

**Central Durham Crematorium
Joint Committee**

26 September 2018

**External Audit Review of the
Annual Return for the year
ended 31 March 2018**



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

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to present to the Central Durham Crematorium Joint Committee, the External Auditors (Mazars LLP) Annual Review of the Joint Committees Return for the year ended 31 March 2018.

Background Information

2. In June 2018 the Central Durham Crematorium Joint Committee submitted the Joint Committees Annual Return for the financial year ended 31 March 2018 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

4. Members of the Joint Committee approve the Joint Committees Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2018 including the External Report 2017/18 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

Finance

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Staffing

There are no staffing implications associated with this report.

Risk

No material issues were highlighted in the External Auditor's Report for the year ended 31 March 2018 thus demonstrating the Joint Committee's governance arrangements and awareness of risks associated with the Crematorium operations are considered to be appropriate.

Equality and Diversity/ Public Sector Equality 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

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 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