and lockable storage.

Outdoor paths and activity areas encourage movement, while wide corridors and handrails ensure safe navigation throughout the home.

PROJECT OWNER

Connaught Care

ARCHITECTS

KWL Architects Limited

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Three Nine Designs

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Lawrence Baker

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Kilworth

Nominated for Best Interior Design



The Christie Hospital Inpatient Wards 14 & 15

As part of The Christie NHS Foundation Trust's continued drive to provide the best possible patient experience, it has invested significant funds in improving the quality of its inpatient estate, both refurbishing existing wards and identifying opportunities for the provision of new additional beds.

In the case of Wards 14 and 15, an opportunity was identified by the Client Estates Directorate to reconfigure an under-utilised building adjacent to the main Oak Road entrance, to provide new inpatient beds at a pace and cost that would not have been possible with an entirely new build project.

A thorough design feasibility process was undertaken to review numerous options for the construction of an extension to the front of the existing building. This extension would not only provide new compliant lift and stair provision for movement between floors, but would also provide a link between the new wards and the theatres and existing inpatient wards within the hospital, a dedicated external entrance for daycase patients, and an internal connection with the adjacent patient assessment unit.

Each bedroom has been designed with a dedicated staff touch-down base, allowing a direct line of sight into the room for staff through glazed screens, which can be obscured when required for reasons of privacy and dignity.

To ensure access to natural light and a view out for each patient, the bedrooms are also arranged around the west, north, and east elevations. There is a mix of single rooms and two-bed bays to ensure future flexibility.

Due to patients' needs varying, it was an important element of the design to ensure they were not restricted to their beds unnecessarily and were able to relax, dine, and socialise in non-clinical spaces. As with the bed spaces, these social spaces were given precedence in terms of access to the external elevation, natural daylight, and views out.

In a similar manner, staff facilities were prioritised with central staff bases and offices, lockers, changing areas, showers, and WCs provided in two 'hubs'.

The final element of the design was to ensure that while external areas are by their nature functional, they also provide a visually-attractive context to the building.

PROJECT OWNER

The Christie NHS Foundation Trust

ARCHITECTS AND INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Gilling Dod Architects

MAIN CONTRACTORS

Integrated Health Projects (IHP)

Vinci

Nominated for Best Acute Design



The Co-Production CAMHS Bedroom Collaborative Project

Following a chance conversation at the Design in Mental Health Conference in 2022, a dialogue began among like-minded providers, designers, and suppliers around how best to design truly productive and person-centred personal spaces in mental health settings.

Reflecting on recently completed CAMHS builds, children and young people with autism, learning disabilities, and pronounced neurodiversity were identified as a perfect pathway to explore from a design perspective, as it is an emerging area of focus and with best practice applicable across all psychiatric settings.

As such, the Co-production CAMHS Bedroom Collaboration Project was born. The team used post-occupancy evaluation data from previously completed CAMHS builds and interviewed clients for their insights and feedback in terms of behavioural responses and reaction trends displayed by service users to their bedroom environment over time. They also created a full-size mock-up of the room to create further debate and generate additional feedback.

The interior design for the bedroom draws heavily from hands-on engagement with the Caudwell Children's Charity. The aspiration was to also explore trauma-informed care and trauma-informed design, which is fast becoming a key driver in the design of sustainable and productive spaces for mental health and wellbeing.

During the project, the team has undertaken research, development, and collaboration to explore patient-centred design around next-generation CAMHS bedroom environments and, in particular, design responses around autism, neurodiversity, and eating disorders.

The project is a vehicle to stimulate meaningful engagement and collaboration with a broad range of service users, experts by experience, clinical practitioners, carers, and providers in the sector to give service user voices a platform, to stimulate design innovation/insight/learning, and to bring in supply chain experts and innovators to respond to bespoke needs.

PROJECT OWNER

Gilling Dod Architects

ARCHITECTS

Gilling Dod Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Gilling Dod Interior Design

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Kingsway

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Britplas

Altro

Hygenius

Pineapple

Wallgate

Nominated for Best Interior Design



The Peninsula

Following a £10m investment, The Peninsula in Newtownards, County Down, opened its doors in May 2024.

Addressing the growing demand for modern, luxurious care homes in Northern Ireland which reflect the design preferences of the new generation of people using them, The Peninsula sets a standard in the provision of accommodation for elderly people, providing 80 residents with a warm, inviting, and comfortable space to call home.

Nestled in the serene surroundings of the Ards Peninsula on the site of a former football ground, it is more than just a care facility – it is a modern and contemporary living space designed with its residents at the forefront.

The operator, Dunluce Healthcare, wanted to create home-like, hotel-style accommodation through thoughtful interior design, soothing colour palettes, high-quality furnishings, and décor that evokes a luxurious hotel ambiance. This fosters a sense of warmth and relaxation, reducing the institutional feel and enhancing residents' comfort and dignity.

Another key design objective was to provide generous shared spaces at node points throughout the building from which the users can socialise and connect with views to the external spaces.

It was decided at the outset that these communal spaces were to be a range of differing sizes, shapes, décor, and distributed throughout the home to provide choice for the residents and enabling a range of social activities.

In addition to designing a space where residents with dementia will feel safe, Dunluce Healthcare also wanted to provide staff with areas that enhance job satisfaction and wellbeing, while giving room for training, development, and third-party interaction, and have dedicated an entire level of the building to employees.

Contrasting colours have been used throughout, with soft patterns and block hues which are easy to perceive for those with dementia, and windows along each corridor ensure residents do not feel 'locked in'. Open doors and spaces encourage movement and décor placed around the ends of corridors helps with orientation and wayfinding.

PROJECT OWNER

Dunluce Healthcare

ARCHITECTS

Omni Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Dunluce Healthcare

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Hugh J O'Boyle

Nominated for Best Specialist / Dementia Care Design



Waterhouse Manor

Waterhouse Manor Care Home provides 80 well-appointed bedrooms within the Hampton Gardens residential development, three miles south of Peterborough.

Offering residential, dementia, and respite care, it is a leading example of how considered design, with collaboration between a close team of professional designers at an early stage, can deliver a building that is rational and cost-effective, while also being beautiful, a pleasure to live and work in, and able to meet high standards of care.

This is achieved through early visualisation of the spaces created, an efficient building plan, making the most of the site and orientation, and careful attention to detail throughout.

The plan, with carefully considered communal lounge and dining locations, allows for the home to operate as one large care group per floor, with a central nurse station and clinic; or it can be split down further into smaller care groups or even 'households', each with their own shared space and ancillary arrangements. This flexibility can assist with resident-led care, helping to improve wellbeing, particularly for those suffering with dementia.

The angled U-shape footprint also offers opportunities for a well-defined and intimate external space as with a standard courtyard, but with a bespoke orientation that can be set for best angle of sunlight.

Internally, communal shared spaces hold significant locations within the plan, enabling views towards the reservoir to the north, and into the garden courtyard, while also helping to break up corridors between the bedroom groups.

Destination points with a seating area or activity zone are provided at the termination of circulation routes to avoid confusion or frustration at corridor ends, especially for residents with dementia. Looped routes that link internal and external spaces are also important for resident wellbeing.

Early consideration of the interiors has ensured that elements such as handrails, wall protection, and furniture are carefully integrated. The restrained palette of materials and considered attention to detail and proportion creates an environment that aids familiarity and makes the most of natural light.

Externally, landscaped gardens adjoin the residential accommodation on all sides and provide accessible external amenity space for residents.

PROJECT OWNER

Avery Healthcare

ARCHITECTS

Harris Irwin Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Three Nine Designs

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Clegg Construction

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Holden and Lee

Nominated for Best Architectural Design



PROJECT OWNER

The Cinnamon Care Collection

ARCHITECTURE

PRC Architecture & Planning Ltd

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Catalyst Interiors

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Lancer Scott Ltd

Watermeadow Grange Care Home

Watermeadow Grange Care Home in Exeter opened in 2023, offering 77 spacious en-suite bedrooms and nine luxury care suites.

The home offers residential care tailored to each individual person, enabling them to live with as much independence as possible, but with added reassurance of 24-hour care and support if needed.

Watermeadow Grange also provides expert dementia care within a dedicated community, as well as the opportunity for short respite stays to give carers a well-earned break.

Residents were at the heart of the design, from the initial concept for the build and exterior space through to room layouts, furniture, furnishings, and colour schemes as well as the final finishing touches such as artwork and accessories.

The orientation of the gently sloping site means that the façades facing Exeter Road and the rugby club receive much of the direct sunlight, and this influenced the decision to place the communal areas such as lounges, dining rooms, and balconies where they would gain maximum benefit.

The plan for the building form was simple – a U-shaped arrangement broadly symmetrical in plan. This profile is punctuated by a large gable, centrally located on the north and south façades, marking the location of the main entrance and major communal area spaces served by large expanses of glazing and dedicated balconies.

The corners of the wings also feature large glazed gables which highlight the communal spaces within and are served by inset balconies.

Each bedroom has generous windows to maximise light and ground-floor rooms have direct access through glazed doors to semi-private patio spaces set in communal garden areas.

Watermeadow Grange features a relatively small palette of building materials, taking cues from local architecture.

Internally, communal lounges and dining rooms are provided on each floor, and the upper floors have access to a balcony or roof terrace. There is also a generous private dining room on the first floor.

Nominated for Best Architectural Design



PROJECT OWNER

Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust

ARCHITECTS AND INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Gilling Dod Architects

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Integrated Health Projects (IHP)

Water Meadow View

Water Meadow View is an innovative and landmark £32m residential facility designed specifically for people with learning disabilities.

Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust successfully applied for central funding from NHS England as part of its national drive to create appropriate, progressive, and bespoke environments supporting service users with learning disabilities.

It pioneers new nursing approaches for this patient cohort and was designed alongside 'experts by experience'.

Sensory design is central to the approach, guided by the client's request for unique, human-focused spaces. The design prioritises flexibility and choice, recognising the uniqueness of these individuals.

Drawing inspiration from various sources, including Japanese gardens, SEN schools, and cancer centres, the design incorporates sensory triggers like light, sound, touch, and temperature.

The team intentionally created an 'architecturally ambiguous' design to avoid institutional associations often seen in healthcare buildings. They also employed an agricultural chic aesthetic to seamlessly blend with the natural surroundings of rich woodland and farmland.

The new building offers 14 adaptable living spaces designed with sensory considerations. It includes therapy spaces, a gym, a health hub, a social café, and innovative OT and life skills areas.

Situated within existing tree belts, the landscape design promotes wellness, with features like a walled garden, central courtyard, and viewing terrace, incorporating green and blue technologies.

The design aligns with BREEAM excellence and net zero carbon standards, including sustainable technologies like solar panels and low-temp ASHP for heating, as well as GHSP and ground-coupled heat exchangers.

The new building will mark a huge shift and elevation of inpatient services for learning disabilities service users in Lancashire.

Nominated for Best Acute Design



PROJECT OWNER

NHS North Central
London ICB

**ARCHITECTS
AND INTERIOR
DESIGNERS**

Murphy Philipps
Associates

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Borras Construction

Welbourne Health Centre

Welbourne Health Centre is a key part of the Integrated Care Board's wider strategy to improve health and wellbeing by modernising general practice sites in north central London.

The new building accommodates two of the Lawrence House Group's local practices as well as its call centre team.

As an internal fit-out, the project required Murphy Philipps Associates (MPA) to balance the constraints of the base build and deliver a design which maximised efficiency without compromising clinical functionality.

MPA worked with the existing façade design to maximise daylight and sunlight throughout, ensuring a therapeutic environment and a rich patient experience.

In collaboration with the GP practices, MPA also designed bespoke artwork walls which celebrate the wildlife and landscape of the nearby Tottenham Marshes. Materials and finishes were carefully selected to enhance the theme and bring a natural feel to the internal spaces.

The layout provides flexible spaces which can be reconfigured to provide a variety of clinical services and meet the changing needs of the population.

Sila Makoon, the GP practice managing partner, said of the building: "Walking through these halls, we see a space intentionally filled with light, warmth, and the feeling of a fresh start. Designed not only for treatment, but for healing, comfort, and connection, the building itself is a beacon of hope."

"The vibrant waiting areas, the private consultation rooms, and the state-of-the-art equipment all reflect a vision for healthcare that is holistic and patient centred."

Nominated for Best Interior Design



PROJECT OWNER

NHS North Central
London ICB

**ARCHITECTS
AND INTERIOR
DESIGNERS**

Murphy Philipps
Associates

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Borras Construction

Welbourne Health Centre

The health centre is a key part of the Integrated Care Board's wider strategy to improve health and wellbeing by modernising general practice sites in North Central London.

The new building accommodates two of the Lawrence House Group's local practices as well as its call centre team.

It features vibrant waiting areas, private consultation rooms, and state-of-the-art equipment, and was designed to provide a sanctuary for patients as well as an inspiring workplace for healthcare professionals.

The interior design was developed in collaboration with the GP practices and celebrates the wildlife and landscape of the nearby Tottenham Marshes.

Murphy Philipps designed bespoke artwork for the walls of waiting areas which introduce colour and help with wayfinding for patients. Materials and finishes were also carefully selected in a collaborative workshop to enhance this theme and bring a natural feel to the internal spaces.

As an internal fit-out, the project required Murphy Philipps to balance the constraints of the base build and deliver a design which maximised efficiency without compromising clinical functionality. The layout provides flexible spaces which can be reconfigured to provide a variety of clinical services.

MPA also worked with the existing façade design to maximise daylight and sunlight throughout, ensuring a therapeutic environment and a rich patient experience.

Sila Makoon, managing partner of the practice, said: "Walking through these halls, we see a space intentionally filled with light, warmth, and the feeling of a fresh start. Designed not only for treatment, but for healing, comfort, and connection, the building itself is a beacon of hope; a new lease on life for healthcare in our community."

Following the completion of the project, multiple 'lessons learned' sessions were held to ensure both users and the design team came together to reflect on the project and the key learnings for future schemes.

Nominated for Best Primary Design



West Cumberland Hospital Phase 2

West Cumberland Hospital Phase 2 in Whitehaven is the latest development of the site following the successful completion of Phase 1 back in 2015. The building comprises a two-storey inpatient ward extension, new main entrance, and rehabilitation courtyard garden.

The majority of the site was hard landscaped, converted into car parking, and there was minimal soft landscaping to soften the edges to what was a harsh, grey, and unwelcoming environment. The site clearance gave the opportunity to not only provide more car parking and a better main entrance, but also to utilise the external environment for healing, nurturing, and rehabilitation.

Once established, the gradual sloped verges will mature, with trees, shrubbery, and grasses which will adapt and change with the seasons. Careful consideration was also made to protect and preserve memorial trees and provide opportunity for new trees within the hard landscaping.

The courtyard is the most interesting, dynamic, and utilised space in the external environment of the new development. The square built form is softened and relaxed by the central ellipse of the courtyard feature and edge planting to the perimeter.

Special attention was given to the access and maintenance of the building and bed evacuation, but by providing climbers and hardy creepers to the perimeter, the path edges will soften further without hindering performance.

Centred in the middle of the courtyard is the challenge path to be utilised by rehabilitation patients, directly accessed from the gym and physio treatment room. The curved path not only provides vital clinical benefits, but also has a soft meandering course, which is a stark contrast to the sharp angular faces of the pre-cast concrete.

The challenge path has handrails on each side and a number of different terrains, from cobbles to loose slate, each with varying levels of difficulty. This will enable staff to practise with patients and prepare them for leaving the hospital.

The path also has a curbed area which imitates a pavement or front doorstep, again to familiarise patients with challenges they may face once at home. Outside the new main entrance, coastal-tolerant planting will create a stunning palette of colour against the built form.

PROJECT OWNER

North Cumbria
Integrated Care NHS
Foundation Trust

ARCHITECTS AND INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Gilling Dod Architects

MAIN CONTRACTOR

GRAHAM
Construction Ltd

Nominated for Best Exterior Design



York Manor

York Manor is a 73-bedroom care home nestled in the peaceful suburb of Rawcliffe, just outside York. Set on a breathtaking site framed by mature trees, this project presented unique design challenges, particularly given its location within the green belt and its historic setting.

The original buildings were once part of Clifton Hospital and initial planning guidance emphasised the need for an exceptionally high standard of design for any new construction. From the outset of the design process, careful attention was given to site-specific factors.

The building's orientation and form were thoughtfully composed to foster welcoming, functional spaces for residents, both within the building as well as outside, while strategically limiting sun exposure on key elevations. This approach balances light, comfort, and usability, ensuring a pleasant living environment throughout.

Sustainability was also a priority, with the design incorporating eco-friendly solutions such as air-source heat pumps and photovoltaic (PV) panels, ensuring that York Manor not only respects its natural setting, but also reduces its environmental footprint.

In response to site-specific constraints, the building was carefully zoned to distinguish between public areas, operational back-of-house spaces, and private residential quarters. This approach not only defines each area with clarity, but also guides the flow of movement, establishing intuitive circulation routes throughout.

Corridors have been thoughtfully designed to open out at key points along their lengths, such as primary lounge areas that draw natural light deep into the core, creating vibrant, airy communal spaces.

Lounge and dining areas are strategically dispersed around the building, offering residents a diverse range of environments to relax and socialise.

The internal layout, spatial configuration, and design aesthetics were carefully considered to create open-plan zones at key focal points across each floor. These shared spaces, strategically placed for intuitive wayfinding, not only serve as communal hubs, but are also positioned to capture the expansive views of the surrounding landscape.

PROJECT OWNER

Torsion Care

ARCHITECTS

Harris Irwin Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Torsion

MAIN CONTRACTOR

Torsion Construction

OTHER CONTRACTORS

Tanglewood

Nominated for Best Architectural Design





HEALTHCARE
DESIGN AWARDS



12

25

14

THE HEALTHCARE
DESIGN AWARDS

THE HEALTHCARE
DESIGN AWARDS

The logo consists of three overlapping, stylized house-like shapes. The outermost shape is green, the middle one is purple, and the innermost one is white. Each shape has a small grid of four squares inside it, representing windows.

**HEALTHCARE
DESIGN AWARDS**

13 February 2025

Royal Lancaster Hotel, London