

**Report of the Executive Director**

**Charitable Donations 2025/26**

1. Purpose of Report

To seek approval of the charitable organisation which will receive the charitable donation in 2025/26 from the funds raised through the metals recycling scheme.

2. Recommendation

**The Committee is asked to CONSIDER which charitable organisation will receive the charitable donation in 2025/26 from the funds raise 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 August 2025. Funds are allocated on the basis that they are then given to local bereavement charities. Since its creation the national scheme has raised over £24 million for charities.

Previous donations were awarded to Cruse Bereavement, Age UK Nottingham & Nottinghamshire Branch, Age UK Derbyshire Branch, and Maggie's, each receiving £2,900. The total charity donation was £11,160.

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 2025/26. 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 two charities which have expressed their interest in being considered for the donation are:

- Treetops Hospice, Derbyshire
- Alzheimer's Society, Nottingham Branch

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 Monitoring Officer / Head of Legal Services were as follows:

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

6. Human Resources Implications

The comments from the Human Resources Manager were as follows:

Not applicable

7. Union Comments

The Union comments were as follows:

Not applicable.

8. Climate Change Implications

The climate change implications are contained within the 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

Not applicable.

11. Background Papers

Nil.

**Appendix**

**Treetops Bereavement Support**

Treetops Hospice provides support to over 2,500 patients and their families each year, offering all services free of charge.

Their services include counselling and complementary therapy for both adults and children who have experienced bereavement. In the 2023-24 period, 418 adults and 177 children and young people received counselling, while 94 individuals benefited from complementary therapy.

Additionally, they host a drop-in Wellbeing Café every Thursday from 10am to 3pm, offering support and information for people facing life-limiting illnesses and those who have experienced loss. Due to high attendance, a similar session has been added on Mondays. In the 2023-24 period, a total of 290 visitors attended these cafés, resulting in 2,053 visits.

On Wednesdays, the hospice runs “Tears to Laughter,” a peer support group for those who have been bereaved. Each year, 29 local individuals who may be grieving or living with a life-limiting illness are supported by a Treetops Volunteer Befriender.

The annual operating cost of Treetops Hospice exceeds £5.3 million. They receive only a small portion of funding from government bodies—approximately 18%. The majority of their funding comes from community support.

Every day, the hospice needs to raise £14,520 to continue its operations, with £11,906 coming from community efforts such as shops, fundraising activities, and donations, and £2,614 from government sources.

**Alzheimer's Society**

Dementia is the leading cause of death in the UK. This condition devastates families, stripping away people's identities and independence. Each day, 900,000 individuals face the relentless challenges that dementia presents. As the condition progresses, they often feel frightened and vulnerable.

There are universal services available to support those affected by dementia, accessible seven days a week. These include:

**Dementia Support Line:** Many people reach out when they feel overwhelmed. Specialist dementia advisers are available to help guide them toward a way forward.

**Information and Signposting:** Their website addresses common questions to help individuals understand dementia and provides guidance on specific issues, such as dementia-related dental care.

Companion Calls: Recognising that dementia can be isolating, Companion Calls connect individuals with friendly volunteers over the phone, allowing for meaningful conversations.

Donating to the Alzheimer's Society is crucial for helping those living with dementia adjust to their condition and manage it effectively. Contributions also fund pioneering research that aims to improve the future for individuals with dementia, enabling them to lead happier and more fulfilled lives. Additionally, the organisation works to amplify the voices of people with dementia, ensuring their perspectives are heard by decision-makers nationwide.

Statistics show that 1 in 3 people born today will develop dementia. People with dementia deserve much more support.