

# THE CIVIC QUARTER'S NEW IDENTITY

## THE PUBLIC REALM AND EVENTS ON ALBERT SQUARE//

Part of the 'Our Town Hall Project'

16

### PROJECT COORDINATORS//

Laura Haigh *Atelier USE*

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We are interested in urban spatial experimentation, which we work on in our atelier projects, pushing the boundaries of architecture and testing out new concepts.

### AGENDA//

Working closely with our collaborators on the Our Town Hall project, we aim to create better connections between Manchester's public spaces within the Civic Quarter. Currently, the squares are disjointed and lack continuity. Albert Square itself is very successful as a public space, holding events such as the Christmas Markets every year. We will try to refine the link between various squares within the city by emphasising journey, route and identity between the public spaces. This will help to define Manchester Civic Quarter as a zone within the city. We will work within the town hall and in Albert Square, alongside other groups who are also working on the Our Town Hall project. Potential solutions to improve the spaces could be coherent installations within all the squares, continuity of materials within the different spaces such as the paving, or branding ideas such as signage and colour schemes. These would all help to create a specific identity for the Civic Quarter, just like the Northern Quarter and Spinningfields have.

### COLLABORATORS//

Planit-IE *Landscape architects*

<https://www.planit-ie.com/>

*Currently working on landscaping for Gary Neville's St Michaels skyscraper scheme.*

Purcell *Architects*

<https://www.purcelluk.com>

*Heritage architects who are currently working on the town hall itself.*

Manchester Town Hall *Client*

<http://www.manchester.gov.uk/townhall/>

We will work alongside the collaborators in the town hall. They will provide you with key information and guidance from their research into Albert Square and the project to help you generate ideas. This is a good opportunity to meet with architects and landscape architects and see how the Our Town Hall project is going.

### PRODUCTION//

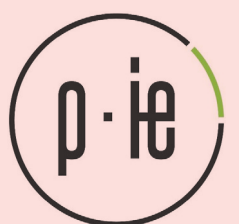
The work you produce will be exhibited by the town hall alongside other groups working on the Our Town Hall project. This may include your concept sketches, diagrams and models along with the final design proposal.

### CRAFT//

Research into Albert Square and other squares around Manchester will be undertaken through a walking tour of the sites. Sketching is encouraged. You will produce diagrams and sketches of concept ideas. We will then choose the best concept through review with the collaborators and take this forward as a final design. We have access to a workshop space in the city which could be used to create a mock up of your concept in model form. Key skills you will develop during this event are **sketching, diagramming and networking** with architects.

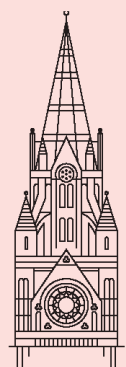
In collaboration with:

 PURCELL



MANCHESTER  
CITY COUNCIL

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OF ARCHITECTURE



OUR  
TOWN  
HALL  
PROJECT

