



Planning permission has been successfully secured for enhancements to Darlington Crematorium, supporting the continued provision of respectful and high-quality end-of-life services for the local community.

Working on behalf of Darlington Borough Council, Planning Potential led the coordination and submission of a planning application for comprehensive improvements to Darlington Crematorium, providing strategic advice through to approval. Our role included proactive engagement with the Local Planning Authority to ensure the scheme was both policy-compliant and deliverable.

The approved plans include the construction of a new purpose-built chapel, designed to provide a serene space for remembrance services. Additional burial plots will be created to ensure the crematorium remains fit for purpose for years to come. The proposals also include the refurbishment of the existing crematorium building, enhancing its functionality and appearance while retaining its central role in service delivery. A new car park will improve visitor accessibility, easing current pressures and contributing to a more comfortable and stress-free experience.

A key element of our justification focused on how the proposals align with the three dimensions of sustainable development outlined in the National Planning Policy Framework. Economically, the scheme secures the long-term future of the crematorium by modernising outdated facilities. Socially, it introduces a new, inclusive chapel and enhanced landscaping to create a tranquil environment for remembrance. Environmentally, the works make efficient use of previously developed land within the existing cemetery boundary, in line with Paragraph 122 of the NPPF.

Planning Potential demonstrated that the proposals were acceptable in principle, compliant with local and national planning policy, and would not result in any unacceptable impacts. The supporting documents and technical reports provided a clear and credible evidence base, which underpinned a strong planning case and ultimately secured a positive outcome.

The project represents a meaningful investment in Darlington's public services, and we are proud to have played a key role in securing its delivery.

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