

Report of the Executive Director

CREMATION NUMBERS1. Purpose of Report

To provide the Joint Committee with an update on cremation numbers.

2. Recommendation

The Joint Committee is asked to NOTE this report.

3. Detail

In accordance with the Joint Committee's request shown below is a table detailing the number of services on a year by year basis. The number of cremations in 2021/22 reduced from the previous year but it should be noted that the 2020/21 figure was likely to have increased due to the effects of the pandemic. A more accurate trend on whether the number of cremations is increasing or decreasing will be able to be ascertained over the next year. The cremations in the first five months of 2022/23 are comparable to the previous year.

Month	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
April	249	310	257	179	221	190	302	229	180
May	233	229	229	225	241	230	283	187	212
June	206	299	241	228	194	212	188	241	227
July	236	232	209	190	174	196	178	183	180
August	234	210	196	175	196	194	179	180	215
September	233	219	231	187	150	175	182	192	0
October	261	235	212	197	189	207	202	193	0
November	268	231	252	201	212	210	222	226	0
December	298	289	250	196	195	202	262	199	0
January	309	250	310	276	273	272	224	217	0
February	321	301	307	259	238	204	303	229	0
March	323	294	258	257	211	240	272	230	0
Total	3171	3099	2952	2570	2494	2532	2797	2506	1014

Further information relating to the breakdowns of the different service types are shown in the appendix.

4. Financial Implications

No comments.

5. Legal Implications

No comments.

6. Human Resources Implications

No comments.

7. Union Comments

No comments.

8. Data Protection Compliance Implications

No comments.

9. Equality Impact Assessment

No comments.

10. Background Papers

Nil.

APPENDIX

Types of Services breakdown

The table below shows the different types of cremations which have taken place in 2022/23.

The key for the information in the table is show below:

Full Service: A normal 60 minute service and cremation.

Committal Service: The service was held at a church/chapel first then, a quick service and cremation.

Direct Services: A normal cremation but where there is no service.

Hospital Body: The Cremation of a body received direct from the hospital.

Low Cost Services: A normal cremation involving a 60 minute service only at 9:00am in the Serenity Chapel.

As is evident the majority of cremations are 'total cremations' with 'committal services' and 'extended services' being the other main services provided.

TOTALS	Full Service	Committal Service	Directs	Hospital Body	Low Cost Funeral	Cremations Total
2022/23	911	33	42	18	10	1014

Note: Low cost funerals started in December 2021.