

**REPORT TO: PORTCHESTER CREMATORIUM JOINT COMMITTEE –
7 MARCH 2011**

**REPORT BY: THE ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR,
IN CONSULTATION WITH THE CLERK**

**PORTCHESTER CREMATORIUM MERCURY ABATEMENT PROJECT –
PROJECT UPDATE**

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update summary on the current progress of the project.

RECOMMENDATION

Members are asked to receive and note the report.

Meetings of the Project Board

2. The Project Board met on the 24 January 2011, prior to the Joint Committee considering a report on the outcome of the tendering process and making a decision on the appointment of a specialist abatement contractor. The Project Board is also scheduled to meet immediately prior to the Joint Committee on 7 March.

Appointment of Specialist Abatement Contractor

3. At the Joint Committee meeting on 24 January 2011 it was agreed that Facultatieve Technologies (FT) were the preferred bidder for this part of the project. Following the required 'standstill period' to enable both the constituent authorities and the unsuccessful bidders to question this decision, work to formalise the appointment is now in progress. The two unsuccessful bidders have now been formally advised that they were unsuccessful.
4. Ongoing discussions with FT are taking place on a "without prejudice" basis in relation to their proposals and the way in which they interface with the proposed building extension. Particular consideration needs to be given to the "buildability" of both parts of the project.
5. Some minor additions to the ventilation "windows" in the new roof will be required which representatives of the planning authority consider can be treated as a "non-material alteration" to the original permission and a formal consent is being obtained.

Appointment of Building Contractor

6. Pre-Qualification Questionnaires were received from twenty-one contractors and using the predetermined criteria references were taken up in respect of the top scoring nine contractors. Following this exercise this list was reduced to five and subsequent initial financial checks were undertaken. As a result of these checks some additional information is being sought.

Preparatory Building Works

7. As previously agreed the Joint Committee's term building works contractor has been engaged to carry out preliminary building works that involve alterations to the existing messing facilities and these works are now underway.

Electricity Sub-station

8. A contract is now in place with the local statutory undertaker for the provision of the new electricity sub-station. Whilst no date has been given for the installation I understand that the sub-station manufacturing process is underway.

Programme

9. The current programme may need to be adjusted in the light of detailed discussions with FT, which will be firmed up when the contractual arrangement is formally in place.

Terry Garvey
Engineer and Surveyor

TG/JH/me
1 March 2011