

MD North's Future Preparedness Support Team



About Purcell

Purcell is an employee-owned and B Corporation certified practice, dedicated to creating inclusive, sustainable environments where people and heritage can thrive. Founded over 75 years ago, we place climate resilience at the core of our mission as conservation architects, ensuring that our work not only protects heritage but also contributes to a more sustainable future.



As part of our social value commitment, we are pleased to offer support to this initiative, as we believe that meaningful support for heritage must be both accessible and rooted in long-term, responsible practice. With a strong background in the heritage and cultural sector, Purcell actively advocates for and responds to the climate crisis. We understand the sector's responsibility and potential to lead championing sustainability, developing projects that enhance resilience and promote environmental stewardship while celebrating cultural heritage.

We understand the complexities involved in maintaining environments that both protect valuable collections and provide safe, engaging visitor experiences. Our team has long-standing expertise advising museums and heritage organisations on assessing and managing environmental risks, including the impacts of climate change on historic buildings and collections. Purcell is committed to decarbonisation practices within the museum sector, helping institutions reduce their carbon footprint through holistic strategies, risk assessments, energy-efficient design, sustainable materials, and renewable technologies. We support museums in preparing robust capital development funding applications by providing clear, evidence-based assessments and demonstrating the environmental and operational benefits of proposed interventions.

Meet the team

The team at Purcell and TGA Consulting Engineers have a broad range of expertise to draw on to support your request. From their talented workforce of over 200 Architects, Heritage Consultants and Masterplanners, we have selected a team specific to the needs of the Future Preparedness Programme.





Owen Plummer, Associate and Future Preparedness Support Team Lead

Based in York and working extensively within the museum sector in the North, Owen is presently leading and advising upon museum operations, maintenance, management, decarbonisation, and capital works programmes at locations including Hull, Harrogate, Hartlepool, Durham and Sunderland, all within historic buildings and settings. This ranges from advice on urgent repair works and future climate resilience at Killhope Lead Mining Museum, PSDS decarbonisation initiatives at Newcastle's Discovery Museum and Sunderland Museum and Winter Gardens, to a new build Passivhaus museum visitor centre in Hull. Owen has also recently authored a thought piece on our response to the climate emergency following the impact of Storm Babet in 2023.



Jonathan Deeming: North Regional Partner, Estate, Fabric and Collections Management Expert

Jonathan has over fifteen years' experience delivering high profile cultural projects and providing strategic advice to museums and historic environment. Driven by the challenge of enhancing the best of the historic environment, he has established a reputation for leading complex projects for his clients, often establishing long-term relationships with their buildings and communities. Jonathan advises the practice on technical matters through his role on Purcell's Conservation Leadership Group and is the RIBA's appointed Commissioner for the Cathedrals Fabric Commission for England.



Laura Baron: Sustainability and Decarbonisation Expert

Laura is Purcell's Head of Sustainability and has over 14 years of experience in exemplar projects in the field. She advises on all key Purcell projects at a strategic level, setting the sustainability goals and monitoring how they are met in the completed projects. Laura focuses specifically on thermal and environmental improvements to building fabric to reduce energy need and on creative integration of sustainable MEP installations and alternative energy sources within an historic building context. Laura regularly sits on panel discussions advocating our response to the climate crisis.



Matthew Northover: Head of Technical

Matthew has several years' experience working in the Heritage sector and has a practical, hands-on and collaborative approach to project delivery. As Purcell's Head of Technical, Matthew has the knowledge and expertise to advise on best practice means of delivering conservation and decarbonisation projects.



Niall Phillips: Funding Expert

Niall holds significant experience and track record in advising upon and securing funding within the cultural and heritage sector, including major funding packages from agencies such as the National Lottery. As Purcell's foremost funding expert, Niall also empowers organisations to develop their projects, and builds community engagement and ownership through consultation, training and volunteering.



Graeme Carr: Building Performance and Sustainable MEP Expert

Graeme is a Director at TGA Consulting Engineers and holds significant expertise in guiding clients towards sustainable building services solutions, decarbonisation and managing environmental conditions. TGA have developed an energy hierarchy toolkit, as well as a 10-Point-Plan to guide clients through a process which offers objective data, obtained by intelligent thermal modelling, to help make informed decisions. TGA and Purcell frequently collaborate for the benefit of our clients in providing holistic building and estate guidance.