



Registered Charity Number 1049223

Growing Wellbeing Together

The Garden Appeal - a partnership opportunity for local businesses



Thank you from My WiSH Charity



Thank you for taking the time to find out more about My WiSH Charity's Garden Appeal.

Hospital gardens are perhaps easy to overlook, but their impact is well-evidenced and quietly significant. Access to quality outdoor space supports recovery, benefits mental health, and provides much-needed respite for patients, visitors, and NHS staff alike. This appeal is about ensuring those spaces exist, and are properly cared for.

We are looking for corporate partners who share our commitment to the local NHS and would like to contribute in a practical, tangible way. Partnership involves both a financial commitment to the Appeal and the opportunity for your team to take part in volunteering days - helping with planting, landscaping, and seasonal upkeep.

We hope that after reading this booklet you will feel inspired to get involved.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Chilvers', with a horizontal line underneath.

George Chilvers

Corporate Fundraising Manager
My WiSH Charity

50%

of NHS staff say attractive green spaces influence where they choose to work - making your sponsorship a staff retention and recruitment asset too.

- The Health Foundation / Space to Breathe research

1 day faster

Surgical patients with a view of nature recovered on average a day faster and needed significantly less pain medication than those without.

- Ulrich, Science, 1984

#1

Volunteering was found to be the only workplace wellbeing intervention that consistently improved employee mental health, in a study of 50,000 UK workers.

- University of Oxford Wellbeing Research Centre, 2024

Partnership: How it Works

Each partnership combines financial sponsorship of a named garden with up to four corporate volunteering days per year. Research consistently shows that access to outdoor space supports faster recovery, reduces the need for painkillers, and improves staff wellbeing. Your investment has a direct impact on not only our patients but our valuable NHS staff.

Gold Partner

From £5,000 per year

High footfall garden
sponsorship

Up to four volunteering days
per year

Prominent on-site branding

PR and media opportunities

Feature impact case study

Website and social
recognition

Silver Partner

From £2,000 per year

Medium footfall garden

Up to four volunteering days
per year

On-site recognition plaque

Website and social
recognition

Bronze Partner

From £1,000 per year

Private staff garden/ lower
footfall public garden

Up to four volunteering days
per year

On-site recognition plaque

Website and social
recognition



Gardens Available for Sponsorship

Here are three examples of gardens on the Hospital site which are available for sponsorship:



Gold Tier - Courtyard garden

Gold

Courtyard Garden

At the front of West Suffolk Hospital. Over 1,500 visitors per week. Paved courtyard with raised beds - the most visible sponsorship opportunity.

- Patients, families and staff

Already well-used and appreciated, these gardens offer strong potential for further development. With modest investment and hands-on volunteering days, partners can help enhance these spaces for patients, visitors, and staff, while providing their own teams with a rewarding, practical way to contribute to the local NHS.



Silver Tier - Chapel garden



Bronze Tier - Education Centre garden

Silver

Chapel Garden

On the main hospital corridor, adjacent to the multifaith Chapel. A quiet space for reflection with informal planted beds and real potential.

- Patients, families and staff

Bronze

Education Centre Garden

Used daily by staff and students undertaking vital training. A calm, low-maintenance space with good seating.

- Staff and students

British Gas – Cancer Unit Garden

In 2022 Iain Ashford and his team from British Gas started volunteering at West Suffolk Hospital and helped completely transform the Cancer Unit Garden. The team now come several times throughout the year to help with the garden's upkeep.



Cancer Unit Garden before



Cancer Unit Garden after



Some of the British Gas Team

“Volunteering at the Cancer Unit Gardens at West Suffolk Hospital means a great deal to all of us at British Gas. We know how important outdoor spaces can be for patients, families, and staff. Having somewhere peaceful to sit, reflect, and get some fresh air can make a real difference during difficult times. Whether it’s tidying borders, planting flowers, or clearing pathways, it’s rewarding to know the work we do helps create an environment that offers a little comfort during challenging times.

These volunteering days are also about giving something back to the local community that supports us year-round. Everyone gets involved, and there’s a genuine sense of pride in working together on something beyond our day-to-day roles. We spend a lot of time helping customers in their homes, so being able to contribute in a different way, especially somewhere as important as the Cancer Unit, feels incredibly worthwhile. We remain committed to returning throughout the year to help keep the gardens looking their best.”

- Iain Ashford - Customer Delivery Manager

Rainbow Ward Garden

In 2022 Neil Hatten, Operations Manager at Clarkes of Walsham spent a week on Rainbow Ward with his son. He approached his business as he wanted to give something back to the Hospital as a way of saying thank you, and Clarkes Of Walsham Ltd very kindly donated a Children's Log Cabin and Garden Furniture.



"I see every day
the difference
our garden space
makes to the
children and families
in our care."

- Rachel Pym - Paediatric Ward
Manager, West Suffolk Hospital

"Hospital stays can be overwhelming and emotionally exhausting for young patients, particularly those facing longer admissions or ongoing treatment. The garden provides a calm space where children can step away from the clinical setting, enjoy fresh air, and simply feel like children again.

The impact on families is equally significant. Parents and carers often spend long hours at the bedside under considerable stress, and having access to a safe

outdoor space gives them a chance to take a breath and create positive moments together. The garden is far more than an outdoor area; it is a vital part of the emotional wellbeing and recovery journey for the children and families we support on Rainbow Ward."

Rachel Pym - Paediatric Ward Manager

Let's Create Something Meaningful Together

We understand that every organisation is different. Bespoke packages can be created to align with your business goals, CSR priorities, and workforce engagement needs.

To discuss available gardens, footfall levels, and bespoke sponsorship opportunities, please contact **George.Chilvers@wsh.nhs.uk**



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