

Report of the Interim Deputy Chief Executive

BEREAVEMENT SERVICES UPDATE1. Purpose of report

To provide the Joint Committee with various updates regarding Bramcote Bereavement Services.

2. Detail

- The 2018/19 budget includes £40,000 for the refurbishment of the Serenity Chapel exit toilets. The work was completed in December 2018 and it is anticipated that the cost will be contained within existing budgets.
- Cremator re-line and hearth – budget £35,000, spent £6,000 to date.
- Outstanding improvements planned for this financial year include: connecting up the heat exchanger (£25,000 budgeted). This is a specialist piece of work and it is proving difficult to obtain three quotes. The works are likely to cost around £25,000 which is the Broxtowe threshold at which three quotations are needed rather than just one. The Joint Committee's approval is sought to just obtain two quotations if three cannot be sourced. It is hoped to undertake the work in March 2019.
- Officers are continuing to explore options for a replacement crematorium and burials software system (£15,700 budgeted). Tenders were invited in December 2018 and are due back later this month.
- Latest take-up of the various new styles of memorialisation is as follows:

Style of memorialisation	Take-up
Columbarium (installed 2015)	13
Woodland Walk barbican (2018)	16
Children's garden columbarium (2018)	1
Reflection wall plaques (2018)	1

- Table of comparative cremation numbers by year:

Year (April – November)	Number of Cremations
2014	1920
2015	1973
2016	1853
2017	1680
2018	1621

3. Financial implications

The financial implications are given above.

Recommendation

The Joint Committee is asked to NOTE this report.

Background papers

Nil