



Maggie's West London Centre

London, UK



Location
London, UK

Date
2001-2008

Client
Maggie's

Cost
£2.1 million

Gross Internal Area
370m²

Structural Engineer
Arup

Cost Consultant
Turner & Townsend

Landscape Architect
Dan Pearson Studio

Lighting Consultant
Speirs Major

Main Contractor
ROK

[RSHP's] quietly confident building is truly, unquestionably a haven for those who have been diagnosed with cancer. Their achievement is in having created a completely informal, home-like sanctuary to help patients learn to live - or die - with cancer, beautifully.

Alison Brooks, Chair of the Judges, RIBA London Awards



Key Awards

2009
RIBA Stirling Prize
RIBA Award for London
RIBA London Building of the Year
RICS London Award
Community Benefit Category

Maggie's Centres offer support for people affected by cancer at any stage, be they patients, family members or friends. Their work is in complete support of conventional medical treatment.

Maggie's West London Centre, at Charing Cross Hospital in Hammersmith, is conceived as a contrast to the main hospital building. It is a non-institutional building, an 'open house' of 370 square metres, arranged over one and a half floors. It is both flexible and adaptable. It can be transparent or opaque, noisy or quiet, light or dark and has a kitchen at the heart of the structure. RSHP hopes to create something that is more homely – more welcoming, more comfortable, more thought-provoking and more uplifting. The entrance is approached from within the hospital grounds via the car park. The building consists of four components: a wall

that wraps around four sides, providing protection from its exposed location; the kitchen – a single height central space which is the main focus and heart of the building; annexes off the main space, conceived as meeting, sitting and consulting rooms; and a 'floating roof' that over sails the outer wall and helps flood the space with light. Small courtyards are formed between the building and the wall for quiet spaces.

The delicate landscape by Dan Pearson creates a visual and emotional transition from the existing hospital to the new Maggie's Centre. Wrapping the building with trees also filters the noise and pollution of the surroundings whilst providing a leafy and relaxing backdrop, on what is a dense urban and uninviting site.