

## **Mountsett Crematorium Joint Committee**

**29 September 2017**

**External Audit Annual Review of the Return for the year ended 31 March 2017.**



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### **Joint Report of Ian Thompson – Corporate Director: Regeneration and Local Services; John Hewitt – Corporate Director: Resources & Treasurer to the Joint Committee**

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#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to present to the Mountsett Crematorium Joint Committee, the External Auditors (Mazars LLP) Annual Review of the Joint Committees Return for the year ended 31 March 2017.

#### **Background Information**

2. In June 2017 the Mountsett Crematorium Joint Committee submitted the Joint Committees Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2017 to Mazars 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 accounting statements and reports no exceptions to the Return.

#### **Recommendations and Reasons**

4. Members of the Joint Committee approve the Joint Committees Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2017 including the External Report 2016/17 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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## **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 issues were highlighted in the External Auditor's Issues Arising Report for the year ended 31 March 2017 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 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