



**REPORT TO: PORTCHESTER CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE –  
18 SEPTEMBER 2017**

**REPORT OF: THE ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR**

**SUBJECT: NORTH CHAPEL REFURBISHMENT**

**1.0 Purpose of this Report**

1.1 To update the Committee on the progress of the North Chapel Refurbishment scheme.

**2.0 Introduction**

2.1 At the meeting of the Joint Committee on 26 June 2017 a report was received setting out a preliminary design concept and advising on logistical issues to enable the project to proceed. This included the appointment of RBA Architects Ltd, (RBA), to head a design team together with other appropriate professional support.

**3.0 Scheme progress**

3.1 RBA have held preliminary discussions with artec3 the lighting consultants who have raised some issues regarding the proposal to introduce natural lighting at a high level. They are concerned on a number of practical issues and have been requested to investigate a lighting scheme where the proposed windows are omitted as well as with the proposed windows. They believe that the best environment could be achieved without the windows and that this would have the additional advantage of reducing both construction and consultancy costs.

3.2 At the Joint Committee's meeting in June some questions were asked about the removal of the existing pews as part of the refurbishment scheme. Since then the Manager and Registrar has sought the opinion of various funeral celebrants who conduct funeral services in the North Chapel. This shows a clear majority in favour of replacing the pews with linked seating.

3.3 I have discussed the procurement of a main building contractor with Portsmouth City Council's procurement section and they have agreed to assist the Joint Committee with this work. This work is a replica of the process adopted for the appointment of a contractor on the previous works to the South Chapel.

**4.0 Recommendation**

4.1 That the report be noted.

**Terry Garvey  
Engineer and Surveyor**

