

Performance, Finance and Customer Focus Overview and Scrutiny Committee



Date of meeting:	12 September 2022
Title of Report:	Plymouth Crematorium - Update
Lead Member:	Councillor Pat Patel (Cabinet Member for Customer Services, Culture, Leisure & Sport)
Lead Strategic Director:	Ruth Harrell (Director of Public Health)
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Your Reference:	Click here to enter text.
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

To provide an update on progress of the Plymouth Crematorium at The Park, as requested by this committee at the meeting in July 2022

Recommendations and Reasons

The Committee is asked to note the report.

Alternative options considered and rejected

NA

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

The Council is committed to delivering quality public services and as part of that commitment the Bereavement Service seeks to ensure it provides high quality remembrance and cremation service fit for the future.

The Bereavement Service delivers on the Corporate Plan values and priorities in the following ways:

- It is **Democratic** by engaging with the funeral industry and increasing community engagement opportunities through open days and events as well as strengthening work with local schools and charities.
- It is **Responsible** by caring about its impact on the customers and the funeral industry retaining the choice of funeral service locations.
- It is **Fair** by creating a variety of opportunities for remembrance across a range of locations and costs
- It demonstrates Plymouth City Council's is committed to being **Collaborative** by working with our partners in the funeral industry and developing stronger ties with local bereavement charities

- It is **Caring for people and communities** by providing a modern facility that is fit for purpose meeting the needs of the whole city with sensitivity to differing faith requirements
- The project supports economic growth as part of **Unlocking the City's potential** that benefits as many people as possible by investing in facilities that we can be proud to offer and become a destination of choice for remembrance

The Plymouth Plan sets out a single vision for the city to 2034 with a clearly stated ambition to grow Plymouth's population to 300,000 as well as new developments on our urban fringes such as Sherford Community, crematoria and burial capacity are recognised as a key infrastructure requirement for a growing city.

The current and future cemetery and crematoria provision can contribute to Policy 25 Reducing Carbon Emissions by replacing old cremators with modern technology. Furthermore the cemeteries maintained by the Bereavement Service total 40 hectares of green space and are integral to the achievement of Policy 24 Delivering Plymouth's Natural Network providing for the needs of people, wildlife and businesses from funeral directors, florists and masons and their associated supply chains.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

In addition to the previously agreed service borrowing and corporate borrowing, additional corporate borrowing is required to meet the costs of the project which are now £29.4 million.

Financial Risks

The risk of any further increases have been mitigated through the imminent award of the 'Design and Build' contract which includes all costs.

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

The new facility will reduce the current carbon emissions by replacing old cremators with modern technology. Also, the cemeteries maintained by the bereavement service total 40 hectares of green space and are integral to providing for the needs of people and wildlife.

Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

** When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.*

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Appendices

**Add rows as required to box below*

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable)						
		<i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Plymouth Crematorium Update Sept 2022							
B	Equalities Impact Assessment (if applicable)							

Background papers:

**Add rows as required to box below*

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable)						
	If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Sign off:

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Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Ruth Harrell											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes Date agreed: 30/08/2022											
Cabinet Member approval: Cllr Pat Patel – approved by e-mail Date approved: 30/06/2022											