

For Publication

Bereavement Services Manager's Report

Meeting:	Chesterfield and District Joint Crematorium Committee
Date:	5 June 2023
For publication	

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To keep Members informed of matters relating to the day-to-day operation of the Crematorium.

2.0 Cremation Figures

- 2.1 This part of the report details cremation service totals, comparisons and from which constituent area funerals have been received from for the 2022/23 Financial Year.

	CBC	WEST	NEDDC	BDC	AV	OUTSIDE
APR-MAR 2019 /20	940	123	607	297	6	153
APR-MAR 2020 /21	1116	148	707	335	20	206
APR- MAR 2021 /22	987	186	661	301	5	183
APR-MAR 2022 /23	1083	134	636	263	35	172

	CJCC Cremations	Derbyshire Registered Deaths	England and Wales Registered Deaths
APR – MAR 19/20	2,126	8,444	536,057
APR – MAR 20/21	2,533	9,824	637,748
APR – MAR 21/22	2323	8,713	553,330

APR	-	2323	9,498	598,808
MAR 22/23				

3.0 **Service of Remembrance and Open Day**

- 3.1 Member's may recall from the previous Manager's report, that the 2023 Service of Remembrance and Open Day will take place on Sunday 11th June. This will be the first event of it's kind since the Covid 19 Pandemic.
- 3.2 The Manager wishes to invite the Chair (or Vice Chair), once elected, to attend the event and present a poem or reading on behalf of the Committee during the service which commences at 1.00pm.
- 3.3 The Open Day is an opportunity for members of the Public to look behind the scenes at the workings of the Crematorium and ask any questions relating to the Cremation Funeral Process. The Manager appreciates that Member's new to the Committee may also appreciate or benefit from an onsite tour of the facility. The Manager is available after this meeting if any Member's wish to travel back to the Crematorium for a tour. Alternatively, Member's can contact the Manager at any time to arrange separately.

4.0 **Recycling of Metal Presentation**

- 4.1 The recycling of metals resulting from cremation is carried out with the consent of each bereaved family. The Crematorium participates in the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM) National Recycling Scheme. The surplus from the scheme is divided between participating Crematoria and then donated to bereavement related Charities nominated by this Committee.
- 4.2 The first two Charities nominated by the Committee in 2022 will now receive £6,000 each. A presentation and publicity opportunity has been provisionally arranged for 30 June 2023 at 10.00am and the Manager wishes to invite the Chair (or Vice Chair) to present the cheque.
- 4.3 A letter is attached at Appendix 1, from CRUSE Bereavement Support, which thanks the Crematorium Committee for the donation and explains how the donation will be used to support the bereaved.

5.0 **Delay in Introduction of the Medical Examiner Scheme**

- 5.1 This part of the report offers a further update on the implementation of the Medical Examiners Scheme.
- 5.2 The Medical Referee visits the crematorium to inspect and scrutinise all

the official medical certified documentation regarding the deceased. Cremation cannot take place until the Medical Examiner is satisfied and has authorised cremation.

5.2 The Ministry of Justice had previously confirmed that it is the Government's intention to work towards implementing the statutory medical examiner system **from** April 2023. This new scheme would replace Crematorium Medical Referee's with the intention to;

- provide greater safeguards for the public by ensuring independent scrutiny of all non-coronial deaths.
- Ensure the appropriate direction of deaths to the coroner.
- Provide a better service for the bereaved and an opportunity for them to raise any concerns to a doctor not involved in the care of the deceased.
- Improve the quality of death certification.
- Improve the quality of mortality data.

5.3 Notification from the Coroner's Office of the Ministry of Justice confirmed on 28 April 2023 that there has been a delay and that implementation of the scheme will now take place from April 2024.

6.0 **Break in and Burglary**

6.1 The Crematorium was broken into and burgled in the early hours of 10 April 2022. A Grounds Maintenance Vehicle and a number of powered hand tools were stolen, totalling approximately £30,000. An Insurance Claim Process and Replacement Programme for stolen equipment is being undertaken.

6.2 A review of onsite security has taken place with further measures in place. This review has identified the need for the additional planned CCTV, additional fencing and gates in the maintenance yard and prompted a review of the main entrance gates locking and unlocking times.

6.3 It is unlikely that any successful insurance claim will cover the full cost of replacement items, likely resulting in an additional negative budget implication.

6.4 The Maintenance Garage Doors were also badly damaged during the break in, requiring replacement. Quotations are currently being obtained for replacements and a further update will be given at the next meeting of the Committee.

6.0 **Recommendations**

6.1 That the report is noted.

6.2 That Member's approve the purchase of replacement Grounds

Maintenance Equipment over and above what is successfully claimed via Insurance.

Document information

Report author	
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Background documents These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when the report was prepared.	
N/A	
Appendices to the report	
Appendix 1	Letter From CRUSE Bereavement Support