



Newport Civic Centre

WATERPROOFING: Derbigum Olivine

PROJECT SIZE: 1,000m²

PROJECT LOCATION: Newport

Your Complete Roofing Solution

Environmentally Focussed | Responsibly Sourced | Ethically Driven



**ALUMASC
ROOFING**

Newport Civic Centre

Project Overview

Newport Civic Centre stands as one of the most recognisable landmarks in South Wales. A Grade II Listed Art Deco building, it accommodates Newport City Council's main offices, the Crown Court and the Mayor's office, placing it firmly at the centre of public life in the city.

Designed by architect Thomas Cecil Howitt, its construction began in 1937, with wartime disruption delaying completion until 1964, when the iconic clock tower was finally erected.

The building is one of architectural significance that demands careful stewardship, so when persistent roof failures started to threaten the building's integrity, a comprehensive refurbishment became essential.

Client Brief

The existing roofing system had reached the end of its service life and was allowing water ingress. This posed a significant risk, not only to the roof build-up itself, but to the wider historic fabric of the building.

Due to the Centre's Grade II listed status, the replacement system had to be sympathetic to the original roof and respectful of the building's heritage, whilst also delivering modern standards of performance.

Beyond the waterproofing, associated components on the roof had also deteriorated. All access steps required replacement, and gutters, downpipes and hoppers also needed upgrading as part of the overall water management strategy. A single-source solution was a key requirement of the brief, in order to streamline availability, delivery and product compatibility across all elements.

Crucially, the Civic Centre was to remain open and operational throughout the works, making safety and site logistics paramount.

Solution

Alumasc supplied a complete package of waterproofing, rainwater management and ancillary products, simplifying specification and ensuring technical continuity across the entire roof refurbishment.

A thorough inspection of the existing roof was undertaken, including core sampling, which revealed widespread saturation within the system. Original roof terminations and detailing had been poorly executed, and numerous liquid patch repairs were visible across the roofscape.

Given the extent of deterioration, the roof was stripped back to the existing deck to allow a full replacement build-up.

Approximately 1000m² of Derbigum Olivine from Alumasc Roofing was installed by registered contractor, Central Group Roofing & Building Solutions, with a contrasting colour cap sheet to clearly highlight designated walkways.

Derbigum Olivine is a premium reinforced APP polymer-modified bituminous waterproofing membrane system that includes underlays, insulation boards, and air and



upon contact, converting it to silicon dioxide (sand) and magnesium carbonate, both of which are harmless to the environment. Every 1m² of Derbigum Olivine neutralises approximately 1.75kg of CO₂ during its lifetime.

Derbigum has a proven track record dating back to 1967, is BBA certified, and achieves a fire classification of BROOF(t4) in accordance with BS EN 13501-5.

To improve drainage performance, tapered insulation was installed to create positive falls across the roof, and new penetrations were formed through the parapet to allow rainwater to discharge externally.

To complete the roofing package, Alumasc supplied cast aluminium gutters, downpipes and hoppers, Roof-Pro access steps and guardrails, and Alumasc rooflights, providing a cohesive and fully integrated roof access and water management solution.

The system was supplied with a 35-year warranty, providing long-term assurance for the client.

Unrivalled Teamwork

Delivering a project of this complexity on a public building required close collaboration at every stage. Alumasc worked in partnership with Central Group Roofing & Building Solutions, drawing on an established relationship and shared understanding of products and best practice.

With the Centre remaining fully operational, transport, access and logistics had to be carefully coordinated to minimise disruption and maintain a safe environment for building users.

This strong partnership proved instrumental in navigating the challenges of the scheme; through detailed planning, clear communication and cooperative working, the teams delivered a robust, future-proof roofing solution worthy of Newport's most important civic building.