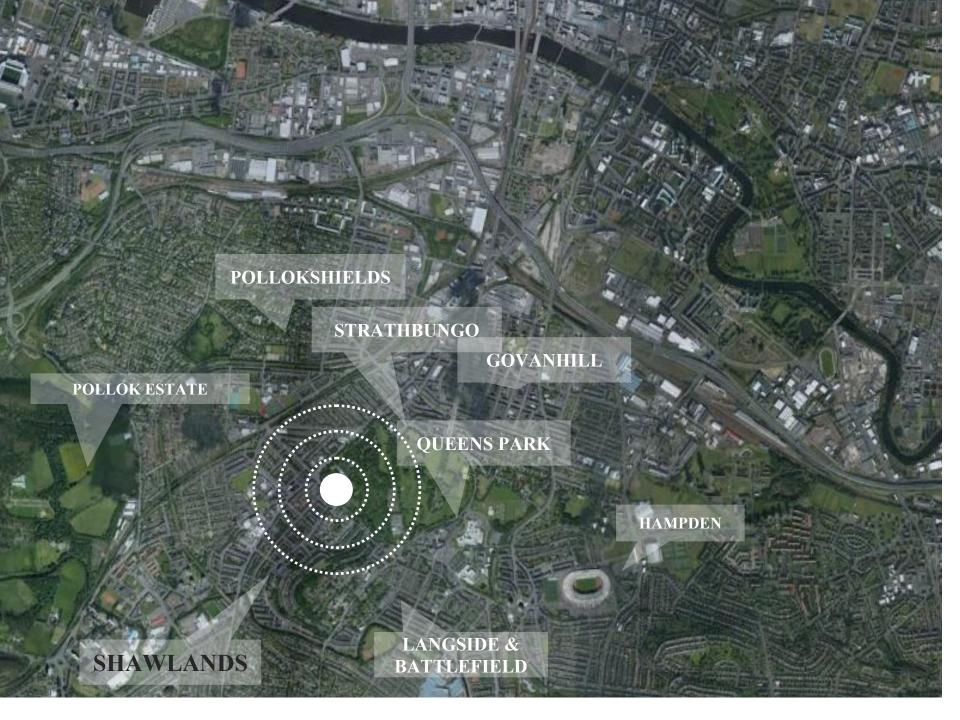


# Shawlands Civic Square Consultation / Glasgow, Shawlands

A new future for Shawlands!!









The potential civic square would be funded by Glasgow City Council as part of its 5 year £3.3M commitment to delivering the Shawlands Town Centre Action Plan. The target for completing its programme of projects is Spring 2017.

#### Background

The Shawlands Town Centre Action Plan proposes to create a new civic square for the Southside in front of Langside Hall. This will form the exciting heart the Cultural Quarter of Shawlands that could act as a meeting space for local people and outdoor attractions.

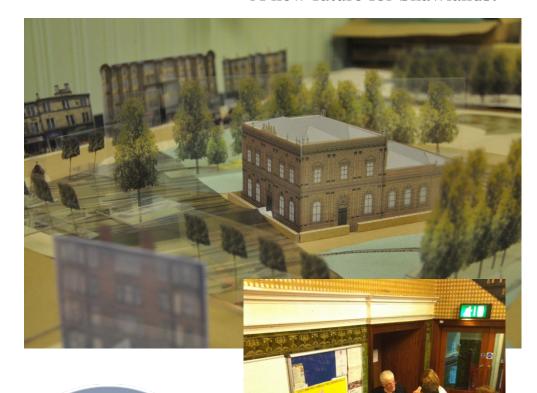
The Pollokshaws Road/Langside Avenue junction at Shawlands Cross is a space which is already home to Langside Hall, the key civic building of the area, the Shed which has a long track record of live theatre, dance and craft events and Glad Café, a destination for live music and creative arts. The potential space could provide an important gateway to the Queens Park, the City Centre from the Southside and route to Scotland's national football stadium at Hampden. It could also bring the Queens Park into the heart of the Shawlands community.

The Council believe the space can help attract more visitors to both the town centre and the park. This document aims to introduce initial thoughts and ideas and provide a starting point for public consultation.

The Council want to know what the Shawlands and the Southside community think.

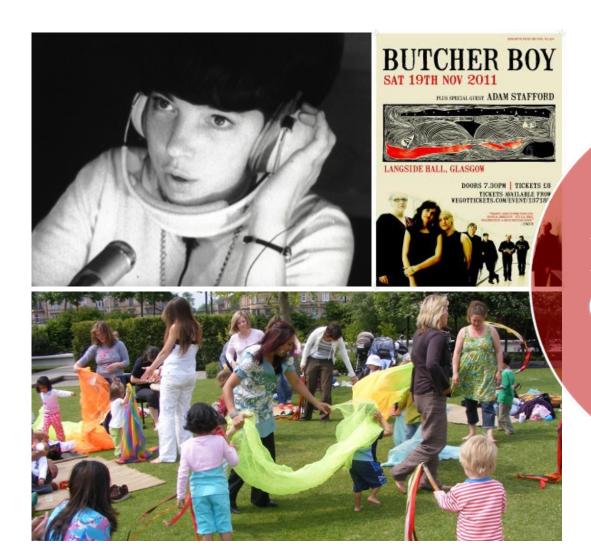
#### A new future for Shawlands!

Recently, with the support of the Council and Glasgow Life,
Collective Architecture and South Glasgow Heritage and
Environment Trust has
investigated the potential of
Langside Hall and adjacent public spaces

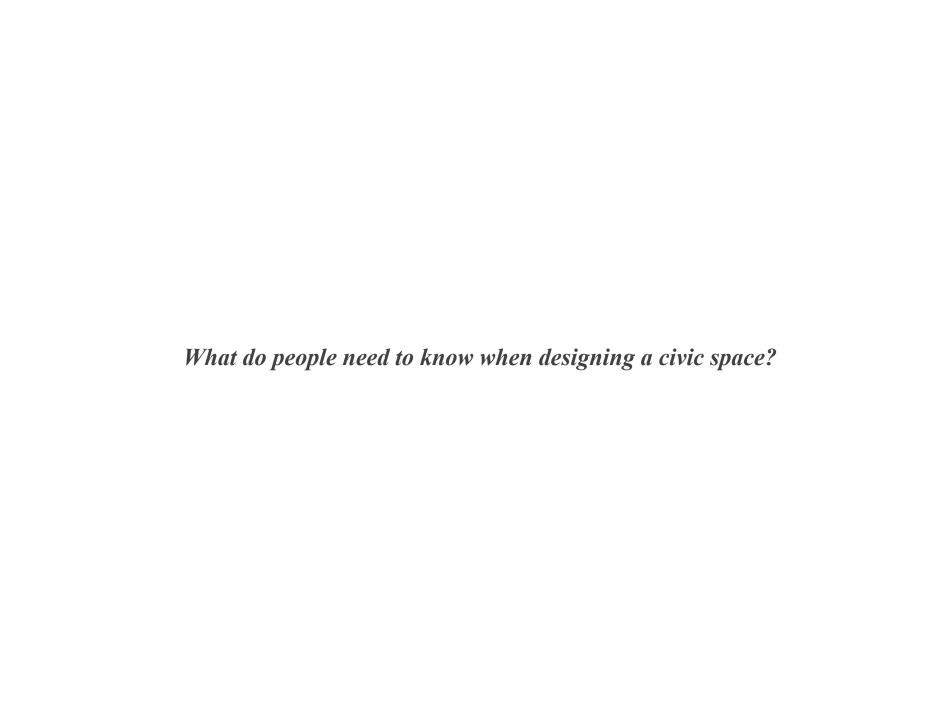


Glasgow City
Council wants to
capitalize on that
experience, moving
the potential new
square to the next
stage of
development

Images: Collective Architecture in conjunction with South Glasgow Heritage and Environment Trust



It's all about Community!



#### The Civic Square Design Aims

A good design needs to be informed by the place's heritage and identity. It needs to renew the relationship between Langside Hall and its immediate context.

Development therefore should focus on creating a pedestrian oriented place...

1 with a strong sense of character and identity

2 which will feels safe and pleasant to be in

3 that is easy to understand and to move around in

*4* that is welcoming to all

5 that is adaptable to changing community needs and

**6** which is resilient and easy to manage





FIRST LIFE, THEN SPACES. THEN BUILDINGS: THE OTHER WAY AROUND NEVER WORKS



A public space is the physical result of a variety of factors which shape our daily life.

The overlapping of many layers.

Some of these are tangible and physical (for instance microclimate, materials and form, the buildings and edges which define a space, furniture and traffic lights, kerbs, trees, parking spaces, paths, etc.);

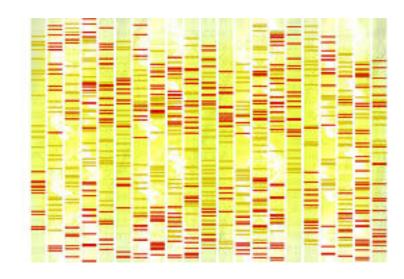
Other aspects are more invisible (for instance the time of the day and seasons, the place's history, economics, cultural and demographic. There is also maintenance requirements, the way users move around, feel and react to a space).

*In essence it's what we call the place DNA.* 

Before designing a place therefore it is important to understand its true identity and potential. Its specific DNA.

This is the knowledge needed to shape an appropriate design response.

Raffaele Esposito / Architect and Urban Designer



#### "DNA" under investigation by Glasgow City Council

•Demographic (Cultural and Economic)

•Site history

•Existing edges: style, massing and character of the existing "street scene"

•Interaction between buildings and public spaces

•Streetscape and public realm -formal and functional- qualities

•Uses and Usage

•Landmarks and listed episodes

•Views to and from the site

• Access and connectivity (including Thresholds and gateways, Mobility networks, Public transports)

•Open spaces network (including bio-diversity corridors)

•Ecology (Flora and Fauna)

•Drainage and "waterscape"

Topography

•Soil quality and contamination

•Services and Utilities

•Orientation and microclimate

•Potential pollution sources (Noise, air, visual and light)

•Planning reference framework (including relevant Future Developments)

•Legal related aspects (for example Ownerships)

# DNA

#### Design Aims

#### The Civic Square design should:

- 1 Re-establish the prominence of Langside Hall in its setting
  - 2 Reinforce the civic nature of the space with public art, opportune lighting and quality materials
- 3 Provide a variety of flexible outdoor spaces/opportunities for community gathering to extend the role of Langside Hall
- 4 De-clutter the space, re-organise utilities, traffic and security
  - 5 Manage trees and water better
- 6 Re-define the role of the place as a city/park gateway and the way it connects to its context
  - 7 Address the needs of bus travellers and cyclists.

### A new future for Shawlands! DRS/September 2014

To help inform your views on a new Civic Square, here's a few initial thoughts about design and context!

#### .....About Langside Hall

The Langside Hall Building, since its relocation early last century, has been used as social hub, a gathering place for a growing community.

Currently however the building is disconnected from its surroundings. It is hidden by trees. Its adjacent space acts as a taxi hub, rather than a place for the community.

The creation of a civic space therefore offers the chance to put the heart into the community, develop the potential of the hall and renew the identity of this important gateway.









- -The building sits in a pivot position between the park and its surrounding context;
- -The main façade of Langside Hall is located on an axis that corresponds to the historic desire lines of the area;
- -This axis also represents an important 'edge' between the natural environment of the Park and its built up context.
- -Because of this, the space surrounding Langside Hall has the potential to become the new gateway to the park;
- This "unifying" role, could generate a series of different "experiences" which together could create a welcoming, safe and pleasant sense of place. For example: formal and informal spaces, hard and soft landscapes; places for quiet reflection as well as a lively space hosting activity. It can also include flexible use areas for markets or informal play;
- The new space will cater for different users at different times of the day and in different seasons;
- -The existing trees can be re-configured to **increase the visibility of Langside Hall**. Important trees should be protected and can inform the pavement design of the new square;
- -The design should deliver better water management
- -The new place design will need to be informed by a deep understanding of the specific microclimate conditions;

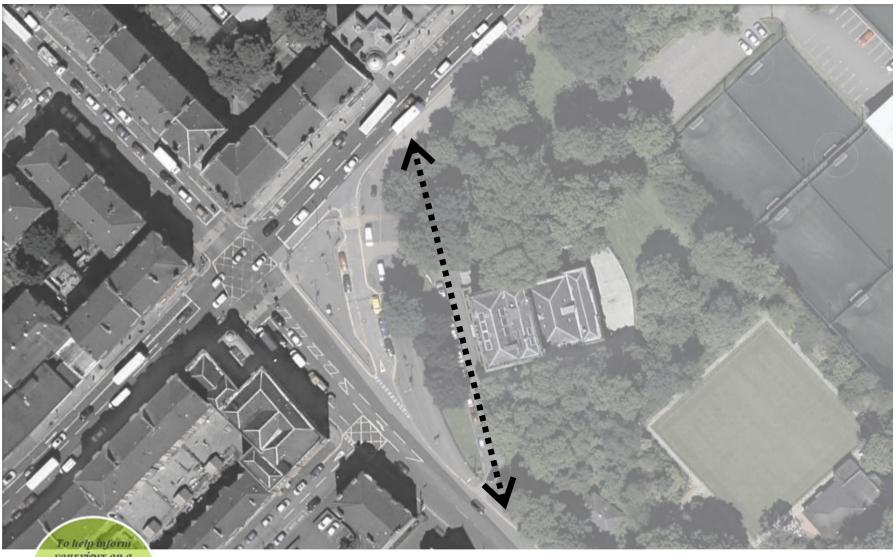
To help inform
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your views on a new Civic Square, here's a few initial thoughts about design and context!

The building sits in a pivot position between the park and its urban context



your views on a new Civic Square, here's a few initial thoughts about design and context!

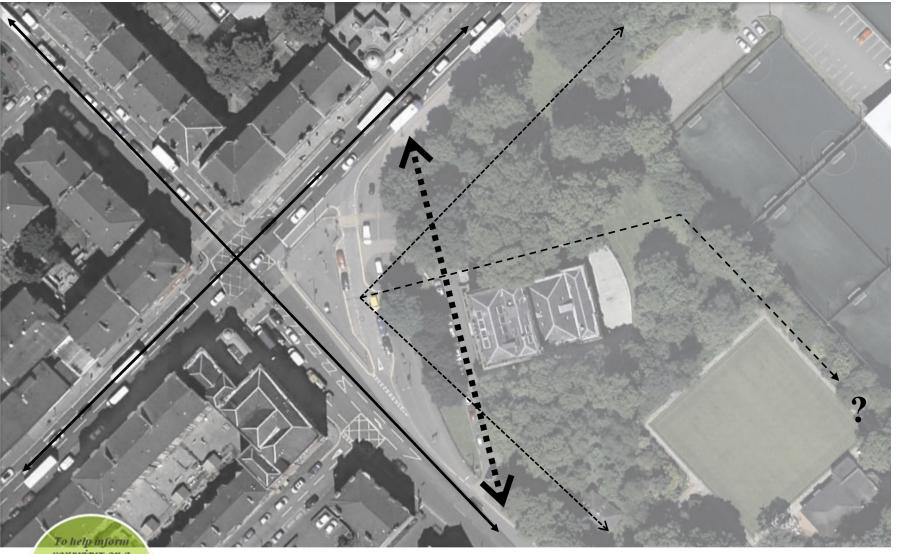
Its main façade is located on an axis corresponding to a potential major pedestrian desire route of historical relevance

A new future for Shawlands! DRS / September 2014 URBAN PARK To help inform

your views on a new Civic Square, here's a few initial thoughts about design and context!

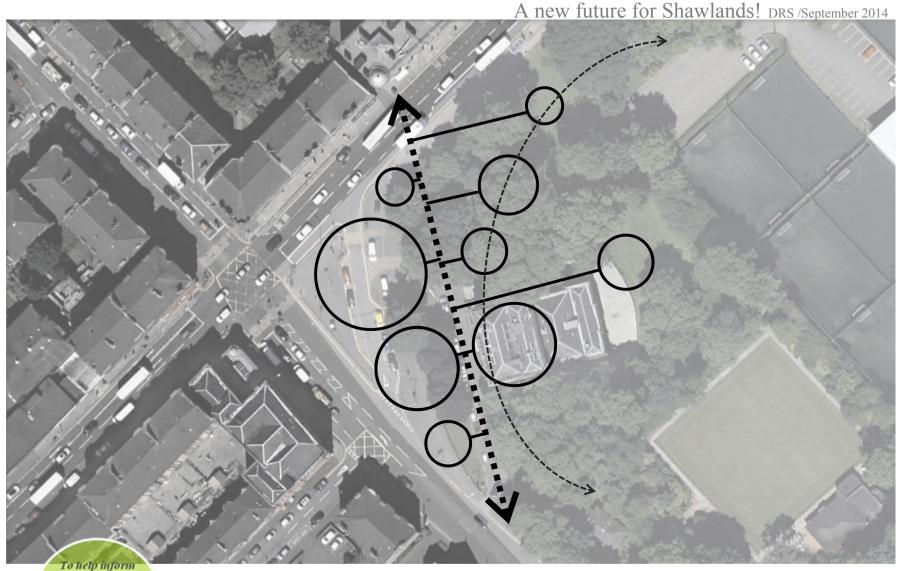
This axis also represents an "interface" between the natural environment of the Park and its urban context.

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your views on a new Civic Square, here's a few initial thoughts about design and context!

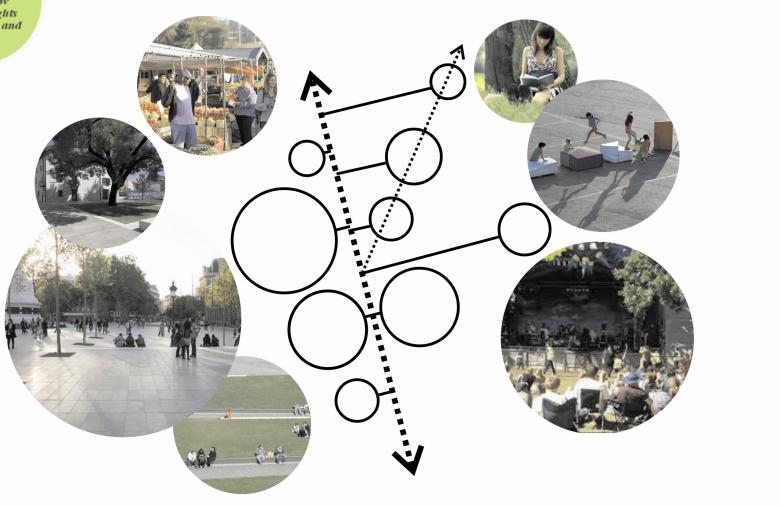
The space surrounding Langside Hall has the potential to become the new gateway to the park (as well to the city).



Acknowledging this "unifying" role, the axis will generate order to a series of diverse "experiences" that will form a welcoming, safe and pleasant sense of place.

your views on a new Civic Square, here's a few initial thoughts about design and context!





... For example formal and informal hard and soft landscapes; places for a more reflective experience and places for collective activities;

Quieter spaces and noisier places; Flexible areas for markets or informal play;

The new space will cater for different users at different times of the day and in different seasons;

To help inform your views on a new Civic Square, here's a few initial thoughts about design and context!



The existing trees will be re-configured to substantially increase the presence/visibility of the Langside Hall main façade.

Important specimens will be preserved becoming feature trees and informing the pavement design of the new square;



The existing trees will be re-configured to ensure Southsiders can actually see a vitally important historic building, (visibility of the Langside hall main façade). Important trees will be preserved as features of the new square;



The materials used will deliver better water management. The surface will require different qualities and permeability ranging from stone to grass (according to changes in levels and uses), and inform the organisation of the place;

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Last but not least, the organisation of the place will be informed by an overall understanding of the specific microclimate conditions;

INSPIRA TIONAL IMAGES

## **SEATSCAPEs**















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INSPIRA





## So what do you think? Questionnaire

Do you support the Council's propo	osal for a new Civic Square at Lan	gside Hall? • YES • NO	
Please describe your views and asp	irations for the square and tell us i	nore about your priorities	
How would the community like to i	use the space & what would you lik	se to call it?	
What kind of events would you idea and the town centre?	ally like the square to attract to hel	p support the regeneration of the park, ke	ey buildings
What should be the key priorities w	then designing the square?	u	The Council rge you to get
<ul> <li>O Safety</li> <li>O Accessibility</li> <li>O Inclusivity</li> <li>O Ambiance</li> <li>O Cycling and parking provision</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Facilities &amp; operations</li> <li>Furniture and materials</li> <li>Greenery &amp; Landscape</li> <li>Heritage</li> <li>Public Art</li> </ul>	<ul><li>O Traffic flow &amp; public transport</li><li>O Water feature</li><li>O Lighting</li><li>O Other</li><li>O</li></ul>	involved and share your ideas and

## A New Future for Shawlands

#### PLEASE TELL US YOUR VIEWS

David Dunlop 0141 287 6097 Shawlands@glasgow.gov.uk

write to

Shawlands Civic Square Design Consultation
Planning Neighbourhoods
DRS
Glasgow City Council
231 George St
Glasgow
G1 1QU

Or join us at Langside Hall on Wednesday 24th September or Saturday 4th October.