



Wigan and Leigh Hospice

The brief was to design a Hospice for 20 patients in single bedrooms as well as four-bedded wards, and space for 25 Daycare patients. Physiotherapy, occupational therapy and aromatherapy areas were needed, with small counselling rooms. General administrative offices and seminar rooms would accommodate training facilities for staff; courses could be run to share knowledge and experience with others. A multi-faith Chapel/Oratory was to be at the heart of the plan.

We decided that the in-patients should have the benefit of the sun and the distant views across the Green Belt; all bed spaces are arranged in a curve facing south west. There are french windows for every patient and canopies supporting vines and climbing plants - outdoor spaces are also sheltered by grassed mounds, shrubs and trees. The conservatory and offices face onto a central courtyard garden containing the Oratory, which is visible from the entrance foyer and throughout the building. Light pours into the seating areas along the corridors and the landscape is visible at every turn.