

## Report of the Interim Deputy Chief Executive

**WAIVING OF CHARGES FOR 16 AND 17 YEAR DECEASED PERSONS**1. Purpose of report

To recommend the waiving of the cremation fee for 16 and 17 year old deceased persons at Bramcote Crematorium, and to recommend to the councils of both constituent authorities that interment fees at their cemeteries also be waived for 16 and 17 year old deceased persons.

2. Background and detail

The Joint Committee may recall waiving the cremation fee for 12 to 15 year old deceased persons some years back. This was on the basis that not only is the loss of a young person a huge tragedy to their families and friends, but the funeral costs associated with such a young person are usually not budgeted or planned for, or contributed to by the young person themselves.

With changes in government policy over recent years, the proportion of 16 and 17 year olds in education and training has significantly increased; however, the proportion in full-time jobs has significantly reduced. As such it is now considered appropriate to waive the main bereavement services fees for 16 and 17 year olds as well.

The number of cremations and interments for 16 and 17 year olds is typically one or less per year over the last few years (ie. one cremation or less, one Broxtowe interment or less, one Erewash interment or less).

3. Financial implications

Based on the figures above the typical annual loss of income is estimated as follows:

- Bramcote Crematorium – less than £700 per year
- Broxtowe Borough Council – less than £1,000 per year
- Erewash Borough Council - less than £1,000 per year

The proposed waiving of the cremation fee from April 2019 has been reflected in the Revenue estimates 2018/19 and 2019/20 and medium Term Financial Strategy to 2021/22 reports on this agenda.

The income from interment fees at the cemeteries is received directly by the respective Councils.

**Recommendation**

**The Committee is asked to APPROVE the waiving of the cremation fee for 16 and 17 year old deceased persons at Bramcote Crematorium with immediate effect; and to RECOMMEND to the councils of both constituent authorities that interment fees at their cemeteries also be waived for 16 and 17 year old deceased persons from 1 April 2019.**

Background papers

Nil