



Subject:	Update on Strategic Cemetery and Crematorium Development
Date:	4th September, 2018
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Director of City and Neighbourhood Services, ext 3260
Contact Officer:	Siobhan Toland, Assistant Director, ext 3281 Michael Patterson, Bereavement Services Manager 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 6 th June and 15 th August.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is requested to approve the minutes and the recommendations from the Strategic Cemeteries and Crematorium Development Working Group meetings held on 6 th June and 15 th August.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p>
	<p>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>
3.2	<p>The minutes from the Strategic Cemeteries and Crematorium Development Working Group are brought before the Committee for approval.</p>
3.3	<p>The key issues discussed at 6th June meeting were:</p> <p><i><u>Update on permanent memorial to mark Plot Z1 in the City Cemetery</u></i></p> <p>Members noted the update provided and that a public consultation exercise was taking place in July and August, and that a report on this would be brought to the October meeting of the Working Group.</p>
3.4	<p><i><u>Update on Children's Funeral Charges</u></i></p> <p>Members noted the updated provided in relation to the Motion in respect of waiving children's funeral charges, and that Officers would seek clarification in regard to the age criteria and would write to the Department of Communities in respect of how the matter of a Children's Funeral Fund might be progressed.</p>
3.5	<p><i><u>Headstones</u></i></p> <p>Members noted the update provided in relation to headstones which had been found to be unstable and unsafe.</p> <p>The key issues discussed at the 15 August meeting were:</p> <p><i><u>Update on Children's Funeral Charges</u></i></p>
3.6	<p>Members were updated on the work that had been undertaken in relation to the waiving of children's funeral charges. After consideration the Working Group recommended that the Council waive cremation fees for all under eighteen years old from a Northern Ireland address. They further recommended that the Council should waive burial fees for residents of the City, under eighteen years old, but that this provision should not extend to the cost associated with the purchase of the grave. They also recommended that the aforementioned provisions should be extended to asylum seekers.</p>

3.7	<p><u>Update on permanent memorial to mark Plot Z1 in the City Cemetery</u></p> <p>Members noted the update provided and that there had been a high rate of engagement with the public consultation which was due to finish on 31st August. The findings of the consultation will be analysed and a report on these and a final recommendation on the design will be brought to the October meeting of the Working Group.</p>
3.8	<p><u>Request for Exhumation</u></p> <p>The Working Group recommended that authority be granted for an exhumation in relation to a request to have the identity of remains confirmed.</p>
3.9	<p><u>Update on Water Infrastructure at Roselawn Cemetery</u></p> <p>The Working Group noted the updated provided on the use of water bowsers to manage the disruption to the water supply in Roselawn Cemetery.</p>
3.10	<p><u>Update on Headstone Foundations</u></p> <p>The Working Group considered the verbal report given in relation to the provision of foundations for headstones within Council cemeteries and requested that a further report be brought back to the Working Group in relation to this matter.</p>
3.11	<p><u>Use of Memorial Trees at Roselawn Cemetery</u></p> <p>The Working Group noted the information provided around the checks in relation to applications for plaques for memorial trees.</p>
3.12	<p><u>New Crematorium at Roselawn</u></p> <p>The Working Group noted the update provided on the tender process to appoint a specialist project management team for this project and that an update report would be brought to a future meeting of the Working Group.</p>
3.13	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>The costs related to the memorial to mark Plot Z1 have been committed within the capital programme.</p>
3.14	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>There are currently no equality or good relations implications in relation to this report.</p>

4.0	Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 – Minutes of Strategic Cemeteries and Crematorium Development Working Group of 6th June Appendix 2 – Minutes of Strategic Cemeteries and Crematorium Development Working Group of 15th August