

# You can do it with building control



A runner-up in the Best Structural Project category of the LABC National Built in Quality Awards, the new B&Q store in Derby is a testament to the excellent working relationship established by the design team

**T**he new B&Q store in Derby was constructed by Bowmer and Kirkland under the LABC Partnership Authority Scheme – plan checking was carried out by North Hertfordshire Council Building Control while site inspections were completed by Derby Building Consultancy. This was an unusually large and complex project to undertake via this scheme, and required clear and regular communication between all parties. This was done effectively and it is down to the professionalism of all parties that a successful project was completed on time and within budget.

The building itself consists of a simple steel frame structure. To the exterior, elevations are made up of concrete block walls with cavities, curtain walls, glass panels, automatic doors and roller shutter doors. The roof consists of cladding panels, two access hatches and a man safe system. Inside the building there are office and toilet areas to the front and

rear of the building while a specialist concrete floor was laid inside to standard B&Q specification.

To the rear of the building a concrete floor slab was laid to the service yard with light columns and a security fence. To the front elevation a tarmac car park, comprising the regular B&Q layout, included lighting columns, drainage, kerbs, bollards, cycle racks, trolley bays and wooden fencing, as well as new trees and landscaped areas.

Meanwhile, an unloading bay extension for the nearby Sainsbury's store was carried out during the B&Q construction phase. This consisted of a steel frame, cladding, concrete floor, three dock levellers, as well as lighting and roller shutter doors. John Hall, Building Control Surveyor, Derby City Building Consultancy, said: "The smooth build process of this project is down to the design team working as a team and in particular, to the helpfulness and professionalism of Bowmer and Kirkland's Project Manager, Francis Cawley. His

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knowledge, expertise and commitment in obtaining all the necessary information made this project a pleasure to work on. Many challenges were overcome effectively, including the late addition of Sainsbury's loading bay to the project, allowing works to be carried out under occupation before full approval."

Francis Cawley said: "I would like to thank John Hall for his knowledge and helpful approach whilst working on this project. Recently this project won Bowmer and Kirkland's Health & Safety