

**BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**COYCHURCH CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE**

**FRIDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2008**

**REPORT OF THE CLERK AND TECHNICAL OFFICER**

**1. SERVICE LEVEL BUSINESS PLAN**

1.1 At the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2008, the Crematorium Service Level Business Plan was approved by the Joint Committee (minute 152 refers). A copy of this document is attached at **Appendix 1** for information for new Members of the Committee. This document will be reviewed and presented annually to the Joint Committee at the February meeting.

1.2 During the site visit to Coychurch Crematorium, arranged for the 5<sup>th</sup> September 2008, it will have been highlighted that there are plans to extend the memorial gardens for which land has already been purchased. The design of the extension was approved by the Joint Committee on the 7<sup>th</sup> December 2007 (minute 146 refers), and in order to assist new Members of the Committee, a plan is attached at **Appendix 2**.

1.3 Funding for the project was identified in the Business Plan and the works are programmed to commence early in 2009/10. Funding has been identified for design costs within the current financial year and tenders are to be invited in the next few months. The tender submissions should be returned in time to report to the meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> February 2009.

**1.4 Recommendation**

The Joint Committee is requested to note the report.

**2. MERCURY EMISSION - STATUTORY DIRECTION**

2.1 In 2005, the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) announced its plan to reduce mercury emissions from all UK crematoria by 50%, effective from 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012.

2.2 The Federation of British Cremation Authorities (FBCA) and the Cremation Society formulated a proposal to offset the costs for those crematoria that installed abatement plant to reduce mercury emissions by contributions from those that did not. The offsetting of costs through contributions from crematoria that did not install abatement plant is

referred to as burden sharing. This proposal was overseen by the Crematoria Abatement of Mercury Emissions Organisation (CAMEO) and was accepted by DEFRA. DEFRA required a commitment from individual cremation authorities to the project by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2005.

2.3 Details of the CAMEO proposal were reported to the Joint Committee at that time, and it was resolved that Coychurch Crematorium would opt for the burden sharing alternative, rather than install mercury abatement facilities (minute 60 refers). This decision was based on the following:

- There is insufficient room available within the Crematorium for the current size of abatement equipment
- The Crematorium's Grade 2\* listing status may restrict extension works
- The potential cost of the necessary plant and building works
- The need to carry out a review of the cremator replacement programme

2.4 The Welsh Assembly Government has now issued a Statutory Direction to Welsh Unitary Authorities: Regulation of Air Pollution from Crematoria. This requires authorities that regulate crematoria to add specific conditions to the pollution permits they have previously issued. These permits must now state whether a crematorium has opted for abatement or will contribute to offsetting the costs of abatement via burden sharing of other crematoria. This must also be supported in writing by CAMEO.

2.5 Coychurch Crematorium is licensed by the Acting Head of Environmental Health Services for Bridgend County Borough Council. I can confirm that the licence has been revised in accordance with the requirements of the statutory direction and that CAMEO will issue a formal notification of Coychurch Crematorium's participation in the scheme.

## 2.6 **Recommendation**

The Joint Committee is requested to note the report.

## 3. **CREMATORIUM ROOF**

3.1 At the meeting of the Joint Committee on the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2008, a report was considered which detailed the theft of a section of copper from the roof of Coity Chapel. The report also referred to the action to be taken to replace the stolen copper (minute 7 refers).

3.2 The replacement work has now been completed at a cost of £22,500. In addition, extra close circuit television (CCTV) facilities have been installed to improve security by monitoring the roof. It is proposed to link the new CCTV equipment to Bridgend County Borough Council's CCTV central control, and it is anticipated this will be undertaken during the next six months.

### 3.3 Recommendation

The Joint Committee is requested to note the report.

## 4. 'AGREEMENT' OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE

4.1 At its last meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2008, the Joint Committee resolved that the 'Agreement' of the Joint Committee be revised and it be reported for consideration at a future meeting (minute 6(c) refers).

4.2 The 'Agreement' is being redrafted by Bridgend County Borough Council's Legal Section to reflect current arrangements. When this is complete the draft will be circulated to each council represented on the Joint Committee for comment prior to reporting for consideration by the Joint Committee.

### 4.3 Recommendation

The Joint Committee is requested to note the report.

## **RICHARD FLETCHER CLERK AND TECHNICAL OFFICER**

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### **Background Papers:**

1. Minute 152 Coychurch Crematorium Joint Committee 1<sup>st</sup> February 2008  
Minute 146 7<sup>th</sup> December 2007
2. Welsh Assembly Government Statutory Direction
3. Minute 7 Coychurch Crematorium Joint Committee 27<sup>th</sup> June 2008
4. Minute 6(c) Coychurch Crematorium Joint Committee 27<sup>th</sup> June 2008

**APPENDIX 1 AND APPENDIX 2**

**REFERRED TO IN ITEM 1 - SERVICE LEVEL BUSINESS PLAN**

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