

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE : Housing & Environment
DATE: 16th February 2010
DIRECTOR: Pete Leonard
TITLE OF REPORT: Replacement Cremators – progress report
REPORT NUMBER : H&E/10/002

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide the Committee with an update of progress with the replacement of the cremators at Hazlehead Crematorium. **All changes from previous reports to this Committee are in bold type for ease of reference.**

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee:

- (i) notes the progress made to date on replacing the out of date and unreliable cremators at Hazlehead Crematorium ; and
- (ii) instructs the Director of Housing & Environment to report back on progress at the Committee's meeting in **April** 2010.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

As Members will be aware from the last progress report on 19th November 2009, the capital spend profile for the project is as follows:

08/09 - £560,000
09/10 - £1,900,000
10/11 - £1,400,000
11/12 - £100,000

At the time of writing, the actual spend against the current financial year was £510,687, or 26.9 % of the projected figure. The anticipated spend this financial year is still expected to be around the £1.9 million pound mark.

The anticipated spend for 09/10 on the project to replace the cremators at the Crematorium is therefore still on target to achieve £1.9 million.

4. SERVICE & COMMUNITY IMPACT

This report supports the Community Plan's vision for land use and the environment, namely, for Aberdeen to be a City that protects, enhances and

values its environment. It also links generally to the Council's policy statement, Vibrant, Dynamic and Forward Looking, in terms of its declared intention to be an efficient Council.

5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

This project is being undertaken to replace outdated, worn and unreliable cremators which have cost increasingly high amounts to maintain, year on year. The level of maintenance and repair causes delays in cremation services and consequent distress to bereaved relatives and friends. The unreliability of the cremators and their operating /monitoring equipment also causes undue stress to the dedicated staff at the Crematorium, as well as putting the Council at risk of contravening Environmental protection legislation on a regular basis. The new system will have appropriate backups systems as well as being reliable and more energy efficient.

6. REPORT

As members will be aware from previous progress reports, the work started on schedule and all Funeral Directors had been briefed on the traffic management and other implications well in advance.

This has proved very successful, as no complaints have been received as a result of the works to date. The Crematorium Superintendent and his staff have done, and are doing, an excellent job of continuing to provide a demanding service to the public in the midst of considerable upheaval.

The following progress had been made as of 13th January 2010.

Main Extension

The copper cladding and waterproof membrane to the roof is virtually complete and has now been completed.

The mechanical and electrical installation is progressing well.

Link Corridor Structure

The joinery works on the roof have been delayed due to the recent adverse weather, these recommenced in the week beginning 25th January 2010.

Cremator Delivery and Installation

These works were originally planned to commence on 9/01/10, but due to snow were put on hold and re-programmed to start on 16/01/10. This work has been satisfactorily completed.

Gas Main & Meter

The completion of the gas main and the installation of the meter commenced in the week beginning 25/01/10.

Overall Progress Assessment

With the roofing works and installation of the cremators on the critical path, as a consequence of the recent adverse weather, works are now 1 week behind programme.

7. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- (i) Replacement Cremators: Progress Report.
(Resources Management Committee 5th May 2009)
- (ii) Replacement Cremators –Progress Report
(Housing and Environment Committee 6th October 2009)
- (iii) Replacement Cremators –Progress Report
(Housing and Environment Committee 19th November 2009)
- (iv) **Replacement Cremators –Progress Report**
(Housing and Environment Committee 11th January 2010)