

# ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

## James Thananchanai Elliott

Geo-Ennvironmental Engineer

### My qualifications are

- BSc (Hons) Geology
- MSc Engineering Geology

### Skills needed in my role



- Decision making
- Creativity
- Communication skills
- Leadership
- Teamwork



### About me

I'm James and I work as a Geo-environmental Engineer in Leeds. I was born in Thailand, grew up in Wiltshire and having been working in Leeds for nearly 3 years. Outside of work I do bouldering and sport climbing. I'm also into gaming and have a 2-year-old long-haired dachshund.

I graduated in 2019 from the University of Liverpool with a BSc (hons) in Geology whilst serving in the British Army Reserves. In 2020, I completed a masters degree in Engineering Geology at the University of Leeds.

#### What are your day-to-day responsibilities at work?

I work on projects across Yorkshire to provide ground engineering solutions. This includes designing and undertaking ground investigations, advise on foundation recommendations, remediation strategies, as well as supervise earthworks and site investigations. I have also previously worked in geotechnical design, working on retaining wall designs and slope stabilisation.

#### What subjects did you study at GCSE that helped you with your career?

Geology, Geography, Mathematics, Physics, and Chemistry

#### What do you enjoy most about your job?

I love geology and find interesting the engineering impacts geology has on the world. I enjoy working on local projects that improve the area I live in, and really enjoy working with my colleagues at Curtins. We also get to do a lot of regular activities with colleagues out of work such as climbing, bowling, go-karting. Plus the yearly York races trip is always a great night.

#### Tell us about your career path!

After finishing my masters Engineering Geology, I worked for a geo-environmental contractor which was mostly site based on different scales of sites across the UK. I wanted to work in a more design role and work on projects local to where I live, so I moved into a geotechnical design engineer role for a small consultancy in Harrogate. I enjoyed the role but missed working in a larger team, working on larger projects and I quite enjoyed working in the field. Following this, I joined Curtins as a Geo-environmental Engineer nearly 2 years ago and have been enjoying working ever since.

#### What is the best project you have worked on?

Thes best project I have worked on is Chapel Allerton Hospital in Leeds which was a 2-minute walk from where I lived at the time. This was a proposed multi-storey hospital extension with a complex underlying geology of Elland Flags Sandstone and Pennine Lower Coal Measures.