

## Report of the Executive Director

**CHARITABLE DONATIONS 2023/24**1. Purpose of Report

To seek approval of the charitable organisation which will receive the charitable donation in 2023/24 from the funds raised through the metals recycling scheme.

2. Recommendation

**The Joint Committee is asked to CONSIDER the charitable organisations who will receive the donation from the funds raised through the metals recycling scheme and RESOLVE accordingly.**

3. Detail

It is common place in modern medical practice for people to have artificial orthopaedic implants such as hip and knee replacement joints. Often these implants are metal. Following the cremation, the metal implants are extracted from the cremated remains. The separated metals are subsequently classified as waste and need to be disposed of accordingly.

The ICCM, as the recognised industry body, facilitates an approved national metal collection service. The metals are collected for recycling by a ICCM approved contractor. Bramcote Crematorium is one of the many crematoriums in the country which are part of this collaborative approach to metal recycling.

The ICCM receive payment from the contractor for the metals collected. The funds are then shared out equally on an annual basis amongst the crematoriums who support the national scheme. The funds are allocated on the basis that they are then given to local bereavement charities. Since its creation the national scheme has raised over £13 million for charities.

The recycling of metals resulting from cremation is only carried out with the written consent of each bereaved family. If a family wishes to have the metal implants returned to them this is arranged.

Two bereavement charities have approached Bramcote Crematorium requesting that they be considered for a donation in 2023/24. It is considered that members of the Joint Committee should make the decision with regards to which charity should receive the annual donation. Whilst Members may decide a different charity is more appropriate, the two charities which have expressed their interest in being considered for the donation are:

- Cruse Bereavement Support
- The Children's Bereavement Centre

Further information on the two charities is shown in the appendix.

4. Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications that arise from this report.

5. Legal Implications

There are no direct legal implications that arise from this report.

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****Cruse Bereavement Support**

Cruse Bereavement have provided the attached handouts and the following information.

Cruse Nottinghamshire is a local branch of Cruse Bereavement Support whose vision is a world where every bereaved person has somewhere to turn when someone dies. Our Cruse branch has been providing support to bereaved people locally for many years. We have wonderful Bereavement Volunteers who are highly trained to support people with person-centred bereavement support. Our support is open to anyone who is bereaved in the area. We support people who have suffered any kind of bereavement at any time, completely free of charge.

Ordinarily, around 7- 11% of people are likely to suffer 'complicated' or 'prolonged' grief following a death from natural causes. Over the past two years this figure has been much higher, resulting in an increase in people requiring specialist bereavement support.

The impact of Death for some of the bereaved has been devastating and without support, people can experience traumatic symptoms later on (including anxiety, depression and post-traumatic stress). Day-to-day life, employment and relationships can be affected.

The right support at the right time helps prevent and alleviate the negative impact of bereavement. Our Bereavement Volunteers are trained to use a person-centred approach to help bereaved people navigate complex feelings associated with loss, develop coping strategies, resilience and identify additional support networks.

"When my husband died, I didn't want to live. You've helped me to think of living again"

**Why we need your help**

We cover the cost of bereavement support, making the support we provide free to all those in the local area who would like to access it. Donations are absolutely vital, and without them we simply wouldn't be able to provide our wide reaching, life-changing support.

A donation to Cruse locally from your Crematorium would make an enormous difference to the lives of bereaved people here. Your support would enable us to grow our presence in the local community, up-skill our volunteers, train new ones and enable us to adapt our services, to ensure that no bereaved person is left to face grief alone.

If you have ideas of other ways we could work together, maybe teaming up to enable our volunteers to continue their professional development and take a tour of the crematorium or to be involved in a crematorium open day or memorial event then please do let us know.

**The Children's Bereavement Centre**

The Children's Bereavement Centre have provided the following information.

I have outlined below some information about the charity and how it helps and supports local children, young people, and their families. All its services are offered free of charge and with just 4% of the funding required to operate coming from any kind of statutory funding, other fundraising campaigns and initiatives are crucial to us.

The Children's Bereavement Centre is a local registered charity whose purpose is to relieve the distress and suffering of those children, and their families, who have experienced bereavement or loss by providing accessible information, guidance, and support. It aims to provide a network of effective support around every bereaved child, to ensure the best outcomes for all.

The charity supports people from Nottinghamshire and South Lincolnshire at one of the most difficult times of their lives. It is run by professional practitioners who are qualified to help with the grieving process brought on by the death or terminal illness diagnosis of a loved one. It is open to 3–18-year-olds and offers a safe environment for them and their families. All the children accessing support have experienced trauma, as the deaths are often in problematic circumstances such as chronic illness, accident, murder, or suicide. The charity provides free, specialist 1:1 counselling for children, social events including group activities/workshops, peer support group, and bereavement camp.

Due to the traumatic loss, children are more likely to have behavioural problems. Grieving children are also vulnerable to mental health disorders as they may be confused by what they are feeling. Often adults attempt to protect children because their own feelings are too painful to discuss. They do not want their children to feel their pain. The charity's early interventions help bereaved families to build resilience and improve their wellbeing. Children and young people can adjust to their loss, reducing their risk of negative behaviour patterns and physical or mental health problems. They are able to grow up healthier and happier.

The Children's Bereavement Centre is the only dedicated children's bereavement service in this area and continues to fill a vital gap in local service provision.