

**REPORT TO: THE PORTCHESTER CREMATORIUM JOINT
COMMITTEE – 20 JUNE 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 on the current progress of the project.

RECOMMENDATION

- (1) Members are asked to receive and note the report, and**
- (2) Note that additional steelwork is required as part of the building works to accommodate load bearing equipment at an estimated cost of up to £25,000, and that this sum can be met from within the overall project cost.**

Meetings of the Project Board

2. The Project Board has met on one occasion (25th May) since the last meeting of the Joint Committee on 7 March. A further meeting is scheduled for the 20 June and an update will be given to the Joint Committee.

Specialist Abatement Contractor Works

3. There is an essential need to ensure that the works of Facultatieve Technologies (FT), the specialist abatement contractor appointed by the Joint Committee, are compatible in all respects with the building extension designed to house their equipment.
4. Parker Torrington (PT), the Joint Committee's consultant, held a most productive meeting with FT at the beginning of May. The meeting gave an opportunity for clarification of the interrelationship between FT's works and those that will be required of the building contractor.
5. As a result of this meeting FT have modified their proposals in respect of work sequencing as a result of their greater understanding of the overall "buildability" of the project. In addition modifications have been necessitated to the supporting steelwork in the building extension. These changes should not have any material effect on the completed project. PT estimate that it would be prudent to include a sum of upto £25K for the additional steelwork, the cost of which can be met from the overall budget for this project, and will form part of the building works contract.

Building Contractor Works

6. As previously reported to the Joint Committee, a short list of 5 companies was prepared and tender submissions were received from each by the return date of 16 May. These tenders are the subject of a separate exempt report.

Preparatory Building Works

7. As previously agreed the Joint Committee's term building works contractor was engaged to carry out preliminary building works that involve alterations to the existing messing facilities. These works are now substantially completed.

Planning Permissions

8. Formal approval to modify the approved planning application, to accommodate additional ventilation requirements previously identified by FT, has been received.

Contractual arrangements

9. The Project Board has been updated on the arrangements to formalise the appointment of FT. As has been previously agreed it is essential, in order to adequately safeguard the Joint Committee's interests, to have contracts with both FT and the building contractor which are "dovetailed". Discussions have been held with the Deputy Clerk and it has been agreed the most effective way to expedite this is for PT to undertake the preparation of the documentation and to pass this to the Clerk and Deputy Clerk for the formal processing.

Electricity Sub-station

10. A contract is now in place with the local statutory undertaker (SSE) for the provision of the new electricity sub-station. Whilst no date has been given for the installation it is understood that the sub-station manufacturing process is underway. SSE is in the process of obtaining from Fareham BC a wayleave for the installation. The equipment will not be delivered to Portchester until the wayleave agreement is completed, the cost of which will be met by the Joint Committee.

Programme

11. Following detailed discussions with FT the latest programme indicates full abatement will be completed in September 2012, whilst it is expected that 50% abatement will be operational from June 2012.

Risk Register

12. FT has advised of the need to carry out a precautionary inspection of the three existing flues that are contained within the brick chimney. FT originally installed these flues and they do not envisage any problems. They intend to undertake the examination as part of their preliminary works, which will involve a one day closure of the crematorium.

Recycling

13. PT has been asked to produce a report for the Project Board advising of the measures being taken to ensure that the works are as environmentally friendly as is reasonable.

Public Relations

14. PT has been asked to draft the text for a leaflet giving the public information about what works are being undertaken and the reasons for them. A supply will be placed in each of the waiting rooms. There will also be public information panels and a display of appropriate drawings on the site hoardings.

**Background List of Documents –
Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972:** *None*

JH/me
6 June 2011