

# The ANCHOR Centre



## Art and Environment Strategy January 2017

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# Introduction

The development of The Anchor Centre will be part of the implementation of the Foresterhill Development Framework which was approved by the NHS Grampian Board and the Scottish Government in 2008.

The ANCHOR Centre will provide out-patient and day-patient investigation, assessment and treatment services for patients with cancer and for patients with blood and bone marrow disorders, including non-cancer conditions as well as cancers.

This Art and Environment Strategy sets out the methodology for the creation of a healing visual environment throughout the building. The strategy will not detail definitive areas for art inclusion but locations are likely to include the main entrances, circulation routes, waiting areas, external spaces and specific treatment spaces.

An Art and Environment Group (AEG) will be established to oversee the implementation of this Art and Environment Strategy. This group will include staff, patient representatives, project team members as well as members of the Grampian Hospitals Art Trust.

The endorsement and support of the community which the hospital serves is central to the success of the projects which will be created as part of the art and environment initiatives. Public and user consultation will be carried out to ensure the views of patients, visitors and staff are taken into account at all stages of the project.

# Overall Vision for The ANCHOR Centre project

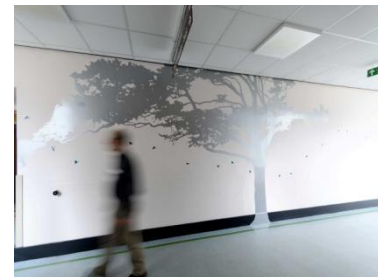
The development of The ANCHOR Centre will provide services for oncology day and out-patients, haematology day and out-patients, a pharmacy as well as research and teaching. ANCHOR stands for Aberdeen and North Centre for Haematology, Oncology and Radiotherapy. ANCHOR is a well-respected and highly regarded 'brand' established in the North for almost two decades. The large-scale investment of time, money and energy in this project reflects NHS Grampian's ambition to provide the best and most efficient service for patients through the creation of a unique and visually well-designed environment specifically for The ANCHOR Centre.

## Key Aims

- **Person Centred Care.** To provide services that support patients and families to remain healthy, well and independent and in their own communities; to provide appropriate, safe and secure facilities to deliver optimal care in the acute centre and in communities across the North of Scotland.
- **Improved Access to Treatment.** To provide improved ambulatory care services to allow for patients to be cared for in day and out-patient settings as the norm.
- **Improved Effectiveness and Efficiency.** To create an environment that supports a sustainable workforce; to achieve sustainability of achievement of national waiting times and treatment targets; to have facilities to be better able to provide appropriate tertiary services for the North of Scotland.

## Site

The ANCHOR Centre will be located at the south of the east end of Foresterhill Health campus, adjacent to the existing Radiotherapy Centre and built on the site currently occupied by the eye clinic. The general design approach shall be to create a truly inclusive environment which must be designed to the highest standards, taking into account specific infrastructure opportunities and constraints to create a high quality facility.



## Key Aims and objectives of The ANCHOR Centre Arts and Environment Strategy

The arts will make a contribution to the creation of a unique and welcoming environment in the Centre, enhancing both the working environment and the patient experience. The artwork and visual environmental interventions introduced to this new building will be integrated and co-ordinated throughout by the Arts and Environment Group.

**Aim:- To create a well-designed, person centred and positive visual environment for patients, staff and visitors**

### Objectives:

- Integrate artwork into the full environmental design linking architecture, interior design and way finding to the holistic visual and artwork choices
- select artwork which will sustain the interest of its viewers (work that will not readily date and which retains interest on repeated viewing)
- select artwork which is visually interesting, relevant and promotes a positive sense of wellbeing and ease
- make effective use of GHAT's links with the local arts infrastructure



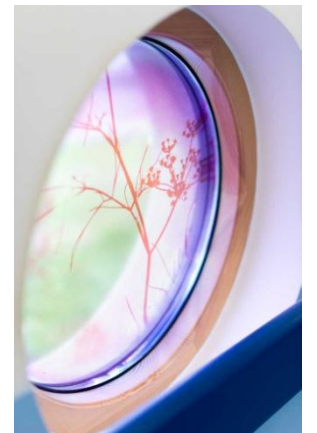
# Curatorial Vision

## **Light and bright: a positive space.**

The first impression of the facility must be of a place of wellness and reassurance; a place you feel you could have a joyful experience. It should feel more part of the community than a hospital environment, being softer with aspects of landscape and a welcoming feeling. It will be a space for all people, a place to be with visiting relatives/friends, have refreshments and a chat. It should have space to bring in community life using music and arts events.

The layout will be designed around the different appointments, treatment and services for patients and visitors to the Centre. The service user need varies and time spent in the building varies from service to service. The artwork will need to respond to these varying requirements and be designed to add to the experience for all patients their visitors and staff. Works can be designed which form meeting points, punctuation points, distraction points and non-written wayfinding points.

To realise this overall curatorial vision, advantage will be taken wherever possible of natural features such as daylight, landscaped areas, gardens, plants, shrubs and trees which are already present on the site or which may form part of vistas and views visible from patient areas, clinics and waiting rooms. The art and environment group will need to work closely with the architect and design team in order to realise this vision in line with interior and exterior design ideas.





# The ANCHOR Centre Arts and Environment Group and users groups

An ANCHOR Centre Arts and Environment Group will be convened and will work closely with the project team to involve users and patients representatives in the decision making process.

It is important that any new artwork selected is appropriate and relevant for its context. There are a number of factors to be taken into consideration:

- the function of the building as a whole and its individual departments
- the architectural concept: layout of departments, articulation of space, circulation routes, lighting, palette of materials and colours
- the wide range of users of the building: patients, visitors and staff
- health and safety issues: work will need to conform to current NHS regulations
- infection control issues: work will need to conform to current NHS regulations
- maintenance of work: the work should be low maintenance, durable and vandal-proof



## **Acknowledgement policy**

An ANCHOR Centre Acknowledgement Policy will be developed.

# Artist in Residence – discussion and connection

Public art takes many forms. One of these varieties involves the investigation of place and space using an interactive process whereby the artist attains a degree of integration with the location. The artist works closely with those involved in the project, acquiring information about the place and relevant issues through discourse enquiry. This process provides a means of documenting change catalysed by the project.

This kind of process can be used to facilitate community engagement through exchanging thoughts and attitudes centred on change in a place.

For these purposes in The ANCHOR Centre, a suitable individual could be employed as an artist in residence with the following outcomes and outputs:

- work closely with architects and the project team to realise the agreed action plan.
- focus on the 'patients and people' involved
- create initiatives with the project teams which investigate their perceptions of the space they are creating – these are often fun sessions which can assist with team building or joint working of teams who don't often meet.
- document the on the ground change of the place visually
- work with the different stakeholders of the future spaces to get an idea of their hopes and aspirations
- work with the project team to get an understanding of their roles in the process
- document the change in perception of the place as it evolves





# Delivery

The Art and Environment Strategy will be rolled out in stages and will be linked to significant project milestones.

An Art and Environment Group will be formed as a steering group reporting to The ANCHOR Centre Project Group. All projects will work through the GHAT Art Project Design and Sign Off process which can be found in the NHS Grampian Healing Environment Strategy.

The first stage of the art and environment strategy to be implemented will be planned to be in place by the time of commissioning the new building in 2020. It is anticipated that this artwork will be developed and installed mainly in public areas such as:

- main circulation routes/corridors
- external areas
- main entrance(s)
- reception areas
- waiting areas
- specific treatment spaces
- specific area designed for young people



# Project Locations

This strategy seeks to indicate high level strategic thinking regarding project locations. Further detailed work will be carried out to agree exact project locations and the form the associated artworks will take.

## Building Interior: Orientation

The orientation element is one of the crucial parts of The ANCHOR Centre Art and Environment Strategy. A designer will work closely with the architect/design team, and within the existing framework, to create bespoke and appropriate designs which will influence the overall environment of the Centre and to assist with wayfinding. As with the NHSG Interior Design Strategy, areas such as staff bases could be seen as focal points and the origin of the colour for each floor.



## Elements included in the orientation brief

- layout designed around around the different appointments, treatment and services for patients and visitors to the Centre
- identifying panels/graphics for lift lobbies and stair wells
- bespoke design elements in corridors to assist orientation around each floor

## Potential sites within the orientation brief

- Main Circulation routes/corridors
- use of integrated colour palette throughout to assist with way finding
- use of skilfully placed graphics and artwork
- Link Corridors: The main entrance to the hospital for some visitors and staff
- assist with clear wayfinding



## Lift Lobbies

- The key areas on all floors where visitors arrive
- create a welcoming and positive impression on entering and exiting lifts
- assist with clear way finding



**Interior Toolkit:** Work with the architect and interior designers to create a colour toolkit which will underpin the basic decoration of the entire building for its future.

# GHAT and NHS Grampian Partnership

Since the establishment of Grampian Hospitals Art Trust (GHAT) in 1985 as an independent charity, the arts have played a pivotal role in creating a suitable environment in which NHS Grampian health services are delivered. With more than 4,000 works of art in a wide range of media, GHAT has one of the largest art collections in hospitals in the UK. In 2013 the Foresterhill Campus Arts and environment group developed an Arts and Environment Strategy (App 1) and an Interior Design Framework (App 2). These documents are the basis for any refurbishment or new build projects within NHSG.

This partnership over 30 years has engendered an expectation across NHS Grampian services that the visual environment is an essential part of the wellbeing of patients and the retention of staff leading to a better patient experience.

GHAT business plan 2013-2018 states

**VISION** To lead arts in healthcare practice - regionally integrated and embedded, nationally recognised and respected

**PURPOSE** Enhancing the experience and wellbeing of all who spend time in NHS Grampian premises, whether patients, staff or visitors by promoting enjoyment of, and when possible participation in, high quality artistic activity and the provision of a sympathetic and pleasing visual environment

**VALUES** Creative, effective, supportive, open, interactive, ethical

