

Progress Update – Cemeteries 1: Future of Cemeteries

| Number | Recommendation | Responsibility | Anticipated Completion Date/ Completion Date | Evidence of Progress - 01/06/09 | Assessment of progress (Categories 1-4) 01/06/09 | Evidence of Progress 16/11/09 | Assessment of progress (Categories 1-4) 16/11/09 |
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| 5 | Registration and Bereavement Services review office opening hours to provide, where possible, an improved service to the public. | Jayne Robins | Apr-08 | Complete | 1 - Fully Achieved | Out of Hours arrangement now in place for death registrations/burial requests & death-bed weddings. Satellite Office at NTGH fully functional. All-day Saturday opening of Registration Service due to be piloted March 2010. | 1 - Fully Achieved 1 – Fully Achieved 2 – On Track |
| 7 | Further efforts are made to establish friends groups for all of the Council's cemeteries. | Jayne Robins | Apr-08 | Consultation ongoing | 3 - Slipped | Establishing a 'Friends Group' still remains unsuccessful, however, Bereavement Services have established a 'Supporters Group' and to-date have 34 members. | 1 – Achieved |
| 13 | The redevelopment of the disused chapels of Oxbridge and Durham Road Cemeteries be further explored and a feasibility study be prepared on the various potential options. | Richard Bradley | March 2008 September 2008 | On hold due to the need to utilise chapels for storage of unauthorised memorials | 3 - Slipped | Durham Road Chapels continue to be used for the storage of unauthorised memorials following the Garden of St Francis improvement scheme. Chapels will then be utilised for the subsequent storage of unauthorised memorial due to the forthcoming | 3 - Slipped |

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| | | | | | | introduction of the new Grave Personalisation Policy. | |
| 15 | The Land and Property Section identify additional land within the Borough for the siting of a cemetery in order to meet future burial needs. | Paul Hutchinson / Garry Cummings | April 2008 October 2008 | Potential sites identified to be discussed by Capital Group in October 2009 | 2 - On Track | Land identified and findings to be presented to Capital Group and Members for decision. | 1 - Achieved |
| 16 | Future burial provision be considered as part of the planning development framework. | Sue Daniels | April 2008 and in accordance with LDF timetable | In progress and on track in accordance with LDF timetable | 2 - On Track | Planning Inspectorate decision on LDF expected December 2009. | 2 – On Track |
| 17 | Officers investigate alternative, space efficient ways of interring cremated remains within cemeteries. | Jayne Robins | Apr-10 | On track. Project brief is in preparation and will be presented to a future meeting. | 2 - On Track | Research on-going, together with consultation with stakeholders and 'supporters' group' to ensure user needs/views are considered. | 2 – On Track |
| 18 | The audit of space available in unpurchased graves within cemeteries be continued and upon completion grave space be offered in the following circumstances subject to | Sue Daniels/Jayne Robins | April 2008 / April 2010 | Complete | 1 - Fully Achieved | Audit completed Bereavement Services will continue to work under the guidance of the ICCM and within the framework of current legislation in order extend the life | 1 – Fully Achieved 2 – On Track |

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| | <p>appropriate consultation or awareness raising exercises: Graves previously sold in perpetuity but containing no interments be identified for the purpose of cancelling Rights where the purchase took place over 75 years ago and re-offer the Rights of Interment and Rights to erect a memorial. That unused space within, previously 'reserved' graves be used for future interments. The Committee recommended that those 'reserved' graves where the previous interments took place 100 years or more ago be offered first.</p> | | | | | <p>expectancy of all cemeteries.</p> | |
| 22 | <p>A detailed business case be prepared on the feasibility of providing a crematorium for Stockton including possible funding</p> | <p>Sue Daniels/Jayne Robins</p> | <p>December 2007 December 2008</p> | <p>Considered by this Committee at its' meeting in February. Working Group established with project expected to be complete at end June 2009. A follow-up report will be presented to</p> | <p>2 - On Track</p> | <p>'Feasibility Options – Findings from the Working Group' project now complete. Follow-up report to be presented to future</p> | <p>2 – On Track</p> |

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| | streams and partnership arrangements | | | future committee | | committee. | |
| 23 | The development of a woodland cemetery at Thornaby be considered by the Capital Asset Strategy Group to identify appropriate funding streams and that the extension and creation of a woodland cemetery be undertaken in one single phase to minimise the risk of subsequent phases causing damage to previously completed works. | Jayne Robins / Sue Daniels / C&AS Working Group | Sept 2008 April 2009 | Slight slippage has occurred with the completion of the survey. This will now be presented to Capital Group in October 2009 | 3 - Slipped | Survey work now complete and will be presented to Capital Group in December 2009. | 3 – Slipped |
| 24 | The identification of further woodland burial sites be supported. | Paul Hutchinson/Garry Cummings / Sue Daniels | April 2009 / October 2009 | On track - subject to completion of 23 above | 2 - On Track | Land identified and findings to be presented to Capital Group and Members for decision. | 1 – Fully achieved |