

# FOREGATE STREET CHESTER

Clifford Devlin's Building & Special Works Division, which specialises in white-label retail unit refurbishment, was commissioned to upgrade redundant premises in Chester's Town Centre.

The works were part of a 4-month scheme, project-managed by Colliers International, to convert a former Curry's Digital store in Foregate Street into a 9,000 sq ft "Little Waitrose" convenience store.

The 16-week multi-disciplined project included strip-out back to shell, vertical extension and external repairs and redecoration ready for fit out. The soft-strip included demolition of the internal dividing block wall, removal of the suspended ceiling, redundant services, fixtures, fittings and floor/wall furnishings.

Stone ballast in the roof area and the existing roof plant were removed prior to the construction of a new base for roof plant, extension of the first floor amenity area, installation of new roof plant and relocation of existing electrical installations to facilitate the new lift enclosure.

Additional care was taken to preserve several heritage features of the Grade-II listed building which dated back to the 17th Century.

The listed front elevation was surveyed to identify the specific nature of the repairs required. Once the extent of work was known a scaffold was erected to enclose the entire area.

Our team then set about making good various areas of deterioration and damage, prior to applying a high quality painted finish that will preserve the features for many years to come.

The Waitrose store opened in October 2011. The Supermarket has claimed it will create 70 new jobs in the area.

**Discipline:** Building  
**Duration:** 16 weeks  
**Completed:** Oct 2011  
**Value:** £360k  
**Client:** Colliers International

It is always sad to see vacant retail units. However was is a great opportunity to revitalise a vacant unit whilst delivering secure employment and making a positive, long-term contribution in encouraging footfall to other businesses in the area.

Jon Arnold, Head of Convenience, Waitrose

