

**Report of the Strategic and Business Development Manager****Charitable Donations 2026/27****1. Purpose of Report**

To seek approval of the charitable organisation which will receive the charitable donation in 2026/27 from the funds raised through the metals recycling scheme.

**2. Recommendation**

**The Joint Committee is asked to consider which charitable organisations will receive the charitable donation in 2026/27 from the funds raised through the metals recycling scheme by Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management and RESOLVE accordingly.**

**3. Detail**

It is commonplace 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 (ICCM), 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 ICCM receive payment from the contractor for the metals collected. The funds are then shared out equally on an annual basis amongst the crematoria who support the national scheme. It is anticipated that the value of the contribution on this round will be announced August 2026. 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 Treetops Hospice and the Alzheimer's Society at £11,250 each. The total charity donation was £22,500.

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.

Five bereavement charities have approached Bramcote Crematorium requesting that they be considered for a donation in 2026/27. 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 five charities which have expressed their interest in being considered for the donation are:

- The Helpful Bureau
- Arthritis UK
- Cruse Bereavement Support Nottinghamshire
- Survivors of Bereavement by Suicide
- Rainbows Hospice

Further information on the five charities is shown in the **Appendix**.

#### **4. Financial Implications**

The comments from the Interim Deputy Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer 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****The Helpful Bureau**

Below is a case study of one of our clients, and a little bit about what we do at The Helpful Bureau.

I have also attached a copy of our trifold leaflet and the latest copy of our newsletter "The Helpful Herald!"

**Case Study**

John's wife Barbara originally joined The Helpful Bureau in 2017 when she began coming to our Music and Movement classes on a Thursday morning. When they first came, Barbara was wheelchair bound, and John would sit with her to encourage her to join in with the activity. They both then began to stay for our lunch club after Movement to Music and started making some friends.

Barbara soon came on in leaps and bounds and began to stay for music and movement without John, even ditching her wheelchair for her walker and doing her activities from a chair. There was even a time where she would stand and have a go and have us all in hysterics.

Whenever somebody had a birthday etc., she loved to make them a card.

Sadly on 31 December 2022 Barbara unexpectedly passed away and John, her doting husband of over 50 years was absolutely devastated. With the support of all the staff and trustees at The Helpful Bureau, we eventually encouraged John to come back to the lunch club with the support of his friends. As a touching memento Barbaras place was left empty as a mark of respect.

John bought in a photographic montage of Barbara through the years and bought everyone cakes. He also donated a chain to her good friend Megan who she always sat next to.

As times went on John began to regain his confidence and thoroughly enjoy his weekly activities with our "Grumpy Old Men's" club of which he is been a member.

As he has gained confidence, he has joined other groups within the area and is still driving at the ripe old age of 90! He is also passionate about our regular two weekly trips where we go to places such as Crich, Skegness, Liverpool etc.

**Our Services**

Our Home Support Services provide older people with assistance with all domestic chores from sweeping to preparing meals.

Our Befriending Scheme provides older people with visits or a phone call from our friendly befriending volunteers, to bring just a little bit of happiness to someone who potentially doesn't have contact with anyone else.

Our Wheelchair Accessible Transportation service facilitates the access of shopping outlets, medical appointments and other support groups and social clubs to our members. We also provide Volunteer Drivers who clients can book to take them to various appointments etc.

We run a variety of social groups for people to enjoy such as Lunch Club, Coffee Mornings, 'Grumpy Old Men', 'Golden Girls', Movement to Music, and Day Trips. We are committed to ensuring that all our clients have the opportunity to participate in these activities.

Our funding request would be allocated towards the following key areas:

**Equipment and Supplies:** Many of our activities require materials. Funding would ensure that we can continue offering these creative outlets to our clients.

**Transporting Clients to Groups:** Many of our clients face barriers to attending activities due to mobility challenges or lack of transportation. Your funding would help us provide transport for those who need it, ensuring that everyone has access to our groups.

**Refreshments:** Providing light refreshments during our sessions helps create a welcoming environment, encouraging social interaction and participation.

**Supporting Our Activities Coordinator:** Our Activities Coordinator plays a crucial role in organising, running, and managing these programmes. Funding towards their salary would allow us to ensure the continuity and quality of our activities.

**Weekly Lunch Club:** The lunch club is a vital aspect of our service, fostering a sense of community and providing an opportunity for individuals to connect over a meal. Funding would help subsidise the costs of ingredients, staff, and transport for clients attending the lunch club.

Your funding would directly contribute to improving the lives of vulnerable individuals in our community. It will allow us to maintain and grow our services, ensuring that we can continue to offer valuable opportunities for socialising, learning, and personal growth. The Helpful Bureau is often the first point of contact for those in need of support, and your assistance would enable us to expand our outreach and impact.

## **Arthritis Uk**

With over 10 million adults, young people and children in the UK living with arthritis, I'm writing to put our cause forward for a donation from your recycling metals scheme.

In the East Midlands alone, we have 83.75K supporters moving us towards a future where people with arthritis can live the life they choose. A donation from your crematorium would stand with people from your area and their commitment towards a future free of arthritis.

Most non-ferrous metals involved in your metal recycling scheme come from orthopaedic implants. With over 110,000 hip replacement and over 120,000 knee replacement surgeries carried out in the UK yearly, osteoarthritis accounts for over 90% of these procedures.

At Arthritis UK, we're actively funding and looking for better ways to treat osteoarthritis and reduce the future need for the implants you recycle. For many people, joint replacement surgery has been the only option available to repair joints damaged by osteoarthritis. We've funded researchers to develop new treatments, such as one that helps to repair damaged cartilage in early-stage osteoarthritis, delaying or preventing the need for joint replacement surgeries.

We're pioneering a different future for people, and a donation from you raised by a scheme intrinsically linked to our work will help us as we work towards a future free from arthritis.

- A gift of £1,000 could help us fund multiple monthly support groups offering peer to peer support to people living with arthritis.
- £2,000 could help fund aspects of clinical trials to improve people's lives.
- £5,000 could help towards costs of MRI scans to understand how changes in the brain are involved in long-term pain conditions like fibromyalgia.

### **Cruse Bereavement Support Nottinghamshire**

Cruse Bereavement Support Nottinghamshire (registered charity number 208078) has been incredibly grateful for your support through the Recycling of Metals scheme which has provided vital funds towards our local bereavement services across Broxtowe Borough Council. We would be so grateful for the opportunity to be considered as one of your local beneficiaries once again, to enable us to support those struggling with the devastating impact of grief and I am delighted to be writing with an overview of our local services.

We have a network of 42 highly trained Bereavement Volunteers, some local residents of Broxtowe who have undertaken extensive and specialist training to provide professional person-centred support to bereaved people including children, living in Broxtowe. These volunteers give a huge amount of their own time to support those struggling with the devastating impact of grief in their local community, through ongoing one-to-one and group support sessions, in-person, online and over the phone and we have volunteers operating our helpline, accessible for residents who need urgent bereavement support. Our volunteers have lived experiences of grief. Their insight and perspective bring deeper empathy, compassion and understanding to help people come to terms with their bereavement. It is a very special service, delivered by local people, for local people.

We work closely with GPs and schools in the area and many of our bereaved clients have a direct experience of Bramcote Crematorium through the cremation of their loved ones. Our Bereavement Volunteers receive ongoing training to equip them

with the skills to support those in emotional distress regardless of when or how the bereavement occurred or the relationship to the person who has died.

Over the past five months, we have been supporting 33 residents of Broxtowe with ongoing 1:1 support and group support (including one child aged 10) and many more residents through urgent support via our helpline and online resources. The main cause of bereavement was cancer and heart conditions, and we also supported people bereaved through traumatic circumstances including suicide, road traffic accidents and the death of a child.

The death of a loved one can be the most devastating experience that will ever happen to us. Research shows that unsupported or unresolved grief can have long-term effects on an individual's mental and physical health, negatively impacting employment, education and relationships – increasing the risk of depression and social isolation. Our dedicated local Bereavement Volunteers help bereaved people navigate complex feelings associated with loss, develop coping strategies, resilience and to identify additional support networks, helping them to adjust to daily life whilst remembering and celebrating the lives of those they have lost.

We are experiencing a huge increase in demand for support with more people accessing our free services due to the cost of living crisis. Whilst our services are free for bereaved residents of Broxtowe, they cost us a huge amount to deliver as we fund the training and recruitment of volunteers, volunteer expenses, supervision of our volunteers, venue hire to support bereaved people in, equipment to deliver online and telephone services and staff costs to co-ordinate our services and we rely on donations to operate. We know that prompt support is essential in reducing the devastating impact of grief. Your continued support through the Recycling of Metals Scheme would enable us to deliver our vital services locally and keep our waiting lists to a minimum, ensuring we reach more people quicker, in the local area.

### **Survivors of Bereavement by Suicide**

Those of us who have experienced this terrible tragedy truly understand. None of us need to suffer alone. Together we help each other.

We help individuals support each other, at the time of their loss and in the months and years that follow. We aim to provide safe, confidential environments where people can share their experiences and feelings, giving and gaining support from each other.

We are the only organisation offering peer-to-peer support to all those over the age of 18, impacted by suicide loss in the UK. We help those bereaved by suicide to support each other, at the time of their loss and in the months and years that follow. We are a self-help organisation, and we provide a safe, confidential environment in which bereaved people can share their experiences and feelings, giving and gaining support from each other. We also strive to improve public awareness and maintain contact with many other statutory and voluntary organisations.

We offer peer-led support groups, online virtual support groups, a national telephone helpline, an online community forum and email support. We offer a unique and distinct service for bereaved adults across the UK, run by the bereaved for the bereaved. Suicide recognises no social, ethnic or cultural boundaries and neither do we. Our helpline and groups are open to all survivors of bereavement by suicide aged 18 years and over.

### **Rainbows Hospice**

We provide care and support for babies, children and young people with serious and terminal conditions, and their whole family, across the East Midlands. The care we offer is wide ranging; palliative care and end of life care, symptom management, emergency care, respite and short breaks and is available in the Hospice, at home and in hospitals.

We support children and young people (aged 0-25-years-old) who have a confirmed life-limiting or life-threatening condition.

We're here for the whole family, offering comfort and compassion during tough times, providing the highest level of professional care until the end, and support after.

Simply put, we're here to brighten short lives, and support families, wherever they are.

Donations make such a difference, we provide specialist care and emotional support for babies, children and young people with serious or terminal conditions and their loved ones, so they can enjoy their time together as a family, for as long as they have.

“Everyone is so friendly and professional, and the nursing care is incredible. I get a real rest; you can't imagine how much it means for me to not have to cook or to just get a full night's sleep.”

As a charity, Rainbows is almost entirely dependent on people like you to provide the funds that keep our services going.

Please ensure every child, young person and family can depend on us when they need us the most.