

Environment Select Committee

Update to Executive Scrutiny Committee – 17 September 2007

Cemeteries and Memorials – Phase 2 - The Management of Memorials

Update on Progress (including issues/problems/successes)

The following activities have taken place:

- a site visit to Durham Road Cemetery where Members had a demonstration of memorial safety testing by MemSafe
- a press release was issued with photo opportunity and meetings with the press on the day of the site visit. Following this, there was significant press coverage in the D&S Times, the Northern Echo and the Evening Gazette
- a comprehensive background information pack supplied to all members of the committee
- the Committee have taken evidence from the service and Care for Your Area at two meetings of the Select Committee
- a members' survey was issued
- letters have been sent to churches and faith groups seeking their views.
- a visit to Carlisle (a best practice Authority) will take place on 3 October
- a mid review "tri partite" meeting was held on 29 August 2007 to update the Cabinet Member with progress

Additional to the original scope for the review, the Committee have decided to undertake some further consultation directly with cemetery users.

Timescale for Review

This phase of the Cemeteries and Memorials review is due to report to Cabinet in November 2007.

Monitoring

The Committee have received an action plan setting out how the phase 1 recommendations will be implemented and are due to receive a report on progress in December 2007.