Report of the Deputy Chief Executive

EXTERNAL ADVICE ON CREMATOR REPLACEMENT

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1.   Purpose of report

       To update members on the proposal to use specialist external advice to assist with the cremator replacement process at Bramcote Crematorium.

2.   Background

       Members will recall that the cremators at Bramcote are ageing and in need of replacement. This is evidenced by the increasing expenditure required to keep them safely in productive operation. As they come up for replacement there is also a need to consider whether it is opportune / viable to switch from gas to electric cremators. This would allow the Crematorium to adopt what would become a carbon-neutral position once the nation's electricity supply is fully decarbonised.

3.   Complexities and recommendation

       To assist with the pre-tendering process, it is recommended that specialist external advice is procured to assist with consideration of:

- Gas versus electric capital and whole life costs
- Cost versus benefits of having 2 or 3 cremators
- Availability of external funding for electric cremators
- Associated building fabric, operational, customer service and staffing implications of the various options
- Future-proofing.

       The specialists would also assist with drawing up the required cremator replacement specifications and evaluation of tenders.

       As agreed verbally in principle at the 6 September 2021 meeting of the Committee, tenders for such advice have been invited and a verbal update will be given at this Committee on progress with this.

4.   Financial implications

       The initial advice is estimated to cost up to £5,000. A day rate will be obtained for assistance with the tender specification and evaluation work.

Recommendations

The Committee is asked to:
1. **NOTE the report and any further verbal updates provided.**
2. **RESOLVE to delegate to the Broxtowe Deputy Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of this Committee, the appointment of specialist advisors.**

Background Papers: Nil