

## For Publication

### Bereavement Services Manager's Report

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Meeting: Chesterfield and District Joint Crematorium Committee

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Report by: Bereavement Services Manager

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#### For publication

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#### 1.0 Purpose of Report

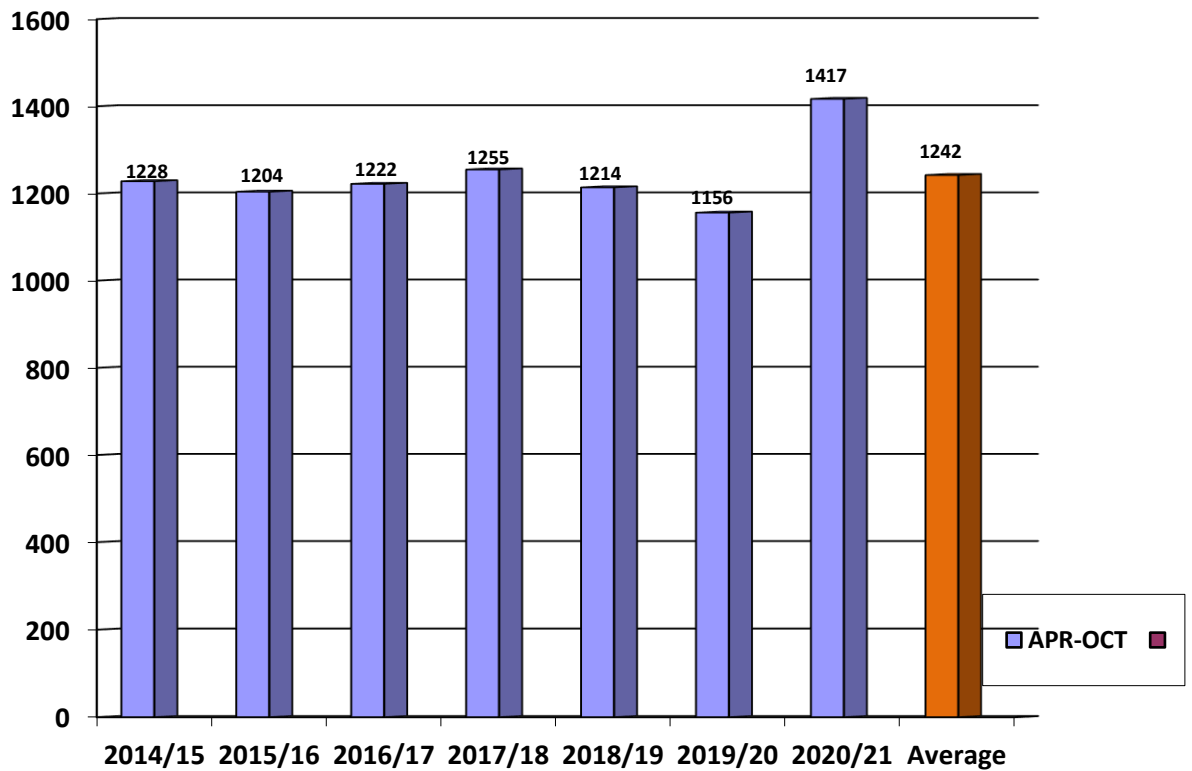
1.1 To keep Members informed of matters relating to the Operation of the Crematorium.

#### 2.0 Cremation Figures

2.1 This part of the report details the cremation totals, comparisons and which area funerals are being received from for the 2020/21 Financial Year to date.

	CJCC Cremations	Derbyshire Registered Deaths	England and Wales Registered Deaths
APR- SEPT 19/20	972	3,824	247,636
APR - SEPT 20/21	1259	4,622	303,233
+/-	<b>+29%</b>	<b>+21%</b>	<b>+22%</b>

	CBC	WEST	NEDDC	BDC	AV	OUTSIDE
APR-OCT 18/19	577	80	314	153	9	81
APR-OCT 19/20	480	74	334	185	4	79
APR-OCT 20/21	629	82	409	154	16	127



In summary, there has been a considerable rise in cremation numbers in the Financial Year to date due to the impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

The number of cremations increased by 29% on the previous year for the same period, which was a higher increase than the County and National picture. The Manager has previously reported on the increase in cremations from outside the constituent areas

(particularly Sheffield) during the first wave which has contributed to the overall picture.

### **3.0 Management Plan and Works**

A number of improvement and necessary repair works have commenced or have been completed including;

- Replacement Fuel Tank
- Replacement Gates to the Maintenance Yard
- Refurbishment of Vestry (Ministers Preparation Room)
- Phase II of Rose Bed Refurbishment
- Land Drainage Improvements and Repairs
- Repairs to drainage from Chapel
- Structural Repairs to Chapel Walls
- Redecoration of Music Room and Crematory Area

However, some other projects have been delayed due to disruption from the Pandemic and will be scheduled to take place in the next Financial Year along with other scheduled improvement for 2021/22 including;

- Path Repairs to Strewing Heaths
- Resurfacing of the Woodland Walk Path
- Structural Repairs to Chapel Walls
- Repairs to Drainage
- Ridge and Roof Tile Repairs
- Soffits, Facias and Gutter Replacement
- Maintenance Garage Repairs and Improvements
- Improvements to Chapel Entrance including lighting and signage
- Chapel Air Conditioning
- Book of Remembrance Flooring and Roof Repairs/Refurb

### **4.0 Environmental Impact**

At the meeting of the Joint Crematorium in September 2019, the Manager presented a report detailing the impact on the Environment from Chesterfield and District Crematorium (see Appendix 1).

This followed each of the three constituent authorities declaring their own Climate Emergency Motions in 2019.

The report detailed the Crematorium's carbon footprint whilst detailing actions taken to date to reduce that impact.

To recap, those actions already taken included;

- a) Reduction of Plastics from 2019 Onwards
- b) Reduction in Chemical Spraying Within the Grounds
- c) Solar Energy via Panels on Crematory and Office Roof
- d) Reuse and Recycle Crematory Heat to Warm Buildings
- e) Abatement and Filtration Plant
- f) Recycling of Metals, Plastics, Paper and Cardboard
- g) Green Waste Not Leaving Site and Reused
- h) Biodiversity and Maintenance Regimes

At the 2019 meeting a recommendation was approved to take forward the following actions with an update to Committee in 2020.

Action	Reason	Date	Progress
Investigate the potential to switch to HVO Fuel as a replacement for 1000L Diesel per annum	Reduce greenhouse emissions by up to 90% against diesel. Renewable, sustainable, carbon offset. Drop in Replacement for Diesel and Gas Oil	2019	Fuel sourced from local supplier. Research needed on compatibility with vehicles.
Investigate the possibility of submission of	Reduce journeys by Funeral Directors to deliver paperwork.	2019	System now in place.

Cremation Forms Electronically	Encouraged within amendments to Cremation Regulations.		
Promote and encourage the reduction of plastics in floral tributes.	ICCM Policy and Good Practice.  Plastic wrappers in eco system and damage to wildlife.  Reduce plastic to landfill.	2020	No progress made due to other pressures.  Reconvene in 2021.
Increase headland and reduce mowing regime to create habitat by 200m2	Increase wildlife habitat	2020	Headland increased.
Investigate and recommend participation in Carbon offsetting schemes.	Crematorium becomes carbon neutral.	2020	Schemes investigated.  Proposal to Committee in 2021.
Investigate the need to promote and encourage car sharing for mourners.	Reduce greenhouse emissions.  Must be promoted in a dignified and sensitive manner.  Increase car parking availability at the Crematorium.	2020	Vehicles to site have drastically reduced during Pandemic. Vehicle sharing not possible at present.
Continue to keep updated on latest Cremation Technologies.	To recommend environmentally friendly alternatives when the replacement of	Ongoing	Ongoing, meetings with manufacturers took place in 2019.

	cremation equipment is next undertaken.		
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## 5.0 **Lead Authority Structural Change**

An update will be given on a structural change within the Lead Authority.

## 6.0 **Recommendations**

5.1 That the report be noted.

## 7.0 **Reasons for Recommendation**

6.1 To update Members on the day to day operation of the Crematorium and to continue to raise awareness of the Environmental Impact of the Crematorium and current good practice.

6.2 That the Crematorium continues to seek options that reduce the risk of harm to the Environment from its operation at the earliest opportunity despite current pressures.

**Ross Fawbert**  
**Bereavement Services Manager**