

# CENTRAL DURHAM CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE

22 October 2008

## REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT AND REGISTRAR

### 1. Cremations

I have to report, for your information, the following statistics relating to the Crematorium for the period 1 July 2008 to 30 September 2008 inclusive:

	2003/2004	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009
JULY	185 + 5*	166 + 1*	177 + 5*	170 + 6*	167 + 2*	163 + 7*
	+ 10**	+ 10**	+ 9 **			
AUG	170 + 5*	159 + 26*	173 + 2*	173	174 + 8*	154 + 1*
	+ 6**		+ 12**			
SEPT	171 + 2*	175 + 2*	180 + 4*	165 + 5*	173 + 1*	201 + 3*
		+ 6**	+1**			+ 1***
TOTAL	526 + 12*	500 + 29*	530 + 11**	508 + 11*	514 + 11*	518 + 11*
	+ 16**	+ 16**	+ 22**			+ 1***

\* = NVF            \*\* = STs            \*\*\* = BODY PARTS

Durham                      164  
Outside Area                354 (Listed at Appendix A)

Total                        518 +11 NVF + 1 Body Part

**Recommended:**        Members are asked to note the report.

### 2. Memorial Garden – Sale of Vase Blocks and Plaques

I would wish to advise the Committee that during the period 1 July 2008 to 30 September 2008 inclusive, the following Vase Blocks and Memorial Plaques have been sold:

Vase Blocks                      12  
Large Plaques                    24  
Small Plaques                    6

Total                              42

#### Financial Information (Net of VAT)

Vase Blocks                      5,697.75  
Large Plaques                    7,598.20  
Small Plaques                    1,207.92

Total                              £ 14,503.87

**Recommended:**        Members are asked to note the report.

### 3. Statutory Direction to English Local Authorities: Regulation of Air Pollution from Crematoria

This Direction (attached at Appendix B) requires that the Central Durham Crematorium Joint Committee submits a report to the Regulator by 31 October 2008, indicating what actions have been taken towards the installation of Mercury Abatement Equipment and an outline of the plans in place to meet the deadline of 31 December 2012. The report will be forwarded to DEFRA who will use the information provided to judge the progress of the Cremation Industry towards achieving the set targets in Mercury Emissions. **Failure to provide Reports within the required timescales (every six months) could result in the Licence to operate the Crematorium being revoked.**

The report, prepared by the officers of the Central Durham Crematorium Joint Committee, is as set out below:

#### Durham Crematorium: Replacement of Cremators and Installation of Mercury Abatement Plant

Following the issue by DEFRA of Process Guidance Notes AQ5/2 (04) in January 2005, which provided detailed guidance on the required performance of cremators and ancillary equipment, it is required that 50% of cremations are to be subject to Mercury Abatement by 31 December 2012 and it is recognised that Burden Sharing would be an acceptable way of the industry achieving the said 50% Abatement target.

DEFRA Additional Guidance Note AQ1 (05) and DEFRA Additional Guidance Notes AQ13 (05) have been issued subsequently.

In anticipating this requirement, the Central Durham Crematorium Joint Committee had commissioned a Feasibility Study from Jane Darbyshire and David Kendall Ltd into how the Durham Crematorium could be adapted to comply with the new legislation.

This report was completed in May 2005 and was subsequently considered by the Central Durham Crematorium Joint Committee.

It must be pointed out that the Feasibility Study looked at all areas of the Crematorium operation and not only the Cremators and ancillary equipment.

The anticipated costs of implementing the findings of the Feasibility Study were very high, partly due to the fact that it would be a requirement that the Crematorium remain fully operational during the project.

The Central Durham Crematorium Joint Committee has, since the publication of the Feasibility Study, looked at all options available to enable the proposed project to proceed and indeed agreed that new Cremators and Mercury Abatement equipment would be installed by 31 December 2012.

The prospect of Local Government Review halted any further progress on this major project.

In order to ensure that the Durham Crematorium could continue to operate efficiently and within the requirements of the Environmental Protection Act (1990), the three

Cremators were relined in April 2007 and electrical upgrades have been made to the operating systems of each Cremator.

Quite where the Crematorium will fit into the New Authority - Durham County Council, is as yet uncertain, but it is the intention of the officers of the Crematorium to present a comprehensive report to the new Committee as soon after 1 April 2009 as possible.

That report will recommend that a firm of Architects and a Mechanical and Electrical Engineer will be commissioned to review the Feasibility Study, and that a detailed performance specification will be drawn up in respect of the Cremator and Mercury Abatement equipment.

The time scale will be tight, as the revised plans for the building will need to be agreed and planning consent obtained (necessary because the new Cremators and Filtration equipment will take up about twice as much space as the existing equipment). The selection of a Cremator and Mercury Abatement equipment supplier will also be difficult.

To date only one manufacturer, Facultatieve Technologies, has installed new Cremators with Abatement Equipment to more than one Crematorium in the UK. There is real concern that there is not enough manufacturing capacity within the industry to enable all the necessary Cremators to be built in time to meet the 2012 deadline.

The Superintendent & Registrar has, during the past 12 months, looked at:

- the installation of a new Cremator by a German Company, IFZW, a major supplier of Cremation equipment in Europe
- an installation by Crawford Cremators which uses a wet system to collect Mercury and other substances
- the installation of the Facultatieve equipment

at four Crematoria across the U.K.

In February 2006, the Central Durham Crematorium Joint Committee imposed a £50.00/Cremation Environmental Surcharge, this money being ring-fenced so as to provide funding towards the costs of installing new Cremators and Abatement equipment.

The Central Durham Crematorium Joint Committee is committed to providing the best possible standards of service to the community and is confident that a scheme for the replacement of the existing equipment will go ahead, and is hopeful of meeting the 31 December 2012 deadline.

**Recommended:** That Members agree the report and that a copy be sent to the Crematorium Regulator by 31 October 2008.

'APPENDIX A'

	JULY	AUG	SEP		JULY	AUG	SEP
AUSTRALIA				MORPETH	1		
BARNARD CASTLE		1		MURTON	1	2	1
BEAMISH				NETTLESWORTH			
BINCHESTER				NEWCASTLE	1	2	1
BIRTLEY				NEWTON			
BISHOP AUCKLAND	18	13	11	AYCLIFFE	6	6	9
BISHOP MIDDLEHAM	1		1	NORTHALLERTON			
BLACKHALL	3	3	1	OUSTON			
BOLDON				RIPON			
BURNHOPE				PETERLEE	5	7	13
CANADA			1	SACRISTON	2	4	2
CHESTER LE STREET	5	7	8	SEAHAM	6	1	4
CHESTER MOOR	1			SEATON			
CHILTON	2	4		SEDFIELD	4	3	3
CONSETT	1	1	2	SHILDON	1	2	3
CORNSAY		1		SHINEY ROW		1	
COUNDON	2	4	4	SHOTTON	3	2	4
CORNWALL				SOMERSET			
CROOK	3	4	7	SOUTH HETTON	1		
DARLINGTON			3	SUNDERLAND			
EASINGTON	2		5	STANHOPE	3	2	1
EAST RAINTON			1	STANLEY	1		
EDMONDSLEY				STATION TOWN		1	
ESH				STOCKTON			
ESH WINNING FENCEHOUSES			1	SUFFOLK			
FERRYHILL	8	7	5	SUNNYBROW			1
FISHBURN	1	2	3	THIRSK			
FROSTERLEY			1	THORNLEY	2	1	2
GATESHEAD				TOFT HILL			
GREAT LUMLEY		1	2	TOW LAW	2		1
HAMSTERLEY				TRIMDON	2		6
HARTLEPOOL	1		1	U.S.A.		1	
HASWELL	1		2	WASHINGTON	1		1
HETTON LE HOLE	2	3	1	WEST AUCKLAND	1	4	2
HIGH ETHERLEY				WEST			
GUISBOROUGH				CORNFORTH	1	1	2
HORDEN	1	8	4	WHEATLEY HILL	5	1	3
HOUGHTON	1	2	2	WILLINGTON	3	1	3
HOWDEN	2	1	1	WINGATE	1		
HUNWICK				WHITBY			1
LANCHESTER	1	1		WOLSINGHAM		1	1
LANGLEY PARK	3	1	2	YORK			
LEEDS							
LEICESTER	1			DAILY TOTAL	113	107	134
LONDON							
MIDDLETON/Teasdale			1				
MIDDLESBROUGH							

**Statutory Direction to English Local Authorities: Regulation of Air Pollution from Crematoria**

**THE ENVIRONMENTAL PERMITTING (ENGLAND AND WALES)  
REGULATIONS 2007**

The Environmental Protection (England) (Crematoria Mercury Emissions)  
Direction 2008

The Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by regulation 61(1) and (2) of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2007 hereby gives the following Direction -

**Citation and commencement**

1. This Direction may be cited as the Environmental Protection (England) (Crematoria Mercury Emissions) Direction 2008 and shall come into force on 27 June 2008.

**Interpretation**

2. In this Direction-

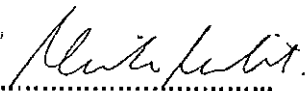
"regulator" has the same meaning as in regulation 2 of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2007;

"relevant regulator" means the regulator for any crematorium in England.

**Variation of an environmental permit**

3. Every relevant regulator shall, by no later than 25 July 2008, vary the permit for each crematorium it regulates, to insert the condition as specified in the Schedule.

Signed by the authority of the  
Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

  
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MARTIN NESBITT.

A Director in the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

25/06/2008  
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**CITY OF DURHAM**

**CENTRAL DURHAM CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE**

**22 OCTOBER 2008**

**REPORT OF TREASURER**

**1. DISTRIBUTION OF SURPLUSES TO CONSTITUENT AUTHORITIES**

On 23 July 2008, I reported that the Crematorium had generated a surplus of £539,811 during 2007/08 which was £154,472 more than the revised estimate. This increased surplus was included in the appropriate reserve for distribution, if desired, to the constituent Authorities.

It is also possible that the Crematorium may generate a surplus greater than that estimated during 2008/09, due to a higher number of cremations in the first six months and a delay in the opening of the planned new Crematorium in Wear Valley. Members should note, however, that any increased income may be offset by increased energy costs.

It would, however, be prudent to put in place arrangements to distribute the increased surplus arising from 2007/08 and to facilitate a further distribution of any increased surplus that may arise during 2008/09.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Joint Committee agrees:

- i) a further distribution of £120,000 to the constituent Authorities, with £100,000 to be paid to the City of Durham and £20,000 to Spennymoor Town council;
- ii) that the Chair and Vice Chair of the Joint Committee be given delegated powers to agree any further distribution to the constituent Authorities if the surplus for 2008/09 is likely to be greater than that estimated.