

# COYCHURCH CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE

5 MARCH 2021

## REPORT OF THE CLERK & TECHNICAL OFFICER

### CREMATORIUM BUSINESS PLAN AND FEES

#### 1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to approve the Crematorium Business Plan and expenditure programme for 2021-22, which includes proposed increases in cremation fees.

#### 2. Connection to Corporate Well-being Objectives/Other Corporate Priorities

- 2.1 This report assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being objectives under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015:-**
1. **Supporting a successful sustainable economy** – taking steps to make the county borough a great place to do business, for people to live, work, study and visit, and to ensure that our schools are focused on raising the skills, qualifications and ambitions of all people in the county borough.
  2. **Helping people and communities to be more healthy and resilient** – taking steps to reduce or prevent people from becoming vulnerable or dependent on the Council and its services. Supporting individuals and communities to build resilience, and enable them to develop solutions to have active, healthy and independent lives.
  3. **Smarter use of resources** – ensuring that all resources (financial, physical, ecological, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the creation of resources throughout the community that can help deliver the Council's well-being objectives.

#### 3. Background

- 3.1 A Business Plan is presented annually to the Joint Committee for approval which includes service objectives and proposed maintenance and improvement projects to enhance and maintain the Crematorium grounds and buildings for the forthcoming period.

#### 4. Current situation/proposal

- 4.1. The total number of cremations for 2020 was 1,933, made up of 1,251 from Bridgend, 141 from Vale of Glamorgan and 467 from Rhondda Cynon Taff, with 74 non-residents. An agreement with the Princess of Wales Hospital for the cremation of non-viable foetal remains (NVF) has resulted in an additional 6 communal

cremations. A further 12 individual NVF cremations were arranged directly with families. Statistical records for the period from January to December 2019 and 2020 are included in the Business Plan for comparison.

4.2. The proposed Service Level Business Plan for 2021-22 is attached as **Appendix 1** which outlines the service objectives for the period.

4.3. The Crematorium's cremation charge was placed at 272 out of 308 cremation authorities in a national fee league table published in summer 2020 by the Cremation Society of Great Britain (where the highest cost is detailed first). It is recommended that the cremation charge is increased by inflation from £696.40 to £707.50. This is based on a general increase in fees of 1.6% (1% plus CPI at 0.6% in line with the most recent CPI figure published in December 2020). The table below indicates comparison on **current** (2020-21) cremation fees for adjoining crematoria:

<b>Crematorium</b>	<b>Cremation Fee 2020-21</b>
Vale of Glamorgan (Barry)	£890.00+ (excl.£55 organist)
Llanelli	£810.00
Croesyceiliog (Gwent)	£828.00 (excl. organist)
Morrison (Swansea)	£730.00 (excl.£28 organist)
Glyntaff (Pontypridd)	£721.00 (excl. organist)
Llwydcoed (Aberdare)	£721.00 (excl. organist)
Thornhill (Cardiff)	£700.00 (excl. organist)
Narberth	£700.00
Coychurch (Bridgend)	£696.40
Margam	£630.50 (excl. organist £31.50)

## 5. **Effect upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules**

5.1 There is no effect on the Policy Framework and Procedure Rules.

## 6. **Equality Impact Assessment**

6.1 There are no equality implications arising from this report.

## 7. **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Implications**

7.1 This report seeks approval of the Business Plan and expenditure programme for 2021-22. There is no requirement for a well-being statement.

## 8. **Financial Implications**

8.1 All variations to expenditure and income, as outlined in the Service Level Business Plan 2021-22, have been incorporated into the Treasurer's Report and the Revenue Budget for 2021-22.

## 9. **Recommendations**

- 9.1 The Joint Committee is recommended to approve the Service Level Business Plan 2021-22.
- 9.2 The Joint Committee is recommended to approve the cremation fee for 2021-22 at £707.50 and a general increase in all fees of 1.6%.

**Zak Shell**  
**CLERK AND TECHNICAL OFFICER**  
**12<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

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**Background Papers:** Equalities Impact Assessment Toolkit and  
Business Plan Report to the Joint Committee 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019 and  
Business Plan Report to the Joint Committee 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020.