

# **BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **REPORT OF THE CLERK & TECHNICAL OFFICER**

### **COYCHURCH CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE**

**FRIDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2016**

#### **CREMATOR REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME**

##### **1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Joint Committee on progress with the cremator replacement programme in relation to the installation and maintenance, through a maintenance agreement, of the new cremators, ancillary equipment and mercury abatement plant.

##### **2. Background**

- 2.1 On 18<sup>th</sup> September 2015 the Joint Committee was informed that works had commenced on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2015 with a scheduled completion date of 20<sup>th</sup> February 2016. During this period the Crematorium would remain operational via a multi-phased installation programme, ensuring the availability of at least one fully operational cremator for the continuity of the cremation service. The disruption to the Crematorium would be further minimised by the delivery of the new cremators and ancillary equipment in pre-built form via the specially created removable roof opening in the new crematory extension, so reducing site time

##### **3. Current Situation/Proposal**

- 3.1 Works were completed in advance of the scheduled completion date of 20<sup>th</sup> February 2016.
- 3.2 The cremator replacement programme has provided for two modern bariatric cremators and ash processing equipment, coffin cold storage facilities, a mobile automatic coffin loading machine for the safe charging of bariatric coffins and a mercury abatement system providing 100% abatement of the Crematoriums cremations. The works also included a bespoke ventilation system to provide operator comfort.
- 3.3 The new plant meets the highest environmental standards and is housed in the extended, modern crematorium building which is fit for the purpose. The new refrigeration facilities enable bodies to be stored hygienically and allow the cremators to be used in the most efficient and least environmentally detrimental manner. The original part of the crematory has been fully tiled to ensure that it is presented to the highest standard.

- 3.4 The Crematorium has entered into a fifteen year all-inclusive service and maintenance agreement with Facultatieve Technologies Ltd, in accordance with the tender specification, to ensure business continuity and that the new plant is maintained to the highest standards.
  - 3.5 In addition, the catafalque lift facility has been modified to enable bariatric sized coffins to reach the crematory safely.
  - 3.6 An audit review of the Street Scene Capital Programme was undertaken as part of the 2015/16 annual Internal Audit Plan. The objective of the audit was to provide assurance that the Street Scene projects identified in the Council's Capital Programme 2015/16 were adhering to the Council's project management principles with effective governance; finance; risk management; controls in place. The Audit Report set out the findings of the review and made recommendations where it was felt that improvements in financial and non-financial administration could be made. During the Audit one strength and area of good practice within the selected projects was identified which stated that the Coychurch Crematorium project was anticipated to complete two weeks ahead of schedule and within its agreed budget. No recommendations for improvements were made.
4. **Effect upon Policy Framework and Procedure Rules**
    - 4.1 There are no effects.
  5. **Equalities Impact Assessment**
    - 5.1 There are no effects.
  6. **Financial Implications**
    - 6.1 These works were included in the expenditure budget and Service Level Business Plan for 2015/16 and accommodated from the accumulated balance of £1,195,000 which was been built up over a number of years to meet the planned costs of replacing the plant.
  7. **Recommendation**
    - 7.1 The Joint Committee is asked to note the report.

**Zac Shell**  
**CLERK AND TECHNICAL OFFICER**  
**13<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

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**Background Papers:** Equalities Impact Assessment Toolkit