

**REPORT TO: PORTCHESTER CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE –
14 JUNE 2010**

**REPORT BY: CLERK TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE in consultation with the
ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR**

**PORTCHESTER CREMATORIUM –
CARBON REDUCTION COMMITMENT ENERGY EFFICIENCY SCHEME**

Purpose

1. To advise the Joint Committee of the Government's Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme.

Recommendation

That this interim report be received and a further report be brought to the Joint Committee indicating what opportunities there may be to enable the Crematorium to take part in carbon reduction.

Background

2. The Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) is a new mandatory carbon emissions auction based trading scheme that was introduced with effect from 1 April 2010. The scheme takes account of carbon emissions from the buildings of large organisations and aims to improve energy efficiency and reduce the amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emitted within the United Kingdom. It gives organisations an incentive to reduce their emissions and should also save them money by reducing their energy bills. Financial penalties will be applied to organisations that do not fulfil the obligations of the scheme.
3. The scheme is being administered by the Environment Agency and applies to large organisation in both the public and private sector, based on a qualification criteria reflecting use of electricity in 2008. Organisations required to participate in the scheme must record and monitor their CO₂ emissions and purchase allowances under the scheme for every tonne of CO₂ they emit for each compliance year (which will run from April to March).
4. Once the scheme is in operation allowances will be sold by the government at the start of each compliance year, and organisations will need to purchase allowances to cover their estimated CO₂ emissions for that year.
5. Annual league tables will be produced by the government to show comparative performance of all the participating organisations (which will include both public and private sector organisations). All revenue raised through the sale of allowances will be 're-cycled' to participants.

6. It is estimated that there will be approximately 5,000 organisations in the league table. This will include both local authorities and large commercial organisations, such as Tesco and Sainsbury. The organisation's position in the league table will attract a bonus or penalty. Effectively the organisations at the bottom of the table will be providing the money for the bonus payments to the top performers.

Registration Requirements

7. Any organisation with more than one Half Hour Meter (HHM) and an annual electricity consumption of more than 6,000MWh is required to register. Registration for the scheme runs from April to September 2010.
8. Portchester Crematorium's most recent annual output of gas consumption for the period December 2008 to November 2009 was 13,805,760 cubic feet, which equates to 4,321.20MWh.
9. Given that the Crematorium's annual consumption is below the threshold it would appear that the Crematorium as a separate legal entity and bill payer in its own right does not need to be registered. However, the scheme states that as an organisation a local authority includes other organisations wholly owned by the local authority.
10. Given that the Crematorium is jointly owned by the 4 authorities, advice needs to be sought as to whether there is a requirement to register, and if so how this should be achieved – for example as the crematorium is located in Fareham should that authority have to take responsibility, or should the total energy consumption be apportioned between the 4 authorities.

Opportunities for Carbon Reduction

11. There are strict parameters regarding cremation temperatures that need to be maintained during the cremation process. However, it has been previously suggested that as part of the mercury abatement project the opportunity should be kept under review to establish ways and means of making the crematorium more 'fuel' efficient. This could feature as part of the consultants work in bringing forward recommendations in relation to the forthcoming mercury abatement project. In addition consultants could be requested to undertake a review of the energy efficiency of the buildings with a view to identifying measures that could be taken to improve the energy consumption.

John Haskell
Clerk to the Joint Committee

Terry Garvey
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Background list of documents –
Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 –
Portsmouth City Council carbon reduction report – September 2009