

A photograph of a forest with tall, thin trees and a dense undergrowth of ferns. The image is overlaid with a dark blue gradient that is darkest at the bottom and fades towards the top. The company logo and contact information are positioned in the lower right and lower left areas of the image.

cec

cornwall environmental
consultants ltd

Cornwall Environmental Consultants Ltd.
Five Acres, Allet, Truro, Cornwall TR4 9DJ
t: 01872 245510
e: enquiries@cecenvironment.co.uk
w: www.cecenvironment.co.uk

CEC is a leading supplier of ecology, landscape architecture and arboriculture services in the South West. With over 25 years of commercial experience, CEC is a respected specialist consultancy with expert knowledge and skills.

We are focused on delivering pragmatic solutions right from the planning stage and provide all three services under one roof.

We are passionate about delivering an exceptional service to our clients. We believe a creative approach to biodiversity and landscape adds value to development, delivering environmental growth that benefits business, wildlife and people.

CEC is accredited with Quality Assurance and Environmental standards ISO 9001 and 14001. The company has an exceptional Health & Safety record and is accredited to OHSAS 18001.

CEC is a registered practice with the Landscape Institute. Our individual ecologists are members of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM). We are a member of the Wildlife Trust Consultancies (WTCs) and an associate member of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) through the WTCs.

CEC's profits are covenanted to Cornwall Wildlife Trust.



Landscape services

CEC's team of landscape architects deliver attractive, sustainable and practical design solutions alongside professional landscape impact studies.

Applying consistent high standards and attention to detail our team will assist you with tailored, specific advice at the planning, implementation and maintenance stages of your project.

Landscape Architecture services include;

- **Landscape Design & BREEAM**
- **Green Infrastructure, Habitat & Landscape Management**
- **Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment**
- **Site Services, Contract Admin & CDM**
- **Visualisations & GIS**
- **Expert Witness services**

This list is not exhaustive so if you are unsure what you need, please contact us - we are always happy to provide informal advice.



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Ecology services

Ecological surveys and assessments are required for many types of development and will need to be submitted with planning applications to ensure planners have sufficient information on which to base their decisions.

Our reports meet the requirements of BS42020:2013 Biodiversity – Code of Practice for Planning and Development, increasingly used by local authorities as a benchmark for quality.

Ecology services include;

- **Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (Phase 1 Habitat Survey)**
- **Protected Species Survey (bats, badgers, birds, reptiles, otter, dormouse)**
- **Bat and Barn Owl Survey**
- **Ecological Impact Assessment**
- **Invasive Species Survey eg Japanese knotweed**
- **Mitigation and Management**

This list is not exhaustive so if you are unsure what you need, please contact us - we are always happy to provide informal advice.



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Arboriculture Services

Trees can contribute greatly to local amenity and the value of any site, enhancing property values and the biodiversity potential of developed land. An arboricultural consultant may be required in the early stages of a project to provide tree surveys and advice on the health of the trees and the opportunities and constraints they present.

CEC is a Member of the Arboricultural Association and advises on tree protection measures and management requirements to ensure the tree stock is looked after for years to come.

Arboriculture services include;

- **BS5837 tree surveys and related services**
- **Tree condition and safety surveys, including amenity and landscape**
- **Preparation of tree management schedules and plans**
- **Forestry and woodland management surveys**
- **Ecological tree surveys**

This list is not exhaustive so if you are unsure what you need, please contact us - we are always happy to provide informal advice.



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Development in an AONB

Initial discussions established the intention for Little Dinnabroad to demonstrate best practice in sustainable design.

Given the location and sensitivity of the site, gaining planning permission was potentially challenging.

The landscape brief was to create a scheme that increases the ecological diversity of the site, for the building to be embraced and become an integral part of the landscape and for the resulting landscape to represent a positive natural and playful contribution to the landscape character of the area.

The CEC Approach

CEC delivered an ecological survey and report, a visual bat survey of the farmhouse and outbuildings, landscape strategy and master planning along with an LVIA.

A Woodland Management Plan was also prepared that would extend the woodland on the site and increase the biodiversity.

Ecological information was fed into the landscape design and actions in the management plan were discussed with the landscape architect.

CEC prepared the landscaping proposals, drawing on their knowledge of the site and its surroundings gained through the LVIA and Ecological Appraisal processes.

The Outcome

"Thanks to CEC we have created an excellent scheme that really uses the landscape and natural aspects to help enhance the existing buildings and their surroundings. The work CEC did was absolutely crucial in securing planning permission and it has been a great experience working with them. They really understood the issues and needs around the sensitivity of the project and how a development can respond beneficially to the key values of the AONB designation."

Gavin Woodford, Woodford Architecture

Luxury Holiday Retreats

Trecombe Lakes Luxury Holiday Retreats wanted to create six new lodges at their nine-acre holiday business, nestled around wet woodland and a network of ponds near Falmouth and the beautiful Helford River.

The CEC Approach

CEC delivered a combined package of ecological, arboricultural, landscape design, Design and Access Statement, Construction Environmental Management Plan and LVIA services to support Trecombe's application.

The CEC team ensured that close cooperation between the ecologist, tree surveyor, landscape architect and architect resulted in an integrated, sensitively-designed scheme that did not affect the habitat and biodiversity value of the site, but greatly improved the holiday experience at Trecombe Lakes.

The development sought to reduce the environmental impact during construction and operation and preserve the natural setting of the site. CEC's impact assessment work and mitigation monitoring ensured the success of this approach.

The Outcome

The project was granted planning permission in April 2017.

"The input of CEC was most important and their knowledge of the planning process was paramount. They knew all the issues so that we could make the most of the planning application, and obtain the most number of units in a balanced way. We would definitely use CEC again and are already planning to use their services again shortly."

Jason Ward, Trecombe Lakes





A30 Widening Scheme

CEC were part of Kier's Construction and Infrastructure project team for the construction of this 6km road scheme - they required a team of ecologists to help them meet legal and policy obligations, whilst ensuring that ecological mitigation was undertaken successfully.

The CEC Approach

The project was a 'Design and Build', which presented particular challenges in terms of design changes during construction, resulting in the need to adapt ecological mitigation. CEC's experience of working on projects with similar issues, meant that we were able to respond quickly to design changes and to come up with solutions that were achievable within available timescales.

We successfully obtained several licence modifications for work affecting the dormouse habitat, and also obtained two badger licences one for sett closure, the other for disturbance. We liaised closely with Kier on methodologies for dealing with Japanese knotweed, and provided watching brief for birds and reptiles where works affected suitable areas of habitat.

CEC maintained effective communication with Kier throughout their 18 month involvement on the project, helping to ensure that any emerging issues could be dealt with quickly.

The Outcome

CEC are now undertaking monitoring work of the scheme. In June 2017, dormice and dormouse nests were found in the new boxes, showing that mitigation is a success.

"CEC proved to be a very proactive and collaborative part of the overall site team, providing great communication and expertise throughout the project. They were key to the success of the project which was located in some highly ecologically sensitive areas".

Jason Dean, Kier Construction & Infrastructure UK



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Luxury Dwelling

CEC provided landscape and ecological services taking this project from concept design through to a successful planning application, including initial Landscape and Visual Appraisal, Pre-application Advice, Bat Surveys and design advice, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, Landscape Strategy and Design and a Landscape Response to Planning Comments.

The CEC Approach

The sensitive location of the site was acknowledged as a key factor in the approach to the design and overall management of the project.

CEC's input was phased to enable the design to respond to landscape and visual constraints, and for the design solutions to be cohesive with the project architects' approach.

The landscape and visual appraisal concluded that the area within which any effects were likely was limited. Retention of the existing trees on site was a priority as they are a prominent landscape feature and provide a high degree of screening in sensitive views.

Findings informed pre-application discussions with the planning officer and development of a landscape strategy, to provide a basis from which detailed landscape plans could be developed.

The Outcome

Proposals for the site fully addressed its landscape context and minimised any adverse effects on the area's character and views across the creek whilst also creating a new dwelling. The scheme received planning approval in November 2017.

"The project required CEC's specific input on visual impact, landscaping and ecology from the outset and a collaborative way of working. We feel their approach was of great value during the planning process."

Andrew Abdulezer, Seth Stein Architects