

## **TEMPORARY SUPPORT STEELWORK FOR HIGH LEVEL WORK PLATFORM**



This project was designed with a stone parapet around the perimeter of the roof which would normally necessitate a full height scaffold from ground level (approximately 23m high)

Not only would this have caused severe programming difficulties but from a safety point of view it would have meant that personnel were exposed to working at height for prolonged periods of time (in both erecting and striking the scaffold).

Temporary cantilever steel brackets were therefore designed at roof level capable of taking the loadings for the stonework and the scaffolding. The brackets were installed on the main columns with a modular frame spanning between the brackets. The frame carries the scaffold boards with sleeve sockets along the two long edges. These located uprights for the handrailing.

The fittings were attached to the handrail uprights at ground level, taken up in a scissor lift and simply dropped into the sockets. This allowed the handrail to be fastened immediately.

The following points summarise the other main safety, quality, time, cost and resource levelling benefits associated with this initiative:

- the disruption typically caused to other trades which would have been affected by the footprint of a full height scaffold such as groundworks, glazing and perimeter blockwork was effectively removed.
- the temptation for operatives to make unauthorised modifications of a full height scaffold because it clashed with their work was essentially eliminated.
- the guardrails could be installed far quicker allowing stonework to progress.
- by reducing the amount of time needed to work at height, the potential for a significant amount of down time associated with windy or wet weather conditions was also minimised.
- Apart from the cost savings associated with time and disruption there were major savings in the amount of tube and fittings that were not required for a full height scaffold.
- At the end of its useful period the support steelwork can be unbolted and re-used.