

Business Support Overview and Scrutiny Committee

BRIEFING NOTE – No. 6/13

Date: 28 June 2013

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

Mercury Abatement and Crematorium Improvement Programme

Update Briefing Note for Business Support O&S Committee

- Mercury Abatement

All 3 new cremators have been installed and 2 are in operation (while only 1 Chapel is available only 2 cremators are required to meet demand).

Mercury Abatement equipment has been installed and is operational.

The Regulator has been kept informed of progress throughout and we are meeting national requirements for abatement.

- East Chapel Improvements

East Chapel improvement work has been completed. Seating capacity nearly doubled (60 seats to 115 seats), new flooring, under floor heating (using recovered heat), new ventilation system; environment and ambience considerably enhanced.

- West Chapel Improvements

Work has commenced, is progressing apace and is on schedule for completion by 30 August. Identical works to the East Chapel, improving the physical environment and doubling seating capacity.

- Car Park Improvements

27 additional car parking spaces now available; works completed.

- Road surfacing

As a result of extreme winter weather and heavy duty cleaning, there is the need to re-surface the road leading to the Crematorium. This will take place once all improvement works have been completed.

- Budget

The project budget is £2.7m, comprising around £1m for abatement kit and equipment and £0.5m for professional fees, and remains on track, with a projected minor underspend forecast. The scale of the works and physical improvements on site have been managed extremely closely to ensure no overspends occur.

- Governance

The overall project is on track for its scheduled completion of end of August 2013. Project progress is overseen through the Governance Board, chaired by the Portfolio Holder. A wider group of Members comprising the Chairman and Opposition Spokes from Business Support has also been engaged in the programme, providing oversight, advice and guidance. A tour of the Crematorium has been scheduled for those Members on 22 July.

Richard Hicks, Deputy Director, Customer Contact, Leisure, Culture, Democracy and Governance

June 2013

Ext 2764