

**Central Durham Crematorium  
Joint Committee**

**28 September 2016**

**External Audit Annual Review of  
the Return for the year ended 31  
March 2016**



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**Joint Report of Oliver Sherratt – Interim Corporate Director:  
Neighbourhood Services; Paul Darby – Interim Corporate Director:  
Resources and Treasurer to the Joint Committee**

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**Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to present to the Central Durham Crematorium Joint Committee, the External Auditors (BDO LLP) Annual Review of the Joint Committees Return for the year ended 31 March 2016.

**Background Information**

2. In June 2016, in line with the statutory requirements of a Smaller Relevant Body, the Central Durham Crematorium Joint Committee submitted the Joint Committees Return for the year ended 31 March 2016 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 noted only one minor exception where a table did not add up by £1.

**Recommendations**

4. Members of the Joint Committee approve the Joint Committees Return for the year ended 31 March 2016 including the External Report 2015/16 Certificate (attached at Appendix 2).

**Background Papers**

Final accounts working papers and reports to / minutes of the Joint Committee in year.

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Ed Thompson, Principal Accountant 03000 263 481**

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## **Appendix 1: Implications**

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### **Finance**

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

### **Staffing**

There are no staffing implications associated with this report.

### **Risk**

No material issues are expected to be highlighted in the External Auditor's Issues Arising Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 thus demonstrating the Joint Committee's governance arrangements and awareness of risks associated with the Crematorium operations.

### **Equality and Diversity/ Public Sector Equality Duty**

None

### **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**

None

### **Consultation**

None. However, officers of Spennymoor 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 Central Durham Crematorium.

### **Procurement**

None

### **Disability Discrimination Act**

None

### **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