



Subject:	Update on Strategic Cemetery and Crematorium Development
Date:	12 September 2017
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Director City & Neighbourhood Services Department
Contact Officer:	Siobhan Toland, Assistant Director, City & Neighbourhood Services Department Claire Sullivan, Policy and Business Development Officer

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to report to committee on the key issues discussed at the Strategic Cemeteries and Crematorium Development Working Group meetings held on 3 August 2017 and 6 September 2017.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to; <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approve the minutes and the recommendations from the Strategic Cemeteries and Crematorium Development Working Group meetings held on 3 August 2017 and 6 September 2017.

3.0	Main report
	<p data-bbox="272 226 421 255"><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p data-bbox="165 327 1422 456">3.1 The Strategic Cemeteries and Crematorium Development Working Group is a Working Group of the People and Communities Committee which consists of an elected member from each of the political parties.</p> <p data-bbox="165 528 1461 607">3.2 The minutes from the Strategic Cemeteries and Crematorium Development Working Group are brought before the Committee for approval.</p> <p data-bbox="165 678 1010 707">3.3 The key issues discussed at the 3 August meeting were:</p> <p data-bbox="165 779 1059 808"><u>3.4 Update on Business Case of the Crematorium Development</u> Members were provided with an update on the progress which had been made to date in terms of the discussions and meetings with representatives of other statutory agencies in order to progress the matter. Members agreed that a special meeting be held in September to which a report would be submitted in relation to some firm proposals regarding the preferred option.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1133 938 1162"><u>3.5 Update on the study visit to Crematoria in Scotland</u> The Group noted the information that had been provided on the study visit that had taken place on 28th June to Scotland to four crematoria.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1335 1177 1364"><u>3.6 Update on Permanent Memorial to mark Plot Z1 in the City Cemetery</u> Members were provided with an update on the consultation process of a permanent memorial at Plot Z1, commonly known as Baby Public, in the City Cemetery. Members were updated on the information sessions and consultation exercise that had taken place and that the process should be reviewed. A key issue had been the need to realise the desire of those present to have a memorial rather than artwork. Members agreed the recommended next steps which are outlined in the minutes, which included the establishment of a focus group.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1789 1171 1818"><u>3.7 City Cemetery Update on Concerns Regarding Anti-social Behaviour</u> Members noted the contents of a report which provided an update in relation to anti-social behaviour at the City Cemetery and agreed that officers investigate the costings associated with the possible installation of CCTV at the site.</p>

3.8	<p><u>Memorial Trees</u></p> <p>Members noted an update in relation to the provision of memorial trees at the Roselawn site and agreed that a report on the matter be submitted to the next meeting of the Working Group.</p>
3.9	<p>The key issues discussed at the 6 September meeting were:</p>
3.10	<p><u>Update on the Implementation of the Memorial Management Policy</u></p> <p>Members were provided with an update on the implementation of the policy and advised that there was an ongoing review which was examining a categorisation process whereby headstones will be categorised by the level of risk they pose and what action is required.</p>
3.11	<p><u>Update on Memorial Trees</u></p> <p>Members were provided with an update on the current position in the relation to the provision of memorial trees in Roselawn i.e. that there is currently no trees for purchase and there is limited scope to provide any new trees given issues with accessibility and the availability of land. Members agreed to apply the 2008 policy decision to end the process of providing memorial trees at Roselawn Cemetery.</p>
3.12	<p><u>City of Belfast Crematorium – Policy Statement for Infant Cremation</u></p> <p>Members agreed that the Council’s policy statement in respect of infant cremation should be made available on the Council’s website in line with national codes of practice and professional industry guidance.</p>
3.13	<p><u>Update on Memorial for Plot Z1 – City Cemetery</u></p> <p>Members noted the updated provided on the establishment of a focus group to advise Members on the design of the permanent memorial and agreed that its membership should be increased from 10 to 12 to allow all those people who has expressed an interest to participate.</p>
3.14	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are no financial implications related to this report. The costs of the memorial at Plot Z1 will be met through the Council’s capital programme.</p>

3.15	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>There are currently no equality or good relation implications in relation to the capital projects however this will continue to be reviewed as the projects are developed.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	<p>Appendix 1 – Copy of the Minutes of the Strategic Cemeteries and Crematorium Development Working Group’s meeting on 3 August 2017.</p> <p>Appendix 2– Copy of the Minutes of the Strategic Cemeteries and Crematorium Development Working Group’s meeting on 6 September 2017.</p>