

Progress Update – Cemeteries 1: Future of Cemeteries

Number	Recommendation	Responsibility	Anticipated Completion Date/ Completion Date	Evidence of Progress 16/11/09	Assessment of progress (Categories 1-4) 16/11/09	Evidence of Progress 15/02/10	Assessment of progress (Categories 1-4) 15/02/10
5	Registration and Bereavement Services review office opening hours to provide, where possible, an improved service to the public.	Jayne Robins	Apr-08	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	Pilot scheme for all-day Saturday to commence 6 February 2010.  Further consultation undertaken with customers during January/February 2010.  Findings report to be presented to Head of Service end March 2010.	2 On Track
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	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 introduction of the new Grave Personalisation Policy.	3 - Slipped	No additional information at this stage.	4 – Not achieved due to need for storage of equipment/ memorials
16	Future burial provision be considered as part of the planning development framework.	Sue Daniels	April 2008 and in accordance with LDF timetable	Planning Inspectorate decision on LDF expected December 2009.	2 - On Track	Included in policy documents	1 – Fully Achieved
17	Officers investigate alternative, space efficient ways of interring cremated remains within cemeteries.	Jayne Robins	Apr-10	Research on-going, together with consultation with stakeholders and 'supporters' group' to ensure user needs/views are considered.	2 - On Track	Alternative aboveground vaults for cremated remains currently being considered as part of the Durham Road	2 – On Track

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						remembrance area. (See No. 6 – Phase 2)	
18	<p>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 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</p>	Sue Daniels/Jayne Robins	April 2008 / April 2010	<p>Audit completed.</p> <p>Bereavement Services will continue to work under the guidance of the ICCM and within the framework of current legislation in order to extend the life expectancy of all cemeteries.</p>	<p>Fully Achieved</p> <p>2 – On Track</p>	<p>Graves previously purchased in perpetuity, but containing no interments will be offered for re-sale.</p> <p>All other options to be utilized only where current legislation permits and under the guidance of the ICCM.</p>	1 - Fully Achieved

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	where the previous interments took place 100 years or more ago be offered first.						
22	A detailed business case be prepared on the feasibility of providing a crematorium for Stockton including possible funding streams and partnership arrangements	Sue Daniels/Jayne Robins	December 2007  December 2008	'Feasibility Options – Findings from the Working Group' project now complete.  Follow-up report to be presented to future committee.	2 - On Track	Feasibility and Options complete.  Options to be considered by future Cabinet	1 – Fully Achieved
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	Survey work now complete and will be presented to Capital Group in December 2009.	3 - Slipped	Survey revisions are now in progress and are still to be considered by the Capital Group once complete	3 - Slipped
24	The identification of further woodland burial sites be supported.	Paul Hutchinson/Garry Cummings / Sue Daniels	April 2009 / October 2009	Land identified and findings to be presented to Capital Group and Members for decision.	3 - Slipped	Land identified and findings to be presented to Capital Group and Members for decision.	3 - Slipped

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