



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Update on Feasibility Study of New Crematorium Provision
Date:	10 January 2013
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Emer Boyle, Policy and Business Dev Manager Claire Sullivan, Policy and Business Dev Officer

1	Relevant Background Information
	<p>The purpose of this report is to update Members on the status of the ongoing feasibility study on a sub-regional approach to future crematorium development.</p> <p>Over the last number of years officers have been working on a clear phased approach to cemetery and crematorium development in the city based on an analysis of available data gathered, trend information and the development of a robust plan to meet current and future service requirements.</p> <p>At its meeting in February 2012 Committee agreed that the Council should work together with Newtownabbey Borough Council to examine the feasibility of a sub-regional approach to the development of additional crematorium facilities.</p>
2	Key Issues
	<p>Cogent Consulting, who presented their early findings at a Members workshop in August, are currently finalising their report on the feasibility of a sub-regional approach to the development of a new crematorium at the site identified by Newtownabbey Borough Council at Doagh Road, Newtownabbey.</p> <p>We have received the first draft of the report and are currently liaising with the consultants on corrections and amendments to it. The report</p>

	<p>includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • analysis of the demand for crematoria provision; • analysis of the supply for crematoria provision; • potential impact of the expansion of crematoria provision; • the proposed site and provisional cost of a new crematorium; • potential options for expanding crematorium provision; and • conclusions and recommendations. <p>It is proposed that a special committee meeting be held in late January/early February on a date to be agreed with the Chairman at which the findings and recommendations of the study would be presented to Members by the consultants.</p>
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3	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u> There is provision of £11,775m in the uncommitted part of Council's capital programme for cemetery and crematorium provision for Belfast City Council.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> There are no human resource implications at this stage.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> None at this stage although the final phases of the project will inevitably increase the Council's land ownership and associated liabilities.</p>

4	Equality and Good Relations Implications
	There are currently no equality or good relation implications however this will continue to be reviewed as the project is developed.

5	Recommendations
	To agree to a special committee meeting being held for the presentation of the findings and recommendations from the feasibility study on a sub-regional approach to future crematorium development by Cogent Consulting.

6	Decision Tracking
	The Policy and Business will organise for the consultants to attend the special committee, subject to agreement by Members.

7	Key to Abbreviations
	None

8	Documents Attached
	None