

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

20 MAY 2021

**REPORT OF PLACE SELECT
COMMITTEE**

CABINET DECISION

Lead Cabinet Member – Environment and Transport- Councillor Mike Smith

SCRUTINY REVIEW OF BURIAL PROVISION

SUMMARY

The attached report presents the outcomes of the Place Select Committee's review of Burial Provision.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION(S) / DECISION(S)

This topic was included in the Scrutiny Work Programme for 2020/21. The review is now complete and the recommendations have been endorsed by the Place Select Committee for submission to Cabinet.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That a new burial site be provided that would meet the following criteria:
 - Located in the central or western areas of the Borough
 - Provision for more than 100 years
 - Accessible via public transport
 - Preferably land already owned by Stockton Borough Council
2. That officers undertake further surveys and investigations into potential sites to determine if they are suitable for burial provision.
3. That consideration is given to an additional, smaller burial site in the south of the Borough and that officers consult with the appropriate Ward Members and Town and Parish Councils to determine if this can be facilitated through collaboration.

DETAIL

1. The attached report outlines the outcomes of the Scrutiny Review of Burial Provision. The main aims of this review were to recognise the importance of ensuring that Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council (SBC) provides sufficient burial space within the Borough and to understand the impact on the Council if SBC were unable to provide the appropriate choice to residents.
2. The Committee has taken evidence from Council Officers.

COMMUNITY IMPACT IMPLICATIONS

3. The recommendations seek to ensure that any future demand is met and is delivered in a timely manner through the allocation of appropriate resources.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

1. Potential costs will need to be determined and approved by Cabinet following surveys and investigations.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

2. None.

RISK ASSESSMENT

3. This report is categorised as low to medium risk. Existing management systems and daily routine activities are sufficient to control and reduce risk.

WARDS AFFECTED AND CONSULTATION WITH WARD/COUNCILLORS

4. Not applicable.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

5. None.

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