



British Land:  
**Drake Circus  
Shopping Mall**

  
**ian williams**  
Looking after Buildings

# Project:

## Drake Circus Shopping Mall



**Task:**  
Internal Decorations

**Products used:**  
AkzoNobel selection of vinyl matts and acrylic satin finishes

**Client:**  
British Land

Drake Circus is a large shopping centre based in the heart of Plymouth and is owned by British Land. The shopping centre houses over 70 shops and has 1,270 car parking spaces making it one of the most popular and busiest shopping centres in the West Country.

### The Project

Ian Williams carried out internal redecorations to the high ceilings within the shopping centre.

We provided a consistent, directly employed painting and decorating team throughout the project. Each member of the team received a bespoke site induction which included training on the Centre's policies and procedures such

as security. To allow the Centre to remain fully operational during the daytime, our operatives worked night shifts to complete the works. We undertook collaborative planning and programming alongside the centre management to fit works around the Centre's store which included planning materials around store deliveries.

Specialist access equipment was required to gain access to the high level areas. There are only a handful of machines capable of such works as they needed to be small enough to fit through the Centre's entrance ways. Before the end of each shift we had to ensure the working areas were clear and the powered access was stowed away and charging ready for the next shift.

A key consideration was the large curved wall area where we had to ensure that throughout our redecoration works, we maintained a 'wet edge' to result in the finished wall looking uniform. We enlisted support from the AkzoNobel technical team to ensure we were all in agreement with the proposed spec and finish required. A combination of vinyl matts and acrylic satin finishes were used.





## The Challenges

When completing the large curved wall area, due to the center having 'pop-up' stalls in the communal areas including fresh produce, we were limited to the use of an electrical mobile elevating platform, so had to ensure it was fully charged and be methodical in our approach so we never had a flat battery before the shift was completed!

Daily quality checks post works were carried out by our on-site Foremen to ensure no paint splashes were left on shops before opening the next day. This was supported by AkzoNobel audits to make certain we met all specification requirements.





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