

News Review



We are pleased to bring you **The Cremation Society's** news review for February.

We hope our newsletter will help you to stay informed of news and developments from across the cremation sector.

You can also follow regular Cremation Society updates on [LinkedIn](#).

THIS ISSUE'S NEWS UPDATES

- CBCE 2026 - Registration Open
- Scottish Government update
- Thurrock could finally get its own crematorium
- Significant challenges' faced at crematorium build
- £5m Hinckley crematorium plans scrapped as council to sell land
- Bolton Council approves £3million crematorium refurb
- Plans to modernise Jersey cremation laws
- European Cremation Network conference news

NEWS REVIEW

CREMATION SOCIETY NEWS

CBCE 2026

Registration is now open for this year's
Cremation & Burial Communication & Education
joint conference

CBCE 2026 will be held at the Hilton Utilita Bowl, Southampton and you
can book your delegate place at
www.cbce.org.uk

Our extensive programme will ensure attendees hear from speakers
addressing the latest topics of interest to those responsible for and working
in the burial and cremation sector.

With the need to demonstrate a commitment to improve the environmental
impact of funerals, as well as meeting the day-to-day needs of bereaved
families, CBCE will enable delegates to feel fully equipped to feedback and
influence the future of their burial or cremation service.



23rd - 25th June 2026



www.cbce.org.uk



CBCE (Cremation & Burial Communication & Education)

NEWS REVIEW

CREMATORIA NEWS

Executive to consider the replacement of cremators and the modernisation of Ipswich crematorium Facilities

Ipswich Borough Council's Executive will consider moving forwards with essential investment in **Ipswich Crematorium**, ensuring families continue to receive the highest standard of care when saying goodbye to their loved ones. With the current cremators approaching the end of their operational life, they could be replaced with new, energy-efficient gas cremators. In addition, significant refurbishment of the Crematorium's facilities could be undertaken to create a more welcoming and comforting environment for bereaved families. Work would be carefully planned to ensure continuity of service throughout the replacement and refurbishment programme. Cllr Lucy Trenchard Portfolio Holder for Parks and Climate Change said: "This vital work would ensure we provide families with a continued reliable and respectful service into the future, whilst reducing environmental impact and meeting modern regulatory standards." To read the full article, head to www.ipswich.gov.uk

'Significant challenges' faced at crematorium build as more money requested for project

The project to build a new crematorium in **Mepal** has faced "significant challenges", but remains on track to be finished this summer, councillors have heard. **East Cambridgeshire District Council** has been asked to set aside a further £300,000 for the project, after "unforeseen" extra works were needed. Work started last September on the district council's project to build the new crematorium at the site of the former Mepal outdoor centre. The Lake View Bereavement Centre is due to include a crematorium and a natural burial area. The District Council approved a budget of £12.9million for the project, from money given to the authority by developers through the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). Another £419,000 was also set aside as a risk contingency pot to cover any additional costs. Councillors have been asked to agree that a further £300,000 is set aside for future risk contingency. Officers told councillors at a finance and assets committee meeting on Thursday (January 29) that the project is moving at an "exceptional pace" and is on track to finish on time this summer. To read the full article, head to: www.cambridge-news.co.uk

NEWS REVIEW

CREMATORIA NEWS

Thurrock could finally get its own crematorium

A long-awaited crematorium for **Thurrock** looks set to move forward after plans for a new facility in Orsett were recommended for approval. Thurrock currently has no crematorium of its own, leaving families to travel to Upminster, Brentwood or Basildon for services. Planning officers say the scheme, put forward by **Elegy Ltd**, meets the necessary requirements and is acceptable in principle. If approved, the crematorium is expected to host up to 1,200 services a year, easing pressure on nearby facilities and reducing journey times for bereaved families. The application has undergone a broad consultation, with leaflets delivered to residents in Orsett and Horndon-on-the-Hill, a public exhibition at Orsett Hall attended by about 50 people, and online feedback via the developer's website. Supporters highlighted the need for a local facility, job creation and reduced travel — particularly avoiding the London ULEZ zone. To read the full article, please visit: www.thurrockgazette.co.uk

£5m Hinckley crematorium plans scrapped as council to sell land

A borough council has scrapped its £5m plan to build a crematorium and wants to hand the land over to a developer. **Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council** met on December 9, at a full council meeting to "consider the future of the crematorium site", during which the press and public were excluded. It was decided that "due to rising construction costs and difficulties within the contractor market", plans for the council to build the crematorium would be abandoned. In a statement to the Local Democracy Reporting Service (LDRS), the council has now confirmed it will sell the land instead, with a "strict condition" that it can only be used for this purpose. The initial development of the site off the A47, Leicester Road near Earl Shilton, was approved by planning authorities in January 2019. The borough council appointed construction company Kier Group to undertake the £4.6m building project, which was scheduled for completion in early 2022. However, years later, the project wasn't completed and has now been abandoned by the council. To read the full article, head **to: www.leicestermercury.co.uk**

NEWS REVIEW

CREMATORIA NEWS

Bolton Council approves £3million refurb for Overdale Crematorium

A major £3million refurbishment is set to get under way on a busy crematorium that has suffered a “lack of investment” for 15 years. **Overdale Crematorium** at Heaton Cemetery delivers up to 14 cremation services a day, amounting to between 2,000 and 2,200 every year. **Bolton Council** was presented with two options for the crematorium, either to do nothing or approve using £3million of capital funds and £164,000 from existing revenue funds for repair works. A report said the refurbishments would help “meet local demand whilst providing a dignified and respectful cremation service for the residents of Bolton”. The report said: “The first and most essential work required is to replace the existing four Newton cremators with new, modern cremators which are 100 per cent abated in line with legislation and which have an increased bariatric capacity to allow for longer and wider coffins. “The efficiency of modern cremators will bring significant improvements in operational efficiency, gas usage and reliability, together with a comprehensive maintenance service from the manufacturer.” To read the full article, head to:

www.theboltonnews.co.uk

Work starts on North York Crematorium and Memorial Gardens

Work has begun on a new crematorium on the outskirts of York which is set to offer state-of-the-art funerals. The building of the **North York Crematorium and Memorial Gardens**, in Sand Hutton, is underway ahead of a planned winter opening. It features technology which allows bereaved family and friends to put on personalised funeral services, according to **Westerleigh Group** which is behind the venue. The crematorium is being built on roughly 5ha site off the A64 near the York Biotech Campus and the village of Sand Hutton. Westerleigh stated the location had been chosen so that it is accessible for families in York and North Yorkshire but it will also be available for people further afield. Westerleigh’s crematoria and cemeteries managing director Ed Lane said they were excited to introduce people in the York area to the exceptional levels of care the firm proudly upholds. He said: “We’re especially pleased to be able to incorporate the SuperVenue technology into this development and through it, offer the bereaved an option to personalise a final farewell to unprecedented levels.”. To read the full article, please visit: www.yorkpress.co.uk

NEWS REVIEW

LEGISLATION NEWS

Plans to modernise Jersey's 'extremely outdated' cremation rules

Jersey's rules on cremation are being modernised for the first time since the 1960s. The island's Health Minister, Deputy Tom Binet, says the current rules are “extremely outdated” and have “caused unnecessary distress and costs for some bereaved families.” If his proposition is approved by States Members, doctors would no longer be blocked from authorising a cremation just because someone left written instructions against it in an old will or document — even if family members say the person later changed their mind. The Minister says this can leave families facing delays, added expense, and the risk of a cremation being refused despite “strong supporting family testimony.” Under the proposals, responsibility for decisions would sit more clearly with the executor of the estate or close relatives, rather than doctors being expected to assess what a will means. Deputy Binet argues a medical referee’s role should focus on confirming the medical cause of death, rather than “attempting to determine any legal position regarding the deceased’s written wishes or will.” The report says the current list is “overly restrictive”, and can be awkward — including because it may force people to reveal personal details such as whether they own property. If politicians agree the changes, they would come into force seven days after they are adopted in the States Assembly. To read the full article, please visit: www.channel103.com

Scottish Government Updates to Burial and Cremation Application Forms and Registers

The **Burial and Cremation (Applications and Registers) (Miscellaneous Amendment) (Scotland) Regulations 2025** will come into force on 2 March 2026. The Regulations amend the Cremation (Scotland) Regulations 2019 and the Burial (Applications and Register) (Scotland) Regulations 2024. The new forms are to be used for all applications submitted from the start of business on 2 March 2026. Up until the end of business on 1 March burial and cremation authorities can accept the old forms, even if the burial or cremation will not take place until after 1 March. The key point is the date on which the application is received. The revised forms will be uploaded to the Scottish Govt webpage for 2 March 2026. To read the original update, please visit www.blogs.scot.gov

NEWS REVIEW

EUROPEAN CREMATION NETWORK NEWS

The **European Cremation Network** (ECN) will host its upcoming ECN Meeting from 3 to 6 June in **Düsseldorf**.

This exclusive networking event brings together professionals from across Europe to exchange insights, strengthen connections, and discuss current developments within the cremation sector.

The ECN Meeting will take place alongside Forum BEFA, one of the leading international trade fairs for funeral services and related industries. By aligning these events, participants have the opportunity to combine valuable networking with a visit to this major industry exhibition, the entrance fee is included in the ECN Program.

Registration is now open via the **ECN website**. For more information and to register, please visit: <https://cremation-network.com/>

We look forward to meeting you there.

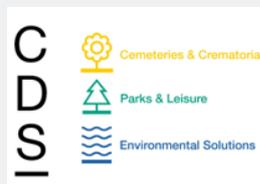
The Cremation Society is pleased to share this opportunity with its network.



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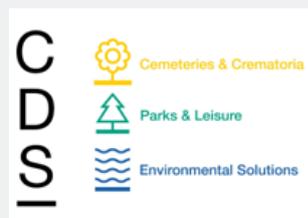
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Benchmark Architects, are an innovative architecture and design studio, with a passionate and personable team who enjoy working on creative, challenging, and innovative projects.



DRM Technic, is one of the UK's leading suppliers of gas analysis and conditioning equipment and services. They are also a renowned manufacturer of Continuous Emissions Monitoring Systems (CEMS).



The CDS Group, offer their clients a complete solution of in-house environmental, design, and planning services covering cemeteries and crematoria, parks and leisure, and environmental solutions.



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

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DFW Europe has earned a trusted international reputation for developing and building high-quality cremation systems and related equipment. Customers value our advanced ICT solutions, our commitment to quality, ergonomics, and our drive for continuous innovation. As a full-service partner, DFW Europe designs and manufactures cremation furnaces powered by gas, electricity, or bio-oil. Every installation is engineered with a strong focus on energy-efficient performance, helping our clients operate sustainably.



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



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



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

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



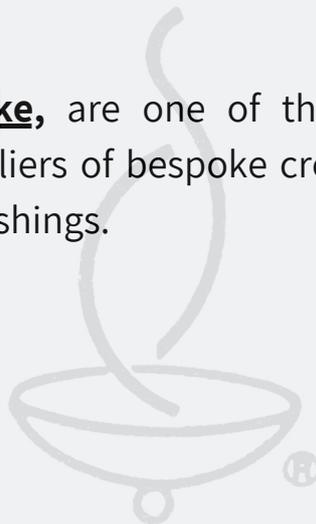
PlotBox, is an international death care management solution. They facilitate cemeteries and crematoria in operating to world-class standards through integrated software and georectified mapping modules.



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



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



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The Cremation Society

Rooted in history: committed to the future

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We love to receive news/press suggestions from our readers to include in future newsletters.

For any news you would like us to consider, please contact us at info@cremation.org.uk

Our contact details



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