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Practice Profile

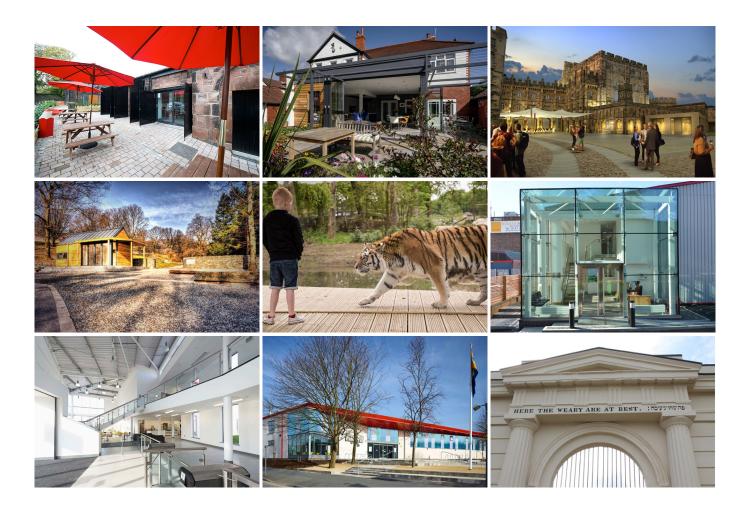
Cass is the design arm of the DLP Group of companies. We offer integrated specialist expertise in architecture, landscape architecture and ecology, masterplanning, conservation and sustainability. In tandem with our affiliated company, DLP Planning, providing town planning, strategic planning research and transport and flood risk design, we provide a comprehensive property development service.

Since 1983 Cass has successfully completed over 1700 commissions for clients across a wide range of sectors. We take an intensely client-focussed approach to our work and have been very successful at creating and releasing value for our clients.

We are members of the following professional organisations and are fully accredited for quality assurance under the ISO: 9001 2015 standard for Quality Management.

RIBA Chartered Practice
Accredited Conservation Architect
Landscape Institute Registered Practice
Low Carbon Consultant
Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI)

The following pages summarise the key services offered under each of our core disciplines.













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architecture

Our architects work to create buildings that both inspire and perform. Combining a questioning attitude with an uncompromising belief in design quality, we aim to deliver original solutions that:

- exceed client expectations and are completed on budget and on programme
- create living spaces that enhance the lives of those who use them
- make a positive contribution to their surroundings
- make efficient use of resources such as land, materials and energy

We view scheme design and project delivery on site as a continuous, integrated process involving creative, technical and 'hands on' project management skills. Since 1983, this approach has been applied successfully to over 1600 projects across a broad range of building types, including housing, sport and leisure, cultural, commercial and industrial projects.

Cass provides comprehensive architectural services across all RIBA stages (1-7): from inception to handover on site and covering all aspects of architectural design, including feasibility studies, full scheme and technical design and contract administration on site. We also offer Principal Designer Services if required.

Cass is a Chartered RIBA and LI Practice and has specialist expertise in conservation architecture.

We have in addition developed a bespoke home design service through **studioCass**, a division of Cass tailored specifically to provide a full design, planning and project delivery service within a single appointment for private residential clients.

Key Services:

- Brief Writing
- Client Advisor
- Measured and Condition Surveys
- Feasibility and Options studies
- Concept Design
- Planning and Listed Building applications
- Building Regulations applications
- Construction Drawings and Specification
- Lead Consultant and Design Team management
- Tendering and Contractor Selection
- Full Contract Administration
- Novated Architect (Design and Build)
- Principal Designer Services
- Private Houses
- Interior Design
- Visualisations









For architectural enquiries please contact:

- Director
- t 0151 707 0110

Richard Roberts

- d 0151 245 7598
- m 07904 948 680
- e richard.roberts@ cass-design.co.uk



David DoughtyAssociate Director

- t 0151 707 0110
- d 0151 203 0912
- m 07824 056 764
- e david.doughty@ cass-design.co.uk



Peter Brown Associate Director

- 0123 426 1266
- m 07468 477 844
- e peter.brown@ cass-design.co.uk











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landscape

Our landscape architects create attractive, sustainable and ecologically rich places, which also provide an efficient, attractive and durable setting for development. At Cass we strive to create communities, environments and open spaces that enhance people's lives and provide lasting value for our clients.

Landscape Architecture forms a core part of our multi-disciplinary service, which also encompasses architecture, urban design, masterplanning and conservation. Cass's integrated method of working allows creative landscape architectural solutions to be embedded within the wider scheme concept from the outset.

We have extensive experience of habitat creation and management, including lowland heath, coastal exposure and erosion, species rich grassland, wetlands (often as part of SUDs) and soil-making techniques, including the use of waste materials. We have well-established links with a wide range of ecological and arboricultural specialists and are able to engage constructively with regulatory agencies and other interest groups at an early stage in the planning process.

We work across the UK and our portfolio includes projects across England, Wales, Scotland and the Isle of Man.

Key Services:

- Site evaluation and measured surveys
- Demolition and clearance advice
- Feasibility studies and concept design
- Hard and Soft Landscape Design
- Development plans
- Design statements
- Production drawings
- Contract and project management
- Standard and alternative forms of procurement including partnering contracts
- Post-completion assessments
- Principal Designer Services/Health and safety plans
- Landscape management plans
- Maintenance and management cost in use
- Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments (LVIAs)
- Environmental Assessments for landscape
- Environmental Impact Assessment Landscape Chapter
- Professional witness at public inquiry
- Negotiations with specialist/regulatory bodies
- Discharge of planning conditions
- Grant applications
- Record drawings
- Works of art advice









For landscape enquiries please contact:



Richard RobertsDirector

- 0151 707 0110
- d 0151 245 7598
- m 07904 948 680
- e richard.roberts@cass-design.co.uk



Kate da Cruz Associate Director (Landscape)

- t 0151 707 0110
- d 0151 245 7599
- m 07826 412 221
- e kate.dacruz@cass-design.co.uk











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ecology

Ecology and biodiversity are becoming an increasing important consideration when designing and implementing development. Our ecology team work in close collaboration with our landscaping, sustainability, conservation, masterplanning, and architecture teams to ensure ecology and biodiversity are seamlessly integrated into the design process, becoming an opportunity rather than a constraint.

From inception to completion our ecologists have extensive experience providing ecological deliverables required to be submitted alongside planning applications and in support of reserved matters condition discharge. Below is a summary of the services we can offer:

- Ecological Survey and Assessments: Ecological impacts assessments are built on a foundation of quality baseline survey data. Our team has a wide range of experience and expertise carrying out baseline assessment for a range of habitats and species surveys to support planning applications.
- Habitat Design: At Cass Design, we understand the importance of habitat design to compliment and add value to developments, whilst also being sensitive to other design considerations. Our team can provide the management and monitoring plans required to ensure successful implementation of ecological mitigation and enhancement and Biodiversity Net Gain Assessments.
- Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA): We can produce Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) reporting to inform planning applications and feed into Environmental Statements where required.
- Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG): We are experts in Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) and can provide survey, reporting and assessment suitable for compliance with the Environment Act (2021) and planning policy. We have extensive expertise in carrying out BNG assessments for projects, advising on habitat creation / management strategies to achieve a projects BNG commitment, and carrying out feasibility studies for the establishment of habitat banks.

Key Services:

- Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA)
- UKHab Survey (Habitat Survey)
- Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA)
- Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Assessments
- Habitat Management and Monitoring Plans (HMMP)
- Ecological Design Strategy (EDS)
- Protected Species Survey and Reporting
- Planning condition discharge
- Protected Species licencing









For ecology enquiries please contact



Richard Roberts

t 0151 707 0110

d 0151 245 7598

m 07904 948 680

e richard.roberts@cass-design.co.uk







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masterplanning

We have extensive masterplanning experience across all sectors, with particular expertise in dealing with sites where a wide range of complex issues may need to be addressed, such as planning policies, poor environment and contamination, community needs, funding and economic viability.

Cass's portfolio includes new or expanded towns and villages, residential areas, business parks, leisure projects and public parks. Our client list includes major housebuilders, private developers and housing associations.

We also work in established urban areas and heritage zones, liaising with existing stakeholders, local authorities and communities to develop urban design strategies that support market demand and social regeneration.

Our specialist architects, landscape architects and conservation specialists are on hand to provide expertise as required to our masterplanners, providing a seamless integrated multi-disciplinary approach to all our work.

Through good masterplanning we aim to optimise social and economic assets for our clients, to create a climate for investment confidence and bring about development which is environmentally, economically and socially sustainable.

Key Services:

- Site Evaluation
- Feasibility and Capacity Studies
- Concept Design
- Outline and Full Planning submissions
- **Technical Drawings**
- Lead Consultant and Design Team management
- Strategic Masterplanning
- Area Regeneration
- Estate planning
- Economic Viability Studies
- Liaison with Statutory Bodies
- Review of Growth Areas
- Development and Land Use Frameworks
- Landscape and Habitat Masterplanning
- Conservation Area Masterplanning
- Visualisations
- Site promotion and Vision Documents
- Design and Access Statements
- Design Codes









For masterplanning enquiries please contact:



Richard Roberts

Director

0151 707 0110

- 0151 245 7598
- 07904 948 680
- richard.roberts@cass-design.co.uk



David Kemp Associate Director (Masterplanning)

- 0123 471 8942
- m 07551 122 441
- david.kemp@cass-design.co.uk











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conservation

Securing a meaningful and financially viable role for the future of historic buildings and landscapes has been a major theme in Cass's work over many years.

Cass is a RIBA accredited Conservation Architect. Working closely with planning and landscape architect colleagues, our conservation experience includes listed and non-listed heritage buildings (Grade 2 to Grade 1), within Conservation Areas, Heritage Action Zones and Townscape Heritage Initiatives.

We have also worked within many historic landscapes, including National Parks, public parks within cities, private estates and National Trust properties.

We provide conservation services for private building owners, developers, local authorities and regulatory bodies. We are frequently called upon to negotiate with local authorities and conservation agencies such as Historic England as part of the planning process and are skilled at providing pragmatic heritage statements and impact assessments to support planning submissions and appeals.

As part of the DLP Group, Cass's conservation services are complemented by additional specialist planning and heritage expertise within DLP Planning.

Key Services:

- Condition Surveys and Evaluation
- Feasibility and Options Studies
- Concept Design
- Detailed Design
- Listed Building Consent applications
- Technical Drawings
- Specifications
- Traditional Detailing
- Interior fittings and joinery detailed design
- Lead Consultant and Design Team management
- Liaison with Statutory Bodies
- Input into Economic Viability Studies
- Heritage Statements and Heritage Impact Assessments
- Conservation Area Masterplanning
- Conservation Area Design Codes
- Private Houses
- RIBA-accredited Conservation Architect









For conservation and heritage enquiries please contact:



Richard RobertsDirector

t 0151 707 0110

d 0151 245 7598

m 07904 948 680

e richard.roberts@cass-design.co.uk









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sustainability

Our engineers and built environment specialist have built up considerable experience in assessing and enhancing the thermal performance of buildings. Our expertise ranges from reviewing the design of single dwellings through to assessing larger schemes and more complex air-conditioned blue chip commercial buildings. We also have expertise in detailed dynamic thermal modelling of various building types, including schools for naturally vented solutions.

We work with our architects to assist in the development of projects to ensure enhancement of the scheme's overall energy efficiency and sustainability credentials. Our integrated approach provides 'buildable' solutions that meet planning / clients' requirements for low carbon & sustainability whilst also ensuring that the spaces developed achieve stricter thermal comfort criteria. Our assessments often make use of passive solar design techniques including reviewing and managing the risk of summertime overheating, whilst maximising the harvesting of daylight and sunlight.

We liaise fully with our clients from the earliest stages to assist in rapid planning approval, through the various design stages, an on to completion and 'As Built' stage where we are registered to certify buildings under Part L and to produce EPCs for both residential and non-domestic



- Energy / Sustainability Statements
- Daylighting / Sunlighting Assessments
- Low / Zero Carbon feasibility studies
- BREEAM Credits for Energy & Health
- DSM Detailed building thermal modelling
- UKBR Part L1 & L2 Energy calculations
- UKBR Part G Water Efficiency calculations
- UKBR Part O Overheating calculations
- CIBSE TM 59 / 52 Overheating Assessments
- BB101 Ventilation Assessments for schools
- SBEM non-domestic building calculations
- Heat Loss / Heat Gains calculations
- SAP 'As Built' calculations
- EPCs 'As Built' calculations & lodgement
- Sustainable materials / products consultation









For sustainability enquiries please contact:



lan Smith
Associate Director (Sustainability)
t 0123 426 1266
m 07423 100 965

e ian.smith@cass-design.co.uk









