

Meeting of:	COYCHURCH CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE
Date of Meeting:	4 SEPTEMBER 2026
Report Title:	THE FEDERATION OF BURIAL AND CREMATION AUTHORITIES INSPECTION OF COYCHURCH CREMATORIUM
Report Owner: Responsible Chief Officer / Cabinet Member	REPORT OF THE CLERK & TECHNICAL OFFICER COYCHURCH CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE
Responsible Officer:	JOANNA HAMILTON BEREAVEMENT SERVICES MANAGER & REGISTRAR
Policy Framework and Procedure Rules:	There is no impact on the Policy Framework and Procedure Rules.
Executive Summary:	• To advise the Joint Committee of a recent inspection of Coychurch Crematorium by the Federation of Burial and Cremation Authorities (FBCA), which assesses performance across key areas of service delivery, ranging across operational procedures, statutory and regulatory compliance, the quality of service provided and the standard of facilities. • Provide certified assurance to the Joint Committee of the Crematorium's compliance with the FBCA's standards and guidance.

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Joint Committee on the outcome of an inspection visit by the Federation of Burial and Cremation Authorities (FBCA) which took place on 9th July 2026. The Crematorium Compliance Scheme assesses performance across eight key areas of service delivery, ranging across operational procedures, statutory and regulatory compliance, the quality of service provided and the standard of facilities.

2. Background

- 2.1 The FBCA was formed in 1924 and its Code of Practice sets standards of performance for Crematoria. Government Departments consult the

FBCA on matters affecting the law and practice of cremation and the FBCA is a primary link between Government Departments in England, Scotland and Wales and Burial and Cremation Authorities throughout the UK. The FBCA carries out a selection of inspection visits of crematoria each year in accordance with its Crematorium Compliance Scheme. Following the visit a Certificate of Compliance is awarded to successful Crematoria, to confirm the authority's compliance with the Federation's standards and guidance, and ongoing commitment to maintaining high standards in the provision of a cremation service to the public.

- 2.2 Coychurch Crematorium has been a member of the FBCA since opening in 1970 and operates in accordance with its Code of Practice, as is the requirement for all member authorities.

3. Current situation / proposal

- 3.1 On 9th July 2026 Coychurch Crematorium received a visit from a technical officer of the FBCA, who was received by the Bereavement Services Manager and Registrar. An assessment was made of compliance to the requirements of various pieces of legislation relating to cremation as well as compliance with the Code of Cremation Practice and the general standards provided to the bereaved.

- 3.2 During the course of the visit 8 separate key areas of service delivery were scrutinised, through discussion and review:

- Cremation Administration
- Ceremony Facilities
- Cremation Facilities
- Premises and Facilities
- Grounds and Memorialisation
- Service and Staff
- Health and Safety
- Environmental

- 3.3 In addition the inspector assessed 3 key areas of compliance:

- The Cremation Regulations 2008, including the most recent amendment in 2024 relating to statutory documentation.
- The Defra Process Guidance Notes 5/2(25), relating to cremation.
- The FBCA's Code of Cremation Practice, relating to all aspects of the service.

- 3.4 Following the inspection the Crematorium was issued with a Certificate of Compliance, which is attached at Appendix A.

- 3.5 The next scheduled inspection visit will be in three years.

4. Equality implications (including Socio-economic Duty and Welsh Language)

- 4.1 The protected characteristics identified within the Equality Act, Socio-economic Duty, and the impact on the use of the Welsh Language have been considered in the preparation of this report. As a public body in Wales the Council must consider the impact of strategic decisions, such as the development or the review of policies, strategies, services, and functions. This is an information report, therefore, it is not necessary to carry out an Equality Impact assessment in the production of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable equality impacts as a result of this report.

5. Well-being of Future Generations implications and connection to Corporate Well-being Objectives

- 5.1 The Act provides the basis for driving a different kind of public service in Wales, with five ways of working to guide how public services should work to deliver for people. The well-being objectives are designed to complement each other and are part of an integrated way of working to improve well-being for the people of Bridgend. The well-being goals identified in the Act were considered in the preparation of this report. It is considered that there will be no significant or unacceptable impacts upon the achievement of well-being goals/objectives as a result of this report.

6. Climate Change and Nature Implications

- 6.1 There are no Climate Change and Nature implications arising from this report.

7. Safeguarding and Corporate Parent Implications

- 7.1 There are no safeguarding and corporate parent implications arising from this report.

8. Financial implications

- 8.1 There are no financial implications arising from this information report.

9. Recommendation:

- 9.1 The Joint Committee is recommended to note the report and Certificate (**Appendix A**).

Background Papers: None