

SCRUTINY REVIEW OF MANAGEMENT OF MEMORIALS

Summary

Representatives from Registration & Bereavement Services/Care For Your Area have been invited to attend this meeting to provide an overview of the Council's current Management of Memorials policies, the effectiveness of such policies, and issues/challenges around unauthorised grave personalisation.

Detail

1. The following background papers have been provided in relation to this issue:
 - SBC Environment Select Committee – The Management of Memorials (October 2007)
 - Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM) - Management of Memorials (May 2012)

2. Attendees have been asked to provide information on:
 - Current Council policy regarding the management of memorials, and the rules in place in relation to enforcement of unauthorised personalisation.
 - How the grave personalisation policy was initially publicised, and how the Council communicates with bereaved families in terms of its content.
 - The effectiveness of the current policy.
 - How the Council deals with complaints in relation to unauthorised memorialisation.
 - Views on future policy considerations.

A report covering the above is attached, along with three appendices:

- Appendix A – current SBC 'Personalising a Grave Space' leaflet
 - Appendix B – draft Durham Rd Cemetery (Extension) grave options leaflet
 - Appendix C – draft revised SBC 'Personalising a Grave Space' leaflet
3. A copy of the agreed scope and plan for this review is included for information.

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