

# News

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## Aberdeen's Marischal Square plans revealed

The new shape of one of the key locations in Aberdeen city centre has been revealed ahead of plans for the new £107 million Marischal Square development being lodged with Aberdeen City Council later this month.

Urban regeneration and property specialist Muse Developments will be submitting a full planning application for the project which will transform the former St. Nicholas House site and include a greater prominence for the 469-year-old Provost Skene's House.

With demolition work continuing on site, Muse and Aberdeen City Council have also reacted positively to the comments made by the 2,500 people who participated in the two rounds of consultation exhibitions in the city during October, November and December last year by reviewing the site plan for the development in terms of the mix of commercial and civic space.

Marischal Square, which is fully funded by Aviva Investors, will deliver a vibrant new mixed-use quarter for the city and include offices with associated car parking, hotel, retail, cafes, restaurants and civic space, along with public access, landscaping and public realm improvements around a site once dominated by the former council headquarters building St. Nicholas House.

The site is due to be handed over to Muse later this year ahead of the scheme being completed in 2017.

The plans for Marischal Square include:

- 175,000 sq ft of offices with 250 associated car spaces
- 125 bed four-star hotel
- 14,500 sq ft of civic space in front of Provost Skene's House
- 42,900 sq ft of civic space on Broad Street between Marischal College and the Marischal Square site (one and a half times the size of Castlegate)
- Full pedestrianisation of this section of Broad Street
- A mixture of granite and glass in the elevations

Councillor Marie Boulton, deputy leader of Aberdeen City Council said: "The response by the public to Muse's consultation has been fantastic. The proposals have generated a huge amount of interest and I am sure that interest will continue as the final proposals are laid out."

Muse's regional director for Scotland, Steve Turner, commented: "The Marischal Square proposal fulfils the vision of the city's Bon Accord Masterplan by providing a new civic square for Aberdeen, creating a fitting setting for Marischal College as well as delivering a vibrant new mixed-use development in keeping with Aberdeen's justifiable position as one of the UK's leading business destinations."