

Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee

BRIEFING NOTE – No. 01/13

Date: 8 February 2013

Briefing paper to: All Members of the Business Support Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Purpose: At a previous meeting, Members requested up to date information on the Medway Crematorium Improvement Programme

Background

This project entails the provision of new cremators, specialist equipment to abate pollutants with a particular emphasis on mercury, and the enlargement of chapels and improvements to parking facilities at Medway Crematorium.

The project was approved by Cabinet in two stages, the first to appoint a specialist supplier of cremator equipment and a second to secure a principal contractor on the basis of a Design and Build Contract, with the principal contractor taking responsibility for the management and performance of the cremator supplier.

The two main contractors are Provian Construction (the principal contractor) and Crawfords Europe Ltd (cremator equipment). These contractors are responsible for their sub contractors.

The Council has employed Betteridge and Milsom as Employer's Agents and they have oversight of the project, together with the Council's Property, Design and Surveying team.

Works commenced on site in June 2012 and this work related mainly to preparatory activities as the full project could not be commenced as scheduled due to finding that the roof space was frequented by bats. The presence of bats required an application for a licence which delayed the project start until September.

Project work started in earnest in early September and since then the majority of the building works have been to target. The main structure and steel work has been erected and electric first fix is currently under way.

Two cremators were removed in December and the first new cremator has been installed.

Although some works are being undertaken at weekends or during the night, contractors are generally having to schedule their activities in the limited times in which noisy activities can be undertaken which clearly presents some challenges.

Overall the project remains on track for completion by the end of the summer, and it is anticipated that handover will be on 30 August.

Key Milestones

Date	Event
25 June 2012	Proviaan commence on site – COMPLETED ON TARGET
28 August 2012	Bat Licence Approval – COMPLETED EARLY
3 September 2012	East Chapel Works - COMMENCED
October 2012	Asbestos removal - COMPLETED
21 February 2013	West Chapel Works commence
20 March 2013	East Chapel Works complete
13 May 2013	Remainder of Abatement Works, External Works and Refurbishment Works complete
30 August 2013	West Chapel Works complete

Budget

The total budget is £2,724, 938 and the project remains within budget.

Lead officer:

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