

## Baillieston Community Hub public engagement

### Community Destination

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The proposed new Baillieston Community Hub is one of the largest infrastructure projects to impact on the east of the city in recent years and highlights the city's ongoing commitment to the health and well-being of its citizens. It will ensure that the planned expansion in residential development within the Baillieston, Broomhouse, Carmyle Community Growth Area is complemented by investment in modern, accessible facilities that encourage residents and visitors alike to experience life-affirming activities in a safe, family-friendly environment.

Located within James Lindsay Memorial Park, the new £14.6 million hub aims to support and enhance the surrounding greenspace to create a rounded visitor attraction and base for community events.

- Lifelong learning will be encouraged through the delivery of relocated library services and adult learning programmes.
- Health and fitness will be encouraged through group exercise or individual sessions within a safe, non-judgemental environment.
- Spaces will be provided where community, social and cultural events can take place.

The aim of the new-build development is to create a focal point where people can meet, participate, learn and relax. This will be made possible by the construction of light and airy, modern facilities and the delivery of an extensive programme of cultural, educational, health and wellbeing activities throughout the year.

The identification of James Lindsay Memorial Park as the preferred location for the hub recognises the site's proximity to not only the existing retail focus in the area, along Main Street, Baillieston, but also to the large-scale new-build housing developments to the south of Baillieston's High Street.

The topography of the park slopes down from a high point at Bredisholm Road to its low point

adjacent to the Glasgow-Edinburgh Road, so the availability of flat land coupled with the proximity of newly developed housing means the optimum location for the hub building will be in the northern half of the site.

A key focus for the design of the new hub will be to maximise accessible connectivity between the hub and neighbouring residential communities, particularly for non-vehicular forms of transport.

### The Building

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Visitors and building users will enter the hub at ground floor level via a draught lobby into a foyer zone that shall be referred to as 'The Street'. The Street will be the heart of the hub and the space where visitors can mingle, relax, and from where they are easily able to form a mental map of the publicly useable spaces. It will be inviting and welcoming and provide a clear visual connection to most the hubs services and activity spaces.

The Street will contain a centrally located user information and service point, with a clear line of sight from the entrance lobby so that visitors recognise where to obtain assistance should they need it. Another core part of The Street will be a social space with a café-style feel (tables and chairs and soft seating), serviced by vending dispensed food and beverage. The social space will provide an opportunity for users and non-users alike to meet, have a coffee, chat, and generally relax in a quality indoor environment.

There will be four main areas for public use on the ground floor of the building; (i) a library, (ii) a multi-purpose hall serviced by its own bookable kitchen, (iii) a bookable meeting room, and (iv) a social space with café-style seating.

- The library shall be located on the ground floor of the building to ensure ease of access for people of all ages and family groups. The library will be the first main activity space that visitors will

both view and access from the Street and the social space should transition into the library as seamlessly as possible.

- A multi-purpose hall will support a range of arts, community, children's play, and sports activities. A community bookable kitchen will be located adjacent to, and accessible from the hall, and used for the preparation of food and drink if the hall is being used for a private function.
- A community bookable meeting room will be available for smaller scale gatherings, meetings, and club activities, as well as supporting Glasgow Life adult learning/ educational activities.

The upper floor will house all Glasgow Club health and fitness facilities comprising open plan gym and studio-based provision. Access from the ground floor will be managed via controlled entry points. Careful consideration of a range of factors will be required to achieve an optimum positioning of each activity zone on the upper floor. These factors include, but are not limited to, intensity of activity, solar gain, noise pollution, aspect, and external views. The Design Team shall ensure that any Glasgow Club spaces that produce significant noise/vibration impact are, as far as possible, not located above areas of the ground floor that require a quieter atmosphere.

## The External Environment

The proposed location of the hub within James Lindsay Memorial Park provides an opportunity to increase the green space's appeal as a visitor destination. The existing parkland is relatively devoid of attraction or interest, so one of the key challenges for the hub project will be developing an external environment that will provide cohesive, attractive, robust amenity space that will draw the local community into the park and encourage individuals and families to spend quality time, enjoying play, exercise, and informal recreation.

The prime facilities to be provided within the site area are as follows:

- a civic, multi-use space with seating including provision for a potential outdoor 'coffee-cart'-style provision
- a netball-sized Multi-Use Games Court

- children's play area (funding to be confirmed)
- an outdoor gym

Vehicle entry and egress will be accessed from the Glasgow and Edinburgh Road to the north of the site. All vehicular parking and servicing shall be in this northern portion of the site.

A network of low maintenance pedestrian pathways will enhance access to, and useability of, the open space that surrounds the new hub. This includes the provision of connections to and from adjacent housing developments, and the creation of east-west connections beyond the primary site area into the naturalised open space to the east of the mature tree line. Subject to funding, there is an opportunity to develop this area into a nature walk focusing on nature and animal habitats.

## What do you think?

The images on display will be available to view from 18 December until 31 January 2024. Glasgow Life and Glasgow City Council staff will be on hand to answer any queries you may have on the following dates / times:

- **Thursday 21 December 2023 11am-7pm**
- **Thursday 18 January 2024 4pm-7pm**
- **Saturday 20 January 2024 10am-2pm**

Glasgow Life would welcome any comments you may have on the Hub proposals, either here in person at Baillieston Library using one of the "Comment Cards" which you can leave in the "Comments Box" provided, or online where all of the plans displayed here can be viewed accompanied by a link to digital feedback.



For further details, please visit [glasgowlife.org.uk](https://glasgowlife.org.uk), or scan the QR code to leave your comment.

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