Discover what’s beneath.

The CDS Green Agenda
“Climate change and the associated environmental impact on our planet are becoming increasingly recognised as the challenge we all need to address – collectively.”

The CDS group are totally committed to doing their part in combatting global warming. Our CDS Green Agenda is best demonstrated by our drive to reduce the carbon footprint of all our developments, aiming to deliver carbon neutral developments where possible.

From cemeteries and crematoria, to parks and recreational spaces, CDS aims to maximise sustainability and, wherever possible, achieve a net gain to biodiversity. CDS are proud that all our designs go above and beyond the requirements of Local and National Planning Policies for environmental sustainability and carbon neutrality.
By promoting a positive Green Agenda, CDS can help Local Authorities to achieve their targets and, in certain circumstances, provide Local Authorities with income generation which ultimately leads to a self-funded scheme.
1. Increase pollution absorption and biodiversity through native and wildlife attracting planting.

2. Electric Cremators produce significantly less air pollution, and, if coupled with renewable energy resources, provide a CO₂ neutral cremation.

3. Cemfree cement reduces embodied CO₂ emissions by 88%.

4. Incorporating recycled plastic into roads, making them more flexible and durable.

5. Emissions are reduced by the use of electric hearses.

6. Energy Efficient Buildings reduce energy consumption. Heat exchanger used to reuse heat from cremator to heat the building.


8. Providing Electric Vehicle Charging Points for electric and hybrid vehicle users.

9. Sustainable Urban Drainage (SuDS) used to enhance biodiversity.
Reducing the carbon footprint

Electric cremators
Electric cremators have been designed to reduce the environmental impact of cremations on the environment and provide a green alternative to traditional gas cremators. Electric cremators produce significantly less air pollution products and, if coupled with renewable energy resources, provide a CO2 neutral cremation. Heat exchangers installed with the machines can also provide a sustainable heating system for buildings further reducing the carbon impact of the development by removing the need for traditional heating systems.

Plastic roads
Plastic roads have been growing in popularity in recent years with many Local Authorities adopting the system on their framework agreements. These replace a significant proportion of the bitumen (a derivative from crude oil) in tarmac with pellets made from recycled plastics. The final product has even proven to be more durable and flexible than traditional bitumen bound roads. Incorporating plastic roads into developments helps to cut down carbon emissions, fossil fuel usage and reduces the volume of waste plastic in the environment. One tonne of plastic road contains the equivalent of 80,000 plastic bottles.

Low carbon cement
Concrete is a wondrous construction material that is used all around us in ways that we don’t even envisage. However, the environmental impact of cement in traditional concrete is significant, as it is the world’s third highest source of manmade CO2. New modern materials such as Cemfree concrete significantly reduces the embodied CO2 compared to a conventional mix by 88%. By utilising innovative new products, the carbon footprint associated with traditional concrete can be significantly reduced.

Composite furniture
Bins, benches, bollards, planters and signs that consist of 100% recycled plastic are innovative solutions for what would have been considered waste material destined for landfill. Recycled plastic furniture is environmentally friendly, sustainable, hard wearing and requires little ongoing maintenance.

Outdoor play equipment
As with recycled furniture, manufacturers of play equipment are now producing a wide range of equipment constructed from 100% recycled plastic which is also long lasting, sustainable and requires minimal ongoing maintenance.
Electric vehicle charging points
Vehicle emissions in the UK contribute 26% of the greenhouse gases emitted. With a push to reducing pollution emissions from traditional vehicles, electric cars are becoming increasingly popular and this popularity is only set to rise considerably in the coming decades. Designs of new sites take this shift in market demand and look to include infrastructure such as fast electric charging points.

Electric hearses
Combined with Electric Cremators and Electric Vehicle Charging Point infrastructure, the provision of electric hearses provides a fully sustainable and environmentally friendly service. If clean renewable energy is generated on site, through solar panels or wind turbines, then the green credentials can be enhanced further.

Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)
SuDS designs are required on all developed sites. The concept behind the design of SuDS systems is to reduce surface water flooding, improve water quality and enhance the amenity and biodiversity value of the development. This is achieved by mimicking natural drainage regimes which exist in the environment and can lead to the development of a range of ecological environments which can improve and enhance biodiversity whilst providing an opportunity to design a landscaping feature on the site.

Electric maintenance machinery
Alongside the use of electric cremators, vehicles and hearses, the provision of fully electrical landscaping machinery further removes the use of fossil fuels and their associated emissions. If clean renewable energy is generated on site, through solar panels or wind turbines, then the green credentials can be enhanced further.

Specialist waste management schemes
Effectively managed on site to ensure that waste materials are sorted appropriately so they can be recycled and reused in the most environmentally efficient way.

Pioneering technical capability underpinned with exceptional customer service
New innovative products are constantly coming to the market which use recycled materials without impact on the performance requirements.

**Energy efficient buildings**
The construction of a building which is as efficient as possible can incorporate: Triple-glazed windows, LED lighting and A-Rated Appliances. It is also possible to heat a crematorium building using the excess heat from a cremator along with other infrastructure such as greenhouses and maintenance buildings.

**Headstones**
Imported granite headstones are typically manufactured from granite quarries in Asia and carry a huge carbon footprint along with ethical issues associated with the treatment and age of workers used in the quarries. Headstones made from British stone are far more environmentally friendly than imported granite headstones. Is it time to start a revolution and change or ways back to traditional stone rather than the black and grey monolithic marble/granite with dominates modern cemeteries.

**Green burial sites**
Green burial sites allow grave plots to return to nature as the coffin is biodegradable and are placed without a concrete burial vault. Rather than the use of expensive, heavily imported material such as granite, wooden plaques are used to mark burial plots for memorialisation.

**Recycled plastic drainage**
The installation of below ground drainage systems such as storm crates, chambers and pipes currently involves the use of virgin plastic. However, new innovative products are constantly coming to the market which use recycled materials without impact on the performance of the system. The use of recycled plastics reduces the demand of the production of new plastic, whilst ensuring old plastic can be recycled and repurposed.
**Testimonials**

“We commissioned CDS to carry out groundwater risk assessments at our three large cemeteries and in addition to undertake a feasibility study of an area we wish to convert to burial land. We were grateful for their prompt visit to the sites to provide a quotation, their staff are very knowledgeable and helpful. The works were carried out professionally and in good time and the reports are very useful in the day to day running of the service.”

KELVIN TAYLOR
Bereavement Services Manager, Enable LC

“We have been very impressed by the level of customer service provided, the consistent high quality and timelines of service provided in respect of technical and non-technical issues. Furthermore, in my experience, they have always ‘gone the extra mile’ and offered a value added professional approach on every project they have been instructed on. I would not hesitate in recommending the professional services provided by CDS Ltd to other local authorities. The service provided is excellent.”

K MARTYN FENWICK BSc MRICS EHDC

“Entering into a project to develop a new cemetery is rather complicated and a very daunting process. CDS have made the journey to date so easy and taken the pressure off the Town Council by undertaking the technical work that the Council will be presenting to the EA. CDS’s initial assessment has set us off with confidence and we look forward to working with them throughout the project. Knowing that the company will support us until the Cemetery is completed is very comforting.”

STEVEN TRICE
Town Clerk, Heywards Heath Town Council

“CDS developed a discreet, cost effective solution to our ground water difficulties and stopped a significant problem becoming a major issue. The solution has coped faultlessly since installed even throughout the recent periods of excessive rainfall.”

KEVIN PILKINGTON
Head of Bereavement Services, Croydon

“I have and will continue to work with CDS with great pleasure. CDS have a great understanding of what is required in any given task and have transferred basic thoughts and ideas into reality. The team are professional, constructive, clear and above all very nice to work with… I would be happy to recommend CDS for any aspect of work they feel suited to take on.”

S HOLLOWAY
Islington & Camden Cemetery Services

**Our Team**

**JUSTIN SMITH**
Chairman

Justin HND (Dip) (Eng) is a qualified agronomist and has 30 years’ experience in plant soil and water management. Justin has developed a number of patented soil management technologies used internationally by the sports and agricultural sector. Justin has been in the cemetery development industry for the past 15 years specialising in ground water protection and planning.

**BECKY BALLINGER**
Director

Becky has been working with CDS for five years and is responsible for compiling the multiple elements of the planning package and ensuring the client is always informed of every stage of cemetery and crematorium developments.

**DARRYL KELLY**
Technical Director

Darryl, MGeol, FGS, is a qualified Geologist with over 11 years’ experience in the Site Investigation industry. He recently joined CDS as Technical Director and aims to bring his experience with regards to Site Investigation, Groundwater Monitoring and Modelling to expand, enhance and develop the services that CDS offers its clients.

**ALEX VICKERS**
Soil Engineer

Alex, BSc (Hons) Soil Science, MPhil, MI Soil Sci, is a professional Soil Scientist with specialism in soil water management and drainage. He has over 25 years’ experience in applied soil management and has worked extensively in both the UK, Europe and Africa. He undertakes cemetery risk assessments as well as drainage investigation, design and management.

**PAUL CARWILL**
CAD Designer

Paul, Dip Des DIT, is experienced in producing 2D and 3D AutoCAD drawings for reports within various disciplines of the company. He works closely with the landscape and drainage engineering and other teams to produce master plans to form the drawings required for planning, burial plot layouts and drainage management schemes.

**ANTHONY MILNE**
Senior Technician

Anthony has over 30 years experience in the architectural sector and has worked extensively in a variety of sectors including existing and new build housing, retail, commercial and ecclesiastical, as well as in aviation and education. Having spent nearly 5 years as a contractor with his own limited company, he joined EHW in January 2018 as a senior architectural technician. Over the years, Anthony’s role has traditionally been in producing construction information for larger projects, but has also run smaller individual projects in their entirety from conception to completion.

**RICHARD GLEN**
Landscape Architect

Richard, a Chartered Landscape Architect, joined CDS after running his own Landscape Architecture practice for over 15 years, specialising in the design and assessment of a wide range of projects focusing on waterways and open spaces. Richard brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in landscape design and planting, and his creative design skills bring proposed landscape schemes to life.

**MARCELA WRAY**
Office Manager

Marcela joined us as Office Manager at the beginning of 2019 and is responsible for the day to day running of the office, arranging client meetings and looking after financial admin.

**Our clients**

- Bristol City Council
- Charnwood
- Dover District Council
- Powys
- Coventry City Council
- Derby City Council
- Hitchin Borough Council
- London Borough of Hounslow
- Croydon
- Camden
- southern coop
- Powys
- University of Bedfordshire
- Blackpool Council
- New Forest
- Leeds
- Bedford
- Blackpool Council
- Barnsley Council
- Battersea Council