

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE CLERK & TECHNICAL OFFICER

COYCHURCH CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE

FRIDAY 7th JUNE 2013

**CREMATORIA ABATEMENT OF MERCURY EMISSIONS ORGANISATION -
(CAMEO)**

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to update the Joint Committee on the CAMEO Scheme and the likely contribution costs.

2. Background

- 2.1 In 2005 the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) announced its plan to reduce mercury emissions from UK crematoria by 50%, effective from 31st 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. 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 31st 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. This decision was based on the following:
- There is insufficient room available within the Crematorium for the size of abatement equipment and it was anticipated that improvements in technology may reduce equipment size
 - The Crematorium's Grade 2* listed building 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

3. Current Situation

- 3.1 It was initially announced that payments towards the CAMEO Scheme would commence in January 2013 but this has now been delayed until January 2014. A pilot scheme will operate throughout this year to assist in identifying costs/income for future years. A charge of £47.25 per cremation will be used for this exercise.
- 3.2 Coychurch Crematorium's Business Plan for 2013/14 has allowed £87,000 for CAMEO payments. As the scheme will not be effective until 2014, there will be a reduction in expenditure for 2013/14. The exact sums will be re-assessed after CAMEO has completed the pilot scheme.

4. Effect upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules

- 4.1 There is none.

5. Equalities Impact Assessment

- 5.1 There is none.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 A reduction in expenditure costs for the CAMEO Scheme will result in an increased transfer to reserves in 2013/14

7. Recommendation

- 7.1 The Joint Committee is requested to note this report and the adjustment to the financial budget 2013/14.

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CLERK AND TECHNICAL OFFICER
31st May 2013

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Background Papers:

Equalities Impact Assessment Toolkit