

Report of the Executive Director

CHARITABLE DONATIONS 2024/25

1. Purpose of Report

To seek approval of the charitable organisation which will receive the charitable donation in 2024/25 from the funds raised through the metals recycling scheme.

2. Recommendation

The Joint Committee is asked to consider which charitable organisation will receive the charitable donation in 2024/25 from the funds raised through the metals recycling scheme by Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management 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 Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management, as the recognised industry body, facilitates an approved national metal collection service. The metals are collected for recycling by the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management approved contractor. Bramcote Crematorium is one of the many crematoriums in the country which are part of this collaborative approach to metal recycling.

The Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management 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. It is anticipated that the value of the contribution on this round will be announced July 2024. Funds are allocated on the basis that they are then given to local bereavement charities. Since its creation the national scheme has raised over *£19 million* for charities.

Previous Donation awarded to Me & Dee Charity were truly grateful to receive the amazing amount of £14,000. With the money received, families and children facing life-changing and limited circumstances can find the space to celebrate the precious time they have together.

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.

Three bereavement charities have approached Bramcote Crematorium requesting that they be considered for a donation in 2024/25. It is considered

that members of the Joint Committee should be the deciding arm with regards which charity should receive the annual donation. Whilst Members may decide a different charity is more appropriate, the three charities which have expressed their interest in being considered for the donation are:

- Cruse Bereavement
- Age UK
- Maggie's

Further information on the three charities are shown in the **APPENDIX**.

4. Financial Implications

The comments from the Head of Finance Services were as follows:

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

5. Legal Implications

The comments from the Head of Legal were as follows:

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

6. Human Resources Implications

The comments from the Human Resources Manager were as follows:

No comments.

7. Union Comments

The Union comments were as follows:

No comments.

8. Climate Change Implications

There are no climate change issues in this report.

9. Data Protection Compliance Implications

This report does not contain any OFFICIAL(SENSITIVE) information and there are no Data Protection issues in relation to this report.

10. Equality Impact Assessment

There is no requirement for an Equality Impact Assessment.

11. Background Papers

Nil.

APPENDIX**Cruse Bereavement Support**

Cruse Bereavement have provided 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.

Age UK

Age UK have provided the following information.

Age UK Nottingham & Nottinghamshire is the largest local independent charity providing a wide range of services for older people from all communities and backgrounds.

For over 80 years we have been committed to enabling older people to find the right support when needed, live independently for as long as possible and enjoy later life.

We help tackle poverty, poor housing conditions, loneliness and fraud, as well as provide advocacy for patients and care home residents. We offer specialist dementia care and wellbeing activities such as Best Foot Forward walks and Men in Sheds.

Information, Signposting and Advice (ISA) is one of our key services, supporting older people to make informed decisions relating to benefits entitlements, later life planning, care assessments and community help, as well as helping to tackle social isolation. Our ISA service is offered in person, over the phone and online. We have seen an overwhelming increase in demand on our ISA service, due to prolonged recovery from the covid pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis. Calls to our ISA teams rose to 31,000 between 2022 and 2023; an increase of 78%. Through our support, last year saw over £2.1m worth of unclaimed benefits accessed for older people in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.

The following comments also help demonstrate the impact of our services:

“Thank you for giving me my life back. I felt so desperately lonely and isolated and now I have so much to look forward to.” Patient Representative Service User

“This is what social care should look like” Social Care Professional, regarding our Sybil Levin specialist dementia day care service.

“Absolutely love coming to sheds. Apart from learning new skills we have a great group of people supporting each other in many ways.” Men in Sheds Member

“I hadn’t spoken to anyone for 8 days. I was nervous to come [on my first walk] but everyone has made me so welcome. I have chatted with lots of different people. I feel like my spirits have been lifted and I can go home much happier than I’ve felt in ages.” Best Foot Forwards walker

We support over 45,000 older people in Nottinghamshire every year, made possible by the kindness of local donors.

Thank you for considering us as recipients of future funding.
We understand that applications made are not a guarantee of funding.

Maggie's

Maggie's have provided the following information.

Maggie's Nottingham, is located within the grounds of the City Hospital, and provides an evidence-based programme of psychological, social and practical support to people with cancer and their family and friends. We are open 9-5, Monday to Friday to anyone who needs our support, free of charge and with no appointment or referral necessary. Our programme has been developed in consultation with leading clinical practitioners and is recognised by the Department of Health and NHS as an example of best practice for improving the wellbeing of people with cancer.

Our centre is a warm and welcoming place where people can receive support, advice and counselling from expert cancer support specialists, benefits advisors, a psychologist and experienced sessional workers offering yoga, tai chi, nutrition workshops, relaxation sessions and various other group activities.

With over 50% of the population being diagnosed with cancer at some point in their lifetime, Maggie's really is needed more than ever. We are raising vital funds to continue running our programme in the year to come. Maggie's receives no regular statutory income, and we are responsible for raising enough funds to run our programme. This year we anticipate 16,500 visits to Maggie's Nottingham and would be very grateful for your help to ensure we are here for everyone who needs our professional support.