MEETING OF STRATEGIC CEMETERIES AND CREMATORIUM WORKING GROUP

VALUE MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

Minutes of the Meeting of Wednesday, 18th November, 2015

Members present: Alderman Rodgers (Chairperson); Councillors McCabe, O’Neill and Sandford.

In attendance: Mrs. R. Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure; Miss S. Kalke, Project Sponsor Officer; Mrs. C. Sullivan, Policy and Business Development Unit Manager; Mrs Jacqui Wilson, Business Manager Mr. N. Brennan, Assistant Project Manager; and Miss. E. McGoldrick, Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies

Apologies were reported on behalf of Councillor Kyle.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

Presentation

The Assistant Director reminded the Group that the Parks and Leisure Department was currently undertaking an economic appraisal around the options for the future cremation facilities and that the initial findings had been presented at a Members workshop in June.

She advised that the purpose of the current workshop was to present the key values that had been used to assist with the short listing of the Crematorium development options, along with the four shortlisted options that had been proposed in the assessment to be further developed through the economic appraisal process.

The Chairperson welcomed to the meeting Mr. M. McFadden from the Public and Corporate Economic Consultants (PACEC) and Mrs. B. O’Loan and Mrs. P. Lavery from AECOM.

Mr. McFadden provided an overview of the initial findings of the economic appraisal of the crematorium facilities which included details of the current use of the crematorium, the planned future demand and supply of the cremation facilities along with the level and accessibility of alternative provision outside of Belfast.

Mrs. O’Loan outlined the Value Management process which had been followed in shortlisting the options for the future of cremation facilities in Belfast.
She explained that, as part of the economic appraisal process, a long list of options had been developed (copy available on Modern.gov) and that a workshop including officers and various consultants had taken place to refine the list. She advised that a list of value drivers (copy available on Modern.gov) had been considered to assist with scoring each option and as a result of this exercise the following value drivers had been agreed:

1. Dignity/ Sensitivity
2. Staff Well-being
3. Ability to Meet Demand
4. Maintain Continuity of Service
5. Future proofing
6. Functionality
7. Reputation
8. Robustness
9. Minimal Impact due to Construction
10. Programme Delivery
11. Aesthetics
12. Loss of Burial Ground

Mrs. Lavery informed the Group that each of the identified design options on the list had been scored against the aforementioned value drivers resulting in the following four options for perusal:

- 2.1 - Scheme including extension and refurbishment of existing crematorium at Roselawn to provide two chapels at the current crematorium building;
- 3.1 - Totally new two chapel facility (on the Roselawn site) and review of how to make use of the existing crematorium building;
- 3.3 - Hybrid option of a new single chapel crematorium on the Roselawn site and refurbishment of existing crematorium building to continue use as a crematorium; and
- 4.1 - Totally new two chapel facility on a yet to be identified site (not at Roselawn) and review of how to make use of the existing crematorium building at Roselawn.

The Chairperson thanked the consultants for attending and the Group noted the information which had been provided.

**Future Cremation Facilities**

The Assistant Director explained that, subject to Committee approval, the next step in the process would be to further develop the four shortlisted options highlighted, by means of the economic appraisal process. She informed the Group that the findings would then be submitted to the Working Group for discussion, in the New Year, to identify the preferred option for final development of a delivery programme.

After discussion, the Group agreed to recommend to the People and Communities Committee:
1) the values used for the assessment of the list of options of future cremation facilities;

2) that the four shortlisted options, as outlined, would be further developed through the economic appraisal process; and

3) that a traffic assessment would be undertaken at Roselawn to inform the feasibility of some of the options.

Date of next meeting

- Thursday, 10th December at 4.30pm - Bereavement Services Improvement Programme

Chairperson