

Member Company Profile – Desmond Associates

Our members Desmond Associates (DA) are a highly skilled and experienced team providing advisory services from Cornwall for over 30 years throughout the South West of England, including the UK and Europe. Specialist capabilities for Heritage and Conservation Design, using BIM (Building Information Modelling), new technologies in materials, sustainability and computerised methods of analysis combine to imaginative and original solutions that offer value for money.

Their multidisciplinary Structural and Civil engineering services are embedded into a suite of services enabling streamlined delivery of complex projects, including Project Management, Master Planning, Due Diligence, Stakeholder Engagement, and last but not least Environmentally and Sustainable solutions.

DA's skills have helped to shape plans for Newquay Station Quarter in Cornwall, working for Cornwall Council. The Brief identified the poor facilities and deserted atmosphere inside the vicinity of the Train Station and the poor-quality buildings and public realm. DA developed a Strategic Outline Programme, in Accordance with the HM Treasury Five Stage Model which considered the Strategic, Economic, Commercial, Financial and Risk Management Case. This compelling business case valued at £80M was supported by our multidisciplinary team who managed Condition and Structural Building Surveys, Geo-Environment and Highway issues, Policy reviews, Research and Development, coordination with County Councillors, Parish

Council, Police Force, Network Rail and many others.

DA's use of BIM and digital collaborative tools, such as Microsoft Teams, have extended their services beyond the South West in a sustainable way. In Scotland, one of our projects involves St Andrews House, Edinburgh, a Grade 'A' Listed Building. DA's specialist responsibilities include design and monitoring of the Cathodic Protection (CP) system, project managing conservation projects and detailed structural surveys.

This highly visible part of the Edinburgh Public Estate required project solutions such as a bespoke cantilevered scaffold system (some 20m's above ground level), innovative design and best practice to prevent damage to the structure all whilst minimising the visual impact of the works and enabling Government to work without interruption.

We have utilised online collaborative technology such as Microsoft Forms and Sway so that during the Covid lock down our remote team was able to engage with a wide audience during public consultations, a key requirement of any major built environment project.

Most recently we have collaborated with Cornwall Council to develop a complex feasibility study which considers the use of e-business, collaborative working and innovative database technology to deliver an environmental hub capable of meeting the challenges of the declared Climate Emergency.

