

# CASE STUDY

# THE COURTHOUSE SW1 APARTMENT DEVELOPMENT

**DEVELOPER:** BARRATT LONDON

**INSTALLER:** SZERELMEY

## SPECIFICATION

Occupying the former site of the City of Westminster Magistrates' Court, The Courthouse SW1 is a remarkable collection of 129 prestigious apartments. Developed by Barratt London, the building design is a modern take on Edwardian splendour; a fusion of Portuguese limestone, Brazilian granite and bronzed aluminium, carefully crafted to both contrast and complement its surroundings.

As a nine storey development constructed with the utmost attention to detail, Barratt London strived to set a new benchmark for quality by demanding the highest levels of finish and performance.

With the Portuguese limestone exterior constructed as an external façade, Barratt's exacting standards therefore also required a superior approach to fire protection – leading to the specification of the AIM Ventilated Rainscreen Barrier.



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## INSTALLATION

The AIM Ventilated Rainscreen Barrier is a mineral wool and intumescent based solution for rainscreen systems which provides an effective cavity fire barrier whilst allowing ventilation and drainage of the cavity under service conditions. As an intumescent faced barrier, the VRB range will expand when exposed to fire conditions, closing the ventilation cavity to prevent the passage of fire.

At The Courthouse, the cavity was insulated and utilised AIM fire barriers on both vertical and horizontal elevations.

Supplied by SIG Insulation, Barking and installed by stone masonry specialists, Szerelmey Ltd, AIM provided extensive technical support which included the delivery of a fire barrier CPD presentation to the senior project team at Szerelmey – enabling them to effectively coordinate an efficient installation and ensure the very best quality standards.

Moreover, regular inspections and rigorous assessments by the NHBC verified that the AIM Ventilated Rainscreen Barrier was installed in accordance with extremely stringent standards.

## EVALUATION

John Guest, Senior Project Manager for Szerelmey Ltd, discusses his experience of working with AIM and using the AIM Ventilated Rainscreen Barrier on-site: “Effective fire protection on an external façade, particularly on a high rise residential development – is critical. We recognise that getting the installation spot-on is crucial to ensuring this protection and products which come backed by extensive test data and robust installation procedures ultimately help reduce the risk of human error on-site.

“For The Courthouse project, we were particularly impressed by the responsiveness of the AIM technical team. They not only identified the right ventilated rainscreen barrier specification for our requirements, but also worked with us to design an efficient installation process which fitted the unique site conditions.

“As standard the AIM VRB Lite comes with additional pig tail screws, which immediately made it easier for the installation teams to place the product speedily and accurately into position. Easy to cut, easy to install and easy to work with – overall the AIM specification made everyone’s lives a lot easier on this flagship project.”

### AIM LIMITED

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