

Mountsett Crematoria Joint Committee

25 September 2015

**External Audit Report – Issues Arising
report for the year ended 31 March
2015.**



Joint Report of Terry Collins – Corporate Director: Neighbourhood Services; Don McLure – Corporate Director: Resources & Treasurer to the Joint Committee

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to present to the Mountsett Crematorium Joint Committee, the External Auditors (BDO LLP) Issues Arising Report for the year ended 31st March 2015.

Background Information

2. In June 2015, in line with the statutory requirements of a Smaller Relevant Body, the Mountsett Crematorium Joint Committee submitted the Small Bodies in England Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2015 to BDO LLP for audit under the limited assurance audit regime.

External Audit Findings and Required Action

3. The Audit has now been completed and has not highlighted any material weaknesses around the Joint Committees system of internal control and has concluded that the return is a true and fair view of the financial position at 31 March 2015.

Recommendations and Reasons

4. Members of the Joint Committee are requested to note the conclusion of the Crematorium Audit and approve the Small Bodies in England Annual Return for the financial year ended 31 March 2015 (attached at Appendix 2).

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Staffing

There are no staffing implications associated with this report.

Risk

No issues were highlighted in the External Auditor's Issues Arising Report for the year ended 31 March 2015 thus demonstrating the Joint Committee's governance arrangements and awareness of risks associated with the Crematorium operations.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Duty

There are no equality and diversity implications associated with this report. Equality Impact Assessments, where appropriate, are undertaken as a matter of routine part of the development of any new policy or policy change.

Accommodation

There are no Accommodation implications associated with this report.

Crime and Disorder

There are no Crime and Disorder implications associated with this report.

Human Rights

There are no implications associated with this 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.

Procurement

There are no implications associated with this report.

Disability Discrimination Act

There are no implications associated with this report.

Legal Implications

The Accounts and Audit Regulations and Code of Practice set out the legal and regulatory framework in which the accounts of the Joint Committee are prepared. The proposals within this report seek to strengthen the Joint Committees compliance with these