



We are pleased to bring you the Cremation Society's first news review of 2025, which we hope will help you to stay abreast of news and developments from across the cremation sector. Looking ahead, registration for CBCE, the joint conference held with our colleagues from the FBCA, will be opening shortly. To keep updated please visit the [CBCE website](#) and follow [CBCE on twitter](#). You can now also find The Cremation Society on [BlueSky](#).

News in this issue includes updates on:

- Derby City Council planning new multi-million pound crematorium
- Inside 'exceptional' new Bishopbriggs crematorium
- Waltham Forest's proposed Chingford crematorium
- Planned Leicestershire Hindu and Sikh crematorium
- East Riding crematorium's major improvement project
- New crematorium in Glenrothes has been approved



**Derby City Council** is in the very early stages of planning to build a new multi-million pound crematorium. The city council has listed “new crematorium” in a new report about the £239 million capital programme for the next three years. The council is looking to set aside £11 million to deliver it as part of its medium-term budget proposals but the authority states “the estimated cost for constructing the new crematorium is still under review”. Derby only has one crematorium and there has been previous concern the city council has been losing out on income due to families choosing newer and bigger locations elsewhere to hold services. Plans for a new crematorium have been discussed years previously due to the “ageing” Markeaton Lane site – but they have never got off the ground. However, there now appears to be a fresh commitment from the city council to deliver a new site. The council says the new crematorium will replace the existing one on Markeaton Lane and would not serve as an additional facility. It would be built at or very near the existing site. A Derby City Council spokesperson said: “The estimated cost for constructing the new crematorium is still under review. As indicated in the Mid-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) proposals, £11 million has been included in the capital programme to deliver this. The land adjacent to the current crematorium is currently being considered for the new site.” To read the full article, please go to: [www.derbyworld.co.uk](http://www.derbyworld.co.uk).

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**Woodlands Crematorium** in Scunthorpe has recently celebrated its 60th anniversary and undergone an internal transformation. Families and friends visiting the crematorium can now meet before the ceremony is scheduled to take place, in a brand-new private waiting room. Cllr David Rose, cabinet member for environment and strategy said: “We are always looking to develop and improve the experience for visitors at Woodlands Crematorium. Providing an exclusive and separate space for loved ones at such a difficult and sad time is something that we have had in the pipeline for a while. We ensured that the works were planned with care and sensitivity, only taking place during the least busy periods.” More than £60k has been invested creating the new waiting room, with automatic entrance doors, new flooring, heating, lighting installed, and re-decoration. Since opening its doors in 1964, 80,000 cremations have taken place within the peaceful and secluded grounds. To read the article, please head to: [www.northlincs.gov.uk](http://www.northlincs.gov.uk).



Plans for a new electric crematorium in **Waltham Forest** have been approved. The new facility, situated in **Chingford Mount Cemetery**, was green-lit by Waltham Forest Council after years of planning. The £10.9million crematorium will comprise a 569sqm building including a waiting area, family viewing area, chapel, crematorium space and office. Its electric design will help reduce the borough's carbon footprint, the town hall says. Over the past two years, the budget for the project has ballooned from £8.3m as both the scope of the designs and construction costs have increased. Benefits of the scheme include easing funeral logistics, accommodating residents of diverse beliefs, reducing traffic and boosting the town hall's income, according to a previous council report. Construction of the new crematorium is slated to begin this year. It is expected to be up and running by 2026. To read the full article, please go to the: **Waltham Forest Echo website.**

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A **Tameside crematorium** has received new media equipment as part of a wider upgrade. The building at Dukinfield will see new pews and chairs with matching cushions installed, along with a revamped canopy and curtains, ambient lighting and professional floral displays along its walls. A new rise and fall lectern with interchangeable faith symbols and a new catafalque – the platform on which the coffin is placed – will also be put in. Now it has had speakers and a touchscreen display put in as work goes on to revamp the facility. Three new, more environmentally friendly cremators, which do not pollute the atmosphere and will be fit to serve the borough for the next 20 to 25 years, will also be installed. For the full article, please go to: **www.tamesidecorrespondent.co.uk.**

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A planned **Leicestershire Hindu and Sikh crematorium**, from the CDS Group, is planned for **Scraptoft Lodge Farm**, in Keyham Lane, East Scraptoft. A dining hall and car parking would also be provided. The plans, which are currently before Harborough District Council (HDC), have attracted 54 letters of support, but have also gained 36 objections. Alongside the crematorium, CDS's plans would, if approved, see two chapels be created for the site, which would be expected to hold six ceremonies a day between them. The original date for a decision on the scheme was stated as Thursday, December 12th on the HDC planning portal. However, the council has confirmed that the decision will now be taken by the planning committee in either February or April 2025. To read the full article, please go to: **www.leicestermercury.co.uk.**

Planning permission for a new crematorium in **Glenrothes** has been approved after an appeal to the Scottish Government. Designed by DO Architecture, the proposal for Southfield Industrial Estate includes memorial gardens, 193 parking spaces and vehicular access. **Respect Developments** said the project could create 120 jobs, including 80 apprenticeships. Fife planning officers recommended refusal as the Southfield Industrial Estate is zoned for employment use. They said a crematorium did not meet development plan requirements. And members of Fife Council's west and central planning committee ruled the facility was planned for the wrong location. A government reporter has now overruled the decision by Fife councillors, stating there was no justification for refusal. Respect Developments director Steven Mcghee insisted the decision is a positive one. "It's a good idea," he said. "I know it doesn't have 100% support but I'm hopeful it will be good for the area. We'll be a quiet neighbour. And the skills academy in particular will be good for local young people." Mr Mcghee said no timescales have been set for starting building work or opening the facilities. To read the full article, please go to: [www.scottishconstructionnow.com](http://www.scottishconstructionnow.com).

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**East Riding Crematorium** is set to begin a major improvement project next month designed to enhance environmental sustainability while maintaining the highest standards of care. The project, set to begin next month, will see the installation of cutting-edge technology aimed at increasing energy efficiency and reducing emissions. Central to the upgrades is the introduction of a new cremator and an advanced filtration system, which will reduce gas consumption by up to 70%. These improvements will enable the crematorium to uphold its commitment to compassionate care while continuing to significantly reduce its environmental impact. The work will be carried out behind the scenes, ensuring that all services continue completely uninterrupted. This initiative forms part of Dignity's broader commitment to improving the sustainability of its services nationwide. East Riding Crematorium is one of 45 crematoria within the Dignity network undergoing similar projects to uphold the highest standards while reducing environmental impact. To read the complete article, please go to the: [Yorkshire Post website](#).



## NEWS REVIEW

### CREMATORIA NEWS

A brand-new crematorium to the north east of Glasgow has officially opened its doors with the aim of providing exceptional care and support to local bereaved families. **Bishopbriggs Crematorium** has been built by **Westerleigh Group**, one of the UK's largest independent owners and operators of crematoria and cemeteries, with 40 other sites across England, Scotland and Wales, all set within beautifully-landscaped gardens of remembrance which provide peaceful places for people to visit and reflect. Bishopbriggs Crematorium is Westerleigh's fourth Scottish site, joining Borders Crematorium, Stirlingshire Crematorium and West Lothian Crematorium. It is located mid-way between Bishopbriggs and Kirkintilloch and provides a peaceful and beautiful setting for families to mourn, commemorate and celebrate the lives of their loved ones. Local people will be able to visit the new crematorium and its grounds on **Saturday 1st February** when it hosts its inaugural community open day, between 10am and 2pm. Overlooked by Campsie Hills and surrounded by agricultural farmland, Bishopbriggs Crematorium is equipped with the latest technology and high-quality facilities. The focal point is a modern, welcoming chapel which can seat 120 people, with significant additional standing room available. There are 80 standard parking spaces, an overflow car park, seven accessible parking spaces, three taxi spaces and electric vehicle charging points. Through its media partner Obitus, Bishopbriggs Crematorium offers an almost unlimited choice of music, whether it is a loved one's favourite song, sports club anthem or traditional hymn, and three high-resolution screens can display slideshow tributes and written words for extended personalisation of the service. As with all Westerleigh Group's crematoria, the grounds, Garden of Remembrance and ash scattering area at Bishopbriggs Crematorium are carefully tended by a team of experts. The first manager of Bishopbriggs Crematorium is Donnie Connor, who has been with Westerleigh Group since 2019, having previously worked long-term in social care. He stated that "We proudly ensure that every service is delivered with respect and dignity, leaving mourners with comforting memories from their loved one's final journey. A beautiful, welcoming and comforting environment has been created here and I would like to invite local people to our crematorium and talk to us about the many ways we can support them when they need us."



# NEWS REVIEW

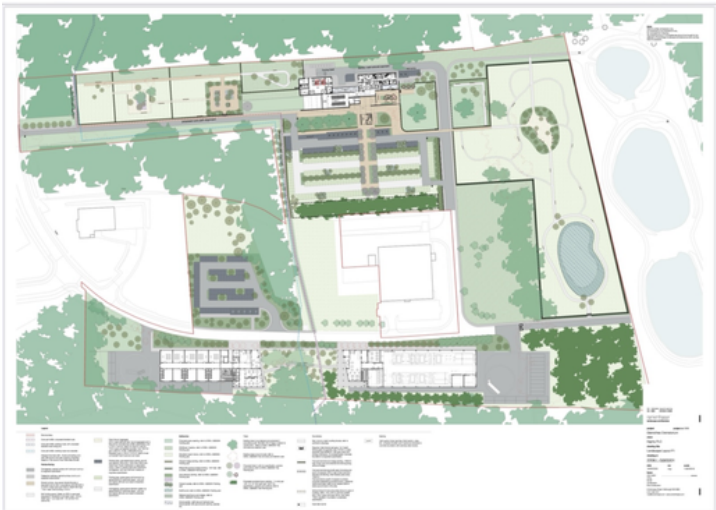
## PLANNING NEWS

### Respect Developments Land for Sale

Glenrothes crematorium is a ready-made opportunity, requiring no planning risk. Approved plans with road access and a high percentage of infrastructure in place. We are seeking an end user on either a freehold position or leasehold in the near future. For further details, please contact Steven at Respect Developments on 07904957974.

Details of the successful planning appeal can be found at:

<https://www.dpea.scotland.gov.uk/CaseDetails.aspx?ID=125269>





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**The Columbaria Company** - specialists in the production of personalised memorial artwork and after cremation memorials.



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**FG Marshall** supplied the very first Book of Remembrance to Woking Crematorium in 1938. To this day technology still hasn't replaced the precision, skill and touch of the human hand.

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**Facultatieve Technologies** - over 140 years of experience in the design, construction and maintenance of cremation and filtration equipment.



**Fordingbridge** - designers, manufacturers and installers of innovative canopies and walkways.



**Greenbridge Designs** - from individual memorials to complete garden schemes, Greenbridge produce a range of memorials that will seamlessly fit into existing schemes as well as some that will create a stunning alternative.



**IFZW** is an established manufacturer of cremator and emission filter systems.



**Obitus** - provider of bereavement technology services, delivering music, webcast and tributes for families, funeral directors and leading funeral venues throughout the UK.

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**OrthoMetals** - a family owned and operated business, recycling metals remaining after cremation.



**PlotBox** is an international death care management solution that facilitates cemeteries and crematoria in operating to world-class standards through integrated software and georectified mapping modules.



**SK Environmental Ltd** is a UK manufacturer of instrumentation for measurement and control of combustion plants, specialising in environmental monitoring and control products.



**Treske** - one of the UK's leading makers and suppliers of bespoke crematorium furniture and soft furnishings.

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If you have any news you would like us to consider for future newsletters, please do contact us at [info@cremation.org.uk](mailto:info@cremation.org.uk)



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