

Govan Police Station conversion



Clockwise from above:
Orkney street elevation; main entrance; office cells; new link staircase; mezzanine in former burgh hall; awards ceremony

Project: **Conversion of Govan Police station to community offices**
Client: **Glasgow South West Regeneration Agency**
Contract value: **£3.2million**
Complete: **June 2009**

The conversion sees the former Burgh Hall and police cells adapted for open plan and 'incubator' community offices, with new vertical circulation and secure parking. The previously painted and 'blackened' stone facade has been restored, with the north wing having its facade rebuilt and a new floor added. Various later uncomplimentary additions to the grade B listed John Burnett designed original have been removed and new curtain walled stair/lift towers inserted, providing visual clarity to the two separate building types.

An original spiral staircase, remembered by many who 'visited' the premises, has been relocated as a feature in the new stairwell. New lifts and ramps provide increased accessibility, and the fabric has been restored under grant from many sources including Historic Scotland.

A booklet with the history of the building and its place in Govan's history is due for launch for the opening early next year, and one of the original cells has been retained as a 'museum' piece.

Iain MacLaren, conservation accredited architect and partner, lead the design team on what was an interesting journey from the original ambitious 'blue sky' proposals for the site to the restoration of the fabric with new circulation, secure car parking, mezzanine floors and additional accommodation in a sensitively styled extension.

The design team, lead by Wylie Shanks Architects, were awarded the client's Business Excellence Award for partnership working in December 2008.

