



NEW SOUTH GLASGOW HOSPITALS

Dignified Spaces

**Designing rooms for conversations
within the clinical environment.**



DESIGNING FOR DIGNITY
Informed by Community Engagement
Inspired by Nature





The new South Glasgow adult and children hospital building is due to be completed by early 2015. It will be one of the largest acute hospitals in the UK.

The new hospital, costing £840 million, will have 1109 adult beds and 256 children's beds, with each general ward consisting of 28 single bedrooms with en-suite facilities; this will assist in addressing hospital acquired infection (HAI), mixed sex, privacy and dignity issues.

Each room will also have a large window onto the ward corridor to allow good line of sight between the staff and patients.

The importance of patient dignity and the need for appropriate environments is evidenced in NHSGGC's Community Engagement programme reports (2006, 2009).

This is the first generation of hospital buildings in which spaces for conversations are included at the design stage. The hospital has allocated a total of 80 Quiet Rooms for this purpose.

These spaces are used for a range of purposes of which the most important are conversations between clinical, nursing or spiritual care staff and patients' relatives and carers.



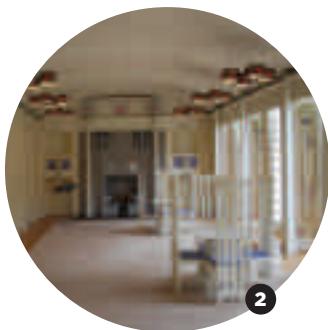




Dignified Spaces are part of the ‘Working Well, People and Spaces’ Therapeutic Design and Art Strategy for the New South Glasgow Hospitals, focused on approximately 80 Quiet Rooms across the Hospitals.



Images: 1. Maggie Centre, Western Infirmary Hospital, Glasgow 2. House For An Art Lover, Glasgow 3. A flower in Hidden Gardens, Glasgow



Biophilic Design

The approach in preparing design ideas for these rooms has been to seek connections with nature, this approach can be called biophilic design.

To drive the biophilic design, a process of community engagement was undertaken. The resulting conversations focused on dignity with particular reference to the needs of a patient’s family and carers. We settled on the concept of a walled garden to underpin the project. The workshop process also involved participants walking through the garden and making images from plants, and these images will be used in the art and design process for the Quiet Rooms.

Walled Garden

The walled garden is an enclosed space in which plants can be arranged according to design. In Dignified Spaces, the idea of walled gardens allows us to enhance the selected Quiet Rooms with components of colour, texture, art and design, creating spaces for important conversations.

This concept fits within the overall theme ‘layers within the landscape’, and helps to underpin the wayfinding strategy for the hospitals. It also informs the control and management of a space, enabling us to meet levels of infection control and to provide appropriate hygienic regimes that each dignified space will need to consider.



‘The basic function of design is to challenge our minds and to start a mental process by attracting human attention. This can stop or at least reduce anxiety and can thereby bring about positive psychological changes. Psychosocially supportive working environments should challenge our mind in order to create emotion, pleasure, stimulation, creativity, satisfaction, enjoyment and admiration.’

Dilani, A. 2000. *Architecture and Design, Healthcare Buildings as Supportive Environments.* World Hospitals and Health Services.

Methodology

To fund this approach Dignified Spaces Team successfully received sponsorship from Arts and Business Scotland, in a partnership with Ginkgo, a Public Art Agency, and Teal, a leading UK furniture manufacturer. The aim was to deliver an enhanced program of Community Engagement focused on the meaning of dignity.

The Community Engagement involves volunteers and staff from Hidden Gardens and volunteers and clinical staff within NHSGGC.

The community engagement process will inform the development and shape the design concepts and artworks for installation in the Quiet Rooms of NSGH. The benefits to the commercial sponsor will be to develop a clear understanding of dignity in this context and to review their design approach to healthcare furniture.

We delivered workshops and held clinical conversations involving individuals aged from four to 70, exploring ways of considering all aspects of dignity, including how to listen, and what helps listening in clinical settings.

Finally, the workshop participants looked at the plants within the walled garden and made their own picture from petals and leaves. These pictures will help to inform the design process, wallpaper, fabric for chairs, and the overall aesthetic to be used in the Quiet Rooms.

The primary outcome from the workshops is to use all this research material and visual imagery to design the Quiet Rooms in the hospital, especially 21 rooms given high priority status.



Informed by
Community Engagement



Primary School Workshop
Battelfield Primary School, Glasgow • June 2013



A Walk With Medical Herbalist Anna Canning
Hidden Gardens, Glasgow • June 2013



Community Engagement Workshops
Hidden Gardens, Glasgow • May – June 2013

Inspired by Nature



Conversations with Clinical Staff
July – September 2013



A few theories have emerged to explain the effects of biophilic design on humans. One element that features prominently in theories about biophilia is the attraction of underlying geometry of fractals within nature. Examples of fractal patterns include fern fronds and other spiral forms. People may gravitate towards aesthetic forms that have been reinforced throughout their history.

When comparing cultures, people across the world respond similarly well to natural views. Because we have this tendency to associate nature with positive feelings, architects relying on biophilic design have the potential advantage of universal appeal. They also retain a high degree of flexibility and freedom as biophilic design is not defined by one aesthetic.

The community engagement at Hidden Gardens has led our team to choose the walled garden as the underlying design principle for the Dignified Spaces project.



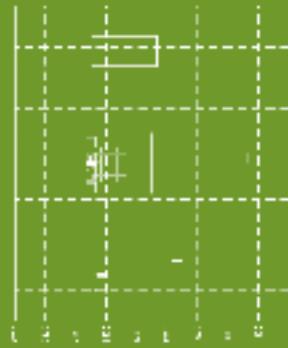
The hospitals should be an iconic development portraying a positive image of the NHS, reflecting their importance and communicating respect and concern for the needs of patients, families and carers.

Report on patient and carer input to the design process for the New South Glasgow Hospitals.

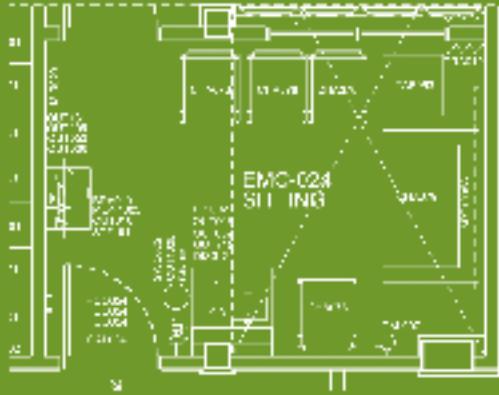
Art & Design for Quiet Rooms

There is scope for art and design opportunities within the Quiet Rooms to help with:

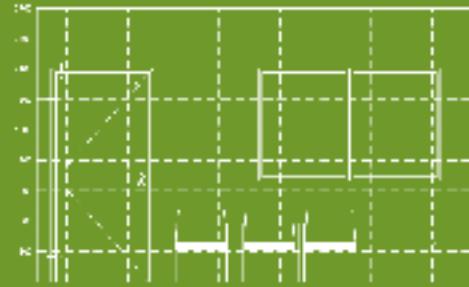
- Surface treatment of walls and floors
- Reduction in noise level
- Opportunity for natural lighting
- Availability of comfortable seating and furniture
- Provision of nature-inspired art
- Controllable lighting
- Wayfinding (use of Dignified Spaces Logo)



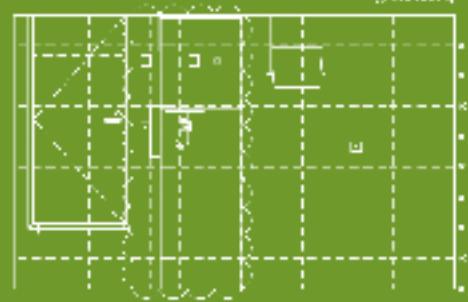
Elevation A



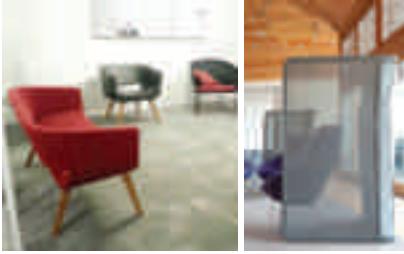
Elevation B



Elevation C



Elevation D



Examples of Furniture and Fabric Design
A Room: ENT 036, Teal Healthcare



Design for Quiet Rooms

Themes selected for the 5 A Quiet Rooms

ENT 036 Bereavement
(Patient Support, Adult Hospital)
Glade in a Forest

EMC 024 & 088 Family Rooms
(Children Hospital)
Walled Gardens

EMC 141 Relatives Sitting Room
(Adult Hospital Emergency Dept.)
A Walled Garden

EMC 144 Relatives Sitting Room
(Adult Hospital Emergency Dept.)
A Walled Garden

CPS 002 Family
(Child Protection, Children Hospital)
A Garden Sanctuary

The art, an essential element within the rooms, is integrated with the furniture and lighting designs. The art will be drawn from nature, with an emphasis on the biophilic imagery created in the community engagement workshops.



Examples of Furniture and Fabric Design
A Room: ENT 036, Teal Healthcare

Lighting Ideas
A Room: ENT 036, Catalog





Art for Quiet Rooms

The introduction of art into the rooms will be used to create a sense of harmony and also to support the design elements chosen for the spaces. The art will be based on nature; it will be a mixture of traditional and contemporary, and will be selected from prints, photographs, watercolours and photograms.

The use of imagery from the community engagement workshops will be very much a part of the scheme for the rooms, and will be applied to furniture, fabric and wallpaper designs.



Examples of Furniture and Fabric Design
A Room: ENT 036, Teal Healthcare





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Staff and Children at Battlefield

Primary School, Glasgow

Volunteers at Elder Farm Community

Garden, Glasgow



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