

22 June 2015



Mountsett Crematorium Performance and Operational Report



Report of Graham Harrison, Bereavement Services Manager

Purpose of the Report

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

Performance Update - Number of Cremations

- 2 The table below provides details of the number of cremations for the period 1 April 2015 to 31 May 2015 inclusive, with comparative data in the same periods last year:

| | 2014/15 | 2015/16 | Change |
|--------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| April | 102 | 92 | - 10 |
| May | 108 | 107 | - 1 |
| TOTAL | 210 | 199 | - 11 |

- 3. There were 199 cremations undertaken during 1 April 2015 to 31 May 2015, compared to 210 in the comparable period last year, a reduction of 11 year on year. The profile of where families came from can be seen below. In summary 58 came from Gateshead, 111 from Durham and 30 from outside of the area.

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Gateshead | 58 |
| Durham | 111 |
| Outside Area | 30 |
| Total | 199 |

Memorials

- 4. The table below outlines the number and value of the memorials sold in period April to May 2015 compared to the same period the previous year.

| | (Apr - May) 2014/15 | | (Apr - May) 2015/16 | |
|----------------------|---------------------|-------|---------------------|-------|
| | Number | £ | Number | £ |
| Large Plaques | 6 | 2,369 | 3 | 1,215 |

- 5. In overall terms the number and value of memorials sold of 3 / £1,215, compared to 6 / £2,369 in the same period last year and shows a decrease of 3 / £1,215.

Operational Matters

Staffing

6. Members will recall at the last meeting that the replacement trainee Crematorium Attendant was awaiting a test date in order to qualify as a cremator operator. I can now confirm that he was successful in achieving this qualification and continues to learn other aspects of the crematorium workings.

Recycling of Metals Scheme

7. As Members are aware, due to the location of the Child Funeral Charity (CFC), arrangements were made for the cheque to be sent to them by the Bereavement Service Manager. A letter of thanks has been received from the above trust and can be found in Appendix 2.

Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management ICCM Learning Convention and Exhibition 2015

8. The Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management ICCM Learning Convention and Exhibition is to be held at Forest Pines Hotel, North Lincolnshire from 28 to 30 September 2015. It is proposed that the Bereavement Services Manager and the Chair attend this conference as representatives of the Mountsett Crematorium Joint Committee.

Recommendations and Reasons

9. It is recommended that Members of the Mountsett Joint Committee:
 - Note the first two months performance of the crematorium.
 - Note the progress of the trainee crematorium attendant.
 - Note the distribution of recycling income to the respective charity and recent letter of thanks.
 - To agree to the attendance of the Bereavement Services Manager and the Chair at the annual Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management Conference.

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance

As identified in the report

Staffing

There are no implications

Risk

There are no implications

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

There are no implications

Accommodation

There are no implications

Crime and Disorder

There are no implications

Human Rights

There are no implications

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.

Procurement

There are no implications

Disability Issues

There are no implications

Legal Implications

As outlined in the report