

Report to: **Mansfield and District Joint Crematorium Committee**

Date: Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025 (10.00 am)

Director Lead: Mansfield District Council, Ady Selby, Assistant Director Neighbourhood Services, 01623 463036

Lead Officer: Mansfield District Council, Nada Colclough, Crematorium and Cemeteries Manager and Registrar, 01623 463882

Report Summary	
Type of report	Open Report
Report Title	Operations Report
Purpose of Report	This report seeks to provide an update the current operation of the crematorium
Recommendations	1. That the committee note the report

## **1.0 Background**

The previous report was presented to the committee in February 2025. This report provides the committee with an update on progress since the last meeting.

## **2.0 Proposal/Options Considered and Reasons for Recommendation**

### **2.1 Cremator and Ancillary Equipment**

- 2.1.1 Cremator number 4, the bariatric cremator, is non-operational at the time of writing this report. While there has been significant investigative work into the malfunction this has not been resolved. The impact of this is on the crematoriums ability to accept larger coffins for cremation. In addition to this this reduces the cremations capacity daily, with only two cremators remaining operational. While investigations are ongoing the decision may need to be taken to decommission the bariatric cremator, further reducing the operations capacity in the long term. Stakeholders have been communicated with to ensure that the crematorium is only in receipt of coffins that can be cremated however the reduction in capacity to only 8 cremations per day has meant a delay in being able to provide funeral directors with sufficient options for services.

- 2.1.2 Any works that are viable that would require significant spend will be presented to the committee in due course. This will be a consideration if the replacement parts needed can be utilised on new cremators.
- 2.1.3 Cremators two and three remain operational however there are intermittent issues with number two that requires further investigation.

## **2.2 Building Maintenance and Repair**

- 2.2.1 As approved at the committee meeting in February the new water Supply has now been completed, with minimal disruption to services.
- 2.2.2 The replacement distribution board has also been installed however due to the power being switched off for the works to take place this required the site to close for a day. This work has now been completed.

## **2.3 Bereavement Support**

- 2.3.1 The bereavement Café has now been operating for 12 months and while this is organised by a group of local funeral celebrants, we have continued to support by hosting the monthly event at the crematorium. The event has continued to grow, and this means that the group will take place at an additional site.
- 2.3.2 The event will be held at South Mansfield Community Centre, with support from Councillor Richard Tempest-Mitchell, Lindhurst Ward.
- 2.3.3 In addition to the support being received from Cllr Tempest-Mitchell, we will continue to offer support at the new venue where possible, increasing the number of families able to access such support.
- 2.3.4 Further to the decision being taken in February, to make a donation in support of counselling for children within Mansfield, Ashfield and Newark and Sherwood, the donation has now been explored with the Children's Bereavement Centre who have confirmed that the £3,000 donation will provide counselling for 15 children, 5 in each of the three districts.
- 2.3.5 A communication piece will take place to support the promotion of the services offered, in the hope that more families can access support services. This will be completed in conjunction with each of the authorities.

## **2.4 Cremation Data**

- 2.4.1 Cremation have been in decline since 2019/20 financial year, however 2024/25 saw higher numbers, seeing circa 10% more throughput than forecasted.

Year	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/25	Percentage Decrease since 2019
Q1	565	745	533	576	561	469	16%
Q2	505	511	558	595	476	469	7%
Q3	579	640	607	512	521	506	13%
Q4	660	838	601	691	586	546	17%
Total	2309	2734	2299	2374	2144	1990	14%

## **Implications**

In writing this report and in putting forward recommendation's officers have considered the following implications: Data Protection, Digital and Cyber Security, Equality and Diversity, Financial, Human Resources, Human Rights, Legal, Safeguarding and Sustainability, and where appropriate they have referred to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate.

**Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

N/A