

Mountsett Crematorium Joint Committee

28th June 2023



Mountsett Crematorium Performance and Operational Report



Report of Graham Harrison, Bereavement Services Manager & Registrar

Electoral division(s) affected:

Countywide

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To provide Members of the Mountsett Crematorium Joint Committee with an update relating to performance and other operational matters.

Executive summary

- 2 This report provides Members of the Mountsett Crematorium Joint Committee with a quarterly update of performance and operational matters at the crematorium.

Recommendation(s)

- 3 It is recommended that Members of the Mountsett Joint Committee:
 - (a) Note the current performance of the crematorium.
 - (b) Note the update with regards to staffing.
 - (c) Note the attendance at the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management ICCM Learning Convention and Exhibition 2023.

Background

- 4 Update reports relating to performance and other operational matters are presented to the Mountsett Crematorium Joint Committee on a quarterly basis.

Performance Update - Number of Cremations

5. The table below provides details of the number of cremations for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 May 2023 inclusive, with comparative data in the same periods last year:

	2022/23	2023/24	Change
April	119	106	- 13
May	127	128	+ 1
TOTAL	246	234	- 12

* = Non-Viable Foetus (NVF) ** = Stillborns (STs) *** = Body parts

6. There were 234 cremations undertaken during the period 1 April 2023 to 31 May 2023, compared to 246 in the comparable period last year, a decrease of 12 cremations.

The profile of where families came from can be seen below:

Gateshead	60
Durham	137
Outside Area	37
Total	234

Memorials

7. The table below outlines the number and value of the memorials sold in the period April to May 2023 compared to the same period the previous year.

	(Apr - May) 2022/23		(Apr - May) 2023/24	
	Number	£	Number	£
Large Plaques	1	402	3	1,578
Small Plaques	6	1,566	14	3,786
Memorial leaves	6	600	5	500
Renewals			5	900
Total	13	2,568	27	6,764

8. In overall terms the number and value of memorials sold of 27 / £6,764, compared to 13 / £2,568 in the same period last year shows an increase of 14 / £4,196.

Staffing

9. For members information, we have recently appointed 2 relief members of staff to assist in the operational areas of the crematorium. They are currently undertaking training in all aspects of the roles within the crematorium.

Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management ICCM Learning Convention and Exhibition 2023

10. As in previous years, the necessary arrangements will be made for representation at the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management ICCM Learning Convention and Exhibition which is to be held at Chesford Grange Hotel, near Kenilworth from 18th to 20th September 2023. It is proposed that the Bereavement Services Manager and the Chair attend this conference as representatives of the Mountsett Crematorium Joint Committee.

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Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

As outlined in the report.

Finance

As identified in the report.

Consultation

None, however, Officers of Gateshead Council were provided with a copy of the report and given opportunity to comment/raise any detailed questions on the content of the report in advance of circulation to members of the Mountsett Crematorium.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

There are no implications

Human Rights

There are no implications

Crime and Disorder

There are no implications

Staffing

As identified in the report.

Accommodation

There are no implications

Risk

There are no implications

Procurement

There are no implications