

COMMITTEE : Housing & Environment DATE: **13th April 2010**

CORPORATE DIRECTOR: Pete Leonard

TITLE OF REPORT: Replacement Cremators – progress report

REPORT NUMBER : H&E/

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- (i) notes the progress made to date on replacing the out of date and unreliable cremators at Hazlehead Crematorium ; and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 on **25th May 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 **£1,723,006.60, or 90.7%** 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This project is being undertaken to replace outdated, worn and unreliable cremators which have cost increasingly high amounts to maintain, year on year.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 1st March 2010.

Main extension

The roof coverings are nearing completion, with the installation of extract fans and high level glazing virtually complete.

Link

The roof coverings are virtually complete. The sedum roof is due to start during w/c 8th March.

Service Yard

Screen walls complete.

Cremator Installation

Installation of the cremators, ductwork, fans, filter etc. is progressing well.

Overall Progress Assessment

Works are progressing well despite recent inclement weather. An extension of time of one week has been awarded due to exceptionally adverse weather

conditions when the cremators were due to be delivered. The completion dates have been revised as follows:

Section 1 - Date for Completion 23rd May 2010

Section 2 - Date for Completion 1st August 2010

Section 3 - Date for Completion 12th September 2010.

Works are progressing in line with these revised dates.

7. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Head of Service: Shelter & Environment (Interim Lead for Environment)

nstead@aberdeencity.gov.uk

Tel. 01224 523096



6. 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)
- (v) Replacement Cremators –Progress Report
(Housing and Environment Committee 16th February 2010)**