

**Report of the Strategic Director**

**VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE 2020**

1. Purpose of the report

To provide members of the Joint Committee with a report on the Virtual Christmas Service of Remembrance 2020. This is part of providing professional, compassionate and sensitive bereavement services.

2. Background

Each year Bramcote Crematorium holds at least one Service of Remembrance. This is to provide comfort and reassurance to the bereaved; promote the crematorium, bereavement services and its work; and to gain valuable customer feedback at a time when it is appropriate to do so.

Due to COVID- 19 the Christmas Service of Remembrance 2020 was a virtual pre-recorded service. Further information on the Virtual Christmas Service of Remembrance 2020 is shown in the appendix.

3. Financial Implications

The cost of providing the Virtual Service of Remembrance 2020 was approximately £1300. This was higher than the previous year. The increased spend was incurred on items such as hiring the services of commercial video recording company and a professional singer. The cost was contained within existing budgets.

**Recommendation**

**The Joint Committee is asked to NOTE this report.**

Background papers

Nil

**APPENDIX**

**Annual Christmas Service of Remembrance 2020 (Virtual)**

The annual Christmas Service of Remembrance was pre-recorded due to COVID- 19 and then published online through the Bramcote Bereavement Services Website. The service was available from the 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020 to 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2021 inclusive.

The service was very different this year and recorded to the same standard of our attended service of remembrance. Staff lighted candles in memory of loved ones and loved one's names were read out during the service.

The service itself was led by Rachel Snowball with performances of Christmas songs sung by Shannon O'Donnell.

Unfortunately, The Memory Christmas Tree was unable to go into the book of Remembrance Room this year due to COVID-19.

We advise that all donation this year goes to Survivors of Bereavement by Suicide. Customers can go onto their website to make their donation.